



Nether Wallop Mill



time is precious.
use it fishing



★ NETHER WALLOP MILL ★

WELCOME TO NETHER WALLOP MILL

By now you will have arrived and I hope you are relaxing over a cup of coffee. The Fishing Lodge will be your base for today and I hope has everything you require.

Together with your fellow anglers you have exclusive use of the Lodge and facilities, with your personal fishing instructor. If you have any questions or special requests, all you need do is ask.

Do take a moment to stroll around and relax. The place is yours for the day, so please do treat it as such. Your instructor will run you through everything you need to know, but here is some background to this historic Mill and the format of the day.

There has been a fishing school here at Nether Wallop Mill for over 50 years, making it by far England's longest established school. It is no exaggeration to say that countless thousands of people, old and young, from every corner of the globe have cast their first fly and netted their first fish at this very spot.

The aim of today is to get to grips with the essentials for successful fly fishing, have some fun and probably, mostly importantly for you, catch a fish! So, with this in mind here is what to expect from the day. The timetable is not set in stone and it may be adapted by the instructor due the weather, your previous experience or at your request.

The Morning

- First casts - take a rod in hand for your first casting session.
- Three knots - take a break to rest your aching arm and learn the three essential fishing knots – the Water Knot (joins two sections of line), the Blood Knot/Uni Knot (joins hook to line) and the Loop Knot.
- Improving that cast - back to the casting platform to build on the basics.
- Tackling up – let your instructor make sense of the rod, reel, line, leaders, flies and knots you will be using. Put together your own fishing outfit.
- You are now prepared for the serious business of fishing. Break for lunch ready to take on the trout this afternoon.

