

## ALL THESE FISH LIVE AT REDBRIDGE LAKES



**The Rudd** is very similar to the roach and can be easily confused. The rudd has an upturned mouth allowing it to feed easily at the top of the water. The placement of the dorsal fin is more to the rear. There are normally only one or two scales between the tip of the pelvic fins and the anal fins, while on the roach there are five. Also the skin of the rudd is yellowish green, while the roach is bluish on the flanks. Also the upturned mouth is visible even in young fish The rudd can grow to a size of about 45–50 cm with an average of about 25 cm.



**The Chub** sometimes confused with a dace or Ide but best distinguished by its convex anal fin that is orange in colour and its larger mouth. Generally a river fish that likes shallow gravel water and overhanging trees, but still manages well in still waters were it could live for over 25 years and grow up to around 6lbs. The younger fish will be caught on all baits from worms, maggots, casters, bread and hempseed and the larger fish become more predatory feeding upon small fish and insects.



**The Ide** Over recent years, the UK has seen a new fish become very popular in commercial fisheries. This fish is not natural to British water and originates from Scandinavia. It often puzzles anglers who think it may be a roach, chub or a dace. It's a great little fighter and is often caught very close to the surface where it naturally feeds. Its life span is generally 10 to 15 years in

rivers where it could reach up to 10Lb although it's unlikely it will achieve more than 5lb in our lake. It naturally spawns in well oxygenated sections of rivers on gravelly bars in shallow water. We are currently trying to get them to breed in our lakes.

## HOW MANY HAVE YOU SEEN OR CAUGHT



**The Golden Orfe** Bred originally from the Ide as a pond fish, but became less popular after the introduction of Koi. Although they are the same family as the Ide they tend to feed closer to the bottom.



**The Tench** is a medium-sized, heavy, deep-bodied fish. They can be found in soft-bottomed lakes and in slow-flowing rivers with plenty of vegetation. They are quite shy fish, hiding amongst dense weed. Tench feed on invertebrates including pond snails and small pea mussels. Spawning in summer, males chase females, fertilising the eggs as soon as she has laid them in shallow beds of algae or vegetation.



**The Golden Tench.** Is derived from the original green tench coming from Europe. It is also referred to as the doctor fish, because it is claimed that this fish takes care that other different fish will not fall ill, probably due to its eating habits it helps keep the water clean.



**The Roach** is a small fish, often reaching no more than about 35 cm; maximum length is 45-50 cm. The body has a bluish silvery colour and becomes white at the belly. The fins are red. The number of scales along the lateral line is 39-48. The dorsal and anal fins have 12-14 rays. Young specimens have a slender build; older specimens acquire a higher and broader body shape. The roach can often be recognized by the big red spot in the [iris](#) above and beside the [pupil](#). Colours of the eye and fins can be very pale,



**The Bream** Is easy to distinguish it has a deep flat body, long dorsal and tail fins and a particularly thick coating of slime. Young bream are extremely thin and their bodies are a silver colour, sometimes almost white, and when these fish are caught they quickly rise to the surface where they can be skimmed across the top of the water straight into the net - that's why young bream are nicknamed skimmers Older bream - those over the 2-3lb mark - tend to have creamy undersides, bronze flanks and dark brown backs.



**The Roach/bream hybrid.** Lots of fish breed across the species especially those of the carp family. Wherever you have roach and bream living together, you will be sure to find hybrids. Identification is generally a mixture of the two. But you will know it's not a bream as it will give you a proper fight, just like a roach or even harder.



**The Perch** has a greeny-brown back with a series of dark vertical bars across the upper sides and bright orange or red pelvic and anal fins. They have a very spiky dorsal fin and pointed gill covers and care should be taken when handling them. The favourite bait is worms and the larger fish are caught using lures.



**The Gudgeon.** A small fish rarely growing to more than 6 inches long. It has an elongated but round-body, grey to golden in colour with a large head. They resemble small barbel, but instead of having two pairs of barbels the mouth of the gudgeon has only one. It's one of the five fish we know of that have established themselves naturally into our lakes.