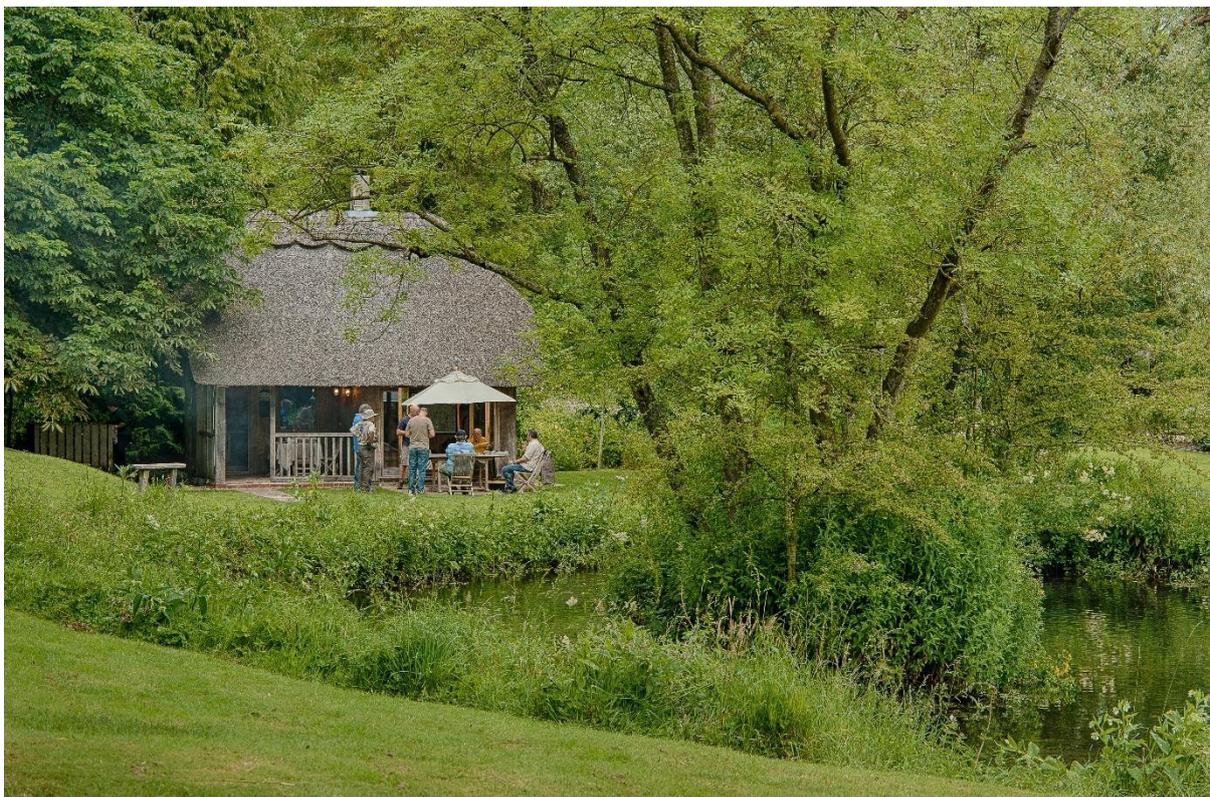


The Afternoon

Fly fishing is not a dangerous pastime but there are a few important safety tips – please do listen attentively to your instructor.

- Fishing – here is the chance to put into practice your newfound casting skills.
- Catching – learn how to handle, net, keep or release your first trout.
- Pond dipping – take a break from the fishing to do a bug hunt that will show you what trout just love to eat.
- Preparing your catch – the really gory bit – gutting the fish ready for the BBQ.
- Goodbyes – take down your rod, put away your gear and pack your fish for the journey home. Don't forget to ask for a copy of our Course Notes.

The full day runs from 9.30am to 5.30pm. However, this might be a bit too much, especially for younger children. If you want to end earlier it's not a problem; the afternoon timetable is very flexible and the instructor will be happy to adapt accordingly. If you feel the instructor has done a good job, a tip is always appreciated, but in no way obligatory.



The Fishing

The fishing today will take place on the trout lake or Wallop Brook. If this is your first time fly fishing it is unlikely, we will make it onto the river as the Brook has our highest difficulty rating.

The Lake

This is fed directly from the river, so has the perfect water for the trout and insect life to thrive. The deepest section is six feet, with shallower areas around the island. The fish in the lakes are all trout, brown trout, rainbow trout and blue trout.

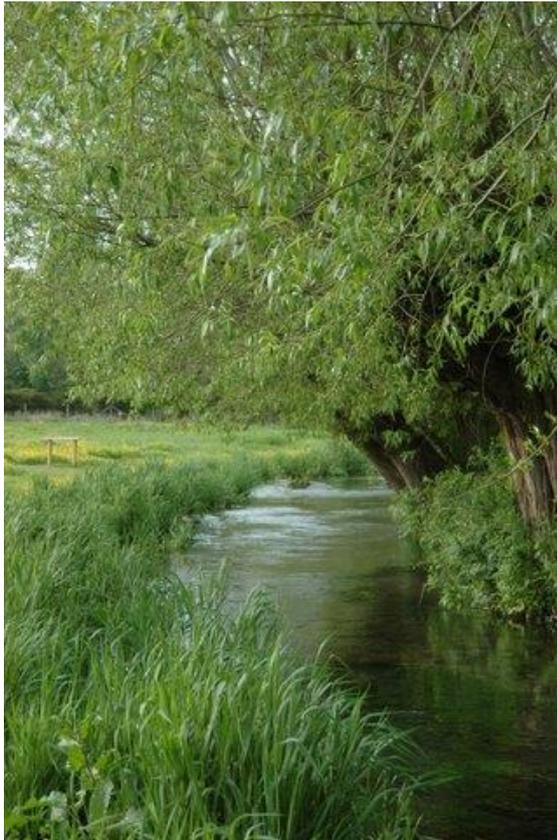
The rainbows and blue trout are stocked fish, but once in the lake soon revert to their wild nature so you will regularly see them feeding on insects off the water surface during the day. The brown trout are all wild, having made their way in from the river, so please release any you catch.

The casting platform is on the Mill Pond, a man-made river (about a 1,000 years ago!) which was created to create a reservoir of water to power the water mill. There are some escapee rainbow trout in the Mill Pond, plus some wild brown above and below The Mill.

RAINBOW TROUT *Oncorhynchus mykiss*



Wallop Brook



Wallop Brook is a tributary of the famous River Test. As you will see it is a small stream which requires great stealth and accurate casting for success. All the fish are small, wild brown trout. A fish over half a pound is considered a monster.

All that said it is terrific fun, so if you wish to set off down the meadows ask your instructor to set you up one of the light Orvis outfits. There is no charge for fishing on Wallop Brook, but please release all the fish you catch.

The river beat runs from the footpath bridge down to the ford, a distance of about four hundred yards. It is best to make your way down the meadows following the mown path well away to the river to reach the bottom before starting to fish upstream.

BROWN TROUT *Salmo trutta*



What is provided

We hope we have provided everything. This is a check list of what to expect:



- All the fishing tackle and flies are supplied
- Veranda – covered seating and dining area for six
- Rod room – sofa and comfortable seating for relaxing. Log burning stove.
- Kitchen – sink, with hot/cold water. Electric hob. Fridge/freezer. Wine chiller. Bean-to-cup coffee machine. Crockery and cutlery for twelve. Complimentary tea, coffee, milk, soft drinks and beer.
- Bathroom – WC and wash basin. There are Wellington boots, sizes 2-12 for anyone to use, plus fishing caps and polarized sunglasses.
- Outside – charcoal BBQ. Table and seating with a parasol.



Where to eat

Please feel free to bring your own food and drink. However, there are plenty of local options; see the full list in the Fishing Cabin. Country pubs keep odd hours, especially for food. Best to call to check. However, there is always somewhere open in Stockbridge, seven days a week.

- The George Inn, Nether Wallop (1.5 miles) 01264 782648. A village pub. Open Wednesday-Sunday.
- The Greyhound, Broughton (2.4 miles) 01794 501387. A village pub. Open every day.
- Stockbridge (3 miles) – plenty of choices with one hotel, five pubs, coffee shop and plenty more.



Shops

- Fishing and clothing shops – Stockbridge has Robjents and Orvis.
- Beer, wine and food – there is a Budgens supermarket in Middle Wallop (2m). Otherwise, Stockbridge (3m) has many shops, and the Co-op is a newsagent, general store and off-licence, open 7am-10pm. There is also a chemist.



Places to visit

- Danebury Hill – ancient hill fort. Great walk and view. Free. 2 miles.
- Army Flying Museum – extensive collection of Army flying machines and historical display. Admission charge. 2 miles.
- Salisbury Cathedral – magnificent spire, oldest working clock in the world, original Magna Carta and a beautiful cathedral close. Voluntary admission charge. 7 miles.
- Stonehenge – need I say more. 15 miles.
- Mottisfont Abbey & rose gardens – National Trust house and gardens with walk beside the River Test. Admission charge. 5 miles.



I will be sending you an email in a few days after your visit; if you have a few minutes to give us some feedback it would be really appreciated.

I hope that you enjoy your day with us at Nether Wallop and that you go away inspired to do more fishing.

As we say in the fishing world, tight lines!

Simon Cooper

Simon Cooper
Fishing Breaks Founder & Managing Director

Emergency

Our address here is:

The Mill, Heathman Street, Nether Wallop, SO20 8EW.

The landline number (office hours) is 01264 781988.

Doctors surgery

Stockbridge 01264 810524

Local hospital

Andover War Memorial Hospital
Charlton Road, Andover SP10 3LB
01264 358811

If you think it is an emergency: call 999

If you need help now, but it is not an emergency: call 111

Chemist

High Street, Stockbridge, SO20 6EX (next door to Robjent's)