**The Barbel** Similar looking to the gudgeon but very different in size as barbell can grow to over 20 lb. Generally found in fast running streams and rivers and surprisingly this is another fish than found its way into our lakes naturally, but only two have ever been caught.



**The Stone Loach** lives amongst the gravel and stones of fast flowing water where they can search for food. The most distinctive feature of this 14 cm fish is the presence of **barbels** around the bottom jaw, which they use to detect their **invertebrate** prey. The body is a mixture of brown, green and yellow. Amazingly this species managed to find its way naturally into our lakes, but only one has ever been caught.



**The Pike.** Yet another fish that established itself naturally into our lakes, but only 1 has ever been landed They have large bony heads with prominent forward/upward looking eyes, a broad flattened snout and a large mouth. The mouth contains a fierce arsenal of teeth, with rows of backward pointing, razor sharp teeth in the top jaw and larger needle-like teeth in the lower jaw. The head is mounted on a long, torpedo shaped body with fins being primarily rear positioned for fast acceleration They eat mostly other fish, frogs and even the occasional duck and can grow to over 50Lbs.



**The Bleak.** Not normally a lake fish but stocked into our Lake Cuthbert as the water is well oxygenated. It is a slender fish with an elongated and flat sided body. It has a pointed head with large eyes and a small mouth that is turned

upwards. Colouration of the bleak is generally a shiny silvery colour. They are generally caught close to the surface and can be blamed for a lot of missed bites.



**The Stickle Back.** These tiny fish go back millions of years and are one species that can tolerate many different types of water including salt water. Unlike most other fish sticklebacks build nests to breed there young. This is yet another species that found its way naturally into our lakes.



**The Eel.** Once so prolific in the Thames they became part of the weekly diet of East-enders. Now appears to be vanishing from the capital's river and research is ongoing to the reasons why. It's been suggested that the oceans currents have changed due to global warming and this has made it difficult for them to find their way back to the uk have made the 4,000-mile voyage back to the Sargasso Sea to breed.



**The Trout.** Surely the fish that first springs to mind when the subject of fishing is mentioned. This fantastic sporting fish feeds aggressively through the summer as well as winter. Now that our lakes has evolved and the water quality is

up to spec, we will be introducing this species later this year. But they will be returned to the water and not for the table.

**CARP.** In 1653 [Izaak Walton](#) wrote in [The Compleat Angler](#), "The Carp is the queen of rivers; a stately, good, and a very subtle fish; that was not at first bred, nor hath been long in England, but is now naturalised." ...Since then Carp of all manners and forms have been introduced and cross bred to the extent that now all of our rivers are well stocked and the majority of both our natural and commercial lakes are full to the brim. This obsession with Carp has reached the point that now days most anglers catch little else. At Redbridge Lakes we have addressed the balance and have restricted the stocking in order that the majority of our indigenous fish will survive.



**The Common Carp.** The Big daddy of Carp can grow up to around 80 LB



**The Mirror Carp.** Similar to the common and sometimes called The Leather Carp as its scales are bigger and missing in areas leaving a leather type skin.



## The Ghost Carp.

Like the Common but with a lighter colouring and has the tendency to creep up on you and say "BOO"



**The Fan Tail Carp** Smaller than the Common and Mirror but size for size a greater fighter due to the massive fins that give it its name.



**The Gible Carp.** This is the fish from which they first created the Gold fish. A great little fighter for its size. Loves an expander pellet.



## Goldfish.



**The Crucian** Last but definatley not least (*Carassius carassius*) Not as related to the Carp as you may think. This fantastic fish is probably one of the most difficult to catch and is without a doubt the favourite of many true anglers. Bites from the crucian are sometimes impossible to see yet once hooked they will give a fantastic fight. You will know when you have a true crucian as they will refuse to open their mouth to have the hook removed.