Fishing in Cache Valley

LOGAN RIVER
Located on U.S. Hwy 89, east of Logan and west of Garden City

Local fish legends report the largest trout caught in Logan Canyon was 40 lbs. The canyon is a beautiful oasis and an uncrowded area for year-round fishing. It’s at its best June to August. Hatching seasons are similar to Blacksmith Fork. We suggest you fish upstream in the summer and downstream in the winter. Try drakes, pheasant tails and mayflies. There is good dry fly fishing at the head of the three dams. Try spinners, worms, salmon eggs and powerbait. The dams are stocked with rainbow trout on a regular basis throughout the summer. The average catch is around 12-14 inches. Larger fish can get up to 20 lbs. First and Second Dam are handicap accessible. From Card Canyon Bridge upstream to the Idaho State line the limit for trout and whitefish (in aggregate) is 2. Only artificial flies and lures may be used in this area. Below the Card Canyon Bridge the limit is 4. Since limits and regulations are subject to change, check the official Utah Fishing Proclamation. There are several nice waterfront campgrounds throughout the canyon. The scenic drive through the canyon is a jaw dropper! Note: The area above Red Banks Campground Bridge is closed from Jan. 1 to the second Saturday in July. From Card Canyon Bridge to Red Banks Campground Bridge only artificial flies and lures are allowed. Above Red Banks bait is allowed.

TONY GROVE LAKE
Located off Hwy. 89, 19.2 miles past the mouth of Logan Canyon, 7 miles to the lake

This high-mountain lake located in the Wasatch-Cache National Forest is surrounded by beautiful wildflowers and has many excellent camping spots nearby. It opens in late June or July, after the snow has melted. The lake is stocked with rainbow trout. For fly fishing, use winged mayflies. With spinning gear, try powerbait and a bobber. Small spinners with gold blades also work well. This is a beautiful place for the family, popular for fishing as well as camping and hiking. There is a small fee for parking.

BEAR LAKE
Located on Hwy 89/30 on the Utah/Idaho border

This Caribbean-colored lake boasts a record lake trout of 28 lbs. The drive along the Logan Canyon National Scenic Byway (Hwy 89) to Bear Lake features limestone cliffs, forested canopies, fields of wildflowers and a spectacular view at the Bear Lake summit. The lake offers good trolling for cutthroat trout north of the Utah State Marina and on the east shore. Down rigging and jigging can bring in the occasional big fish. Lake trout also known as Mackinaw spawn in October, which provides some of best fishing of the year. Bonneville Cisco spawn from the end of January to the first of February, providing fun ice fishing or dipnetting. The Cisco limit is 30 fish. The trout limit on the lake is 2. Winter fishing is very popular at the lake. Bear Lake is also popular for boating and camping. Contact the Bear Lake State Park (435-946-3343) for more information.
BLACKSMITH FORK RIVER  
Located along Utah Hwy 101, east of Hyrum

Dry fly paradise! Excellent fishing year-round. Try blue wing olives January to May. Stoneflies hatch in mid-May to June. Green drake hatch is in June and July. July through September the fish go wild for grasshoppers. Small spinners work well in deep holes and dams. The river has very little crowding. Average-size fish are 13-16 inches, while some anglers catch larger ones. Brown trout are overabundant throughout the drainage and anglers are encouraged to keep their 4-fish limit. Watch for private land and have fun.

MANTUA RESERVOIR  
Located east of Mantua, along U.S. Hwy 89/91

The Utah State record bluegill was caught in Mantua. The lake contains bluegill, bass, yellow perch and trout. Try fishing from your boat or from the shoreline. The fish often concentrate near weed beds throughout the lake. Try a double teardrop spinner or crank and jerk baits. Small jigs work well for the bluegill and perch. Campgrounds are located nearby.

CUTLER RESERVOIR  
4600 West, between Benson and Newton

Enjoy fishing for a wide variety of fish. Wait for the water to warm up, then fish the shady side of bridges. There’s good trolling in the deeper channels. Look for bass, bluegill, crappie and walleye. Go upstream for huge browns or below the dam for monster channel cats.

NEWTON RESERVOIR  
Located just off Route 142 west of Trenton

Enjoy warm-water fishing with big channel cats and nice-sized bass. Use frog-imitating lures and poppers for bass. Fifteen-inch bass are relatively common. There are no longer trout in this reservoir. You can catch catfish, bass, black crappie and perch off the beach. The bass limit is 6, but only one over 12 inches. The tiger muskie limit is one and all tiger muskies less than 40 inches must be immediately released.

HYRUM RESERVOIR  
Located southeast of Hyrum

Great for family fun! From the shore, try fishing near the dock, the spillway and along the west side. The lake is stocked with trout and warm water species like bass, bluegill and perch. Early mornings and evenings are the best time to fish. Ice fishing is good in January. Hyrum is popular with boaters and water-skiers. Many nice campgrounds and accessible sites are available. Minimum bass size is 15 inches. Contact Hyrum State Park (435-245-6866) for more information.

PORCUPINE RESERVOIR  
Located off of State Road 165, east of Avon

Porcupine has good fishing for rainbow trout and kokanee salmon. The fish sit deep (60-70 feet), and the later in the summer it is, the deeper they sit. Trollers can use rapala and flatfish. There is an unimproved boat ramp, but access can be difficult. Remember all boats must keep a wakeless speed. Porcupine is popular for swimming and camping. Plan to come in the fall to see the beautiful leaves and kokanee salmon run upstream. The reservoir is closed to the possession of kokanee salmon with any red color from August 15 through
September 29. The trout and salmon limit is 12. No more than 4 may be rainbow, cutthroat or brown trout in the aggregate. To take 12 fish you must possess at least 8 salmon.

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WELLSVILLE RESERVOIR
Located next to Wellsville City Park, 100 East 500 South

You will be surprised at how big these fish get. Big browns sit on the bottom. Fish as deep as you can. Wellsville Reservoir is a popular fishing spot with the locals. Check the official Utah Fishing Proclamation for limits and opening dates.

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SKYLAR’S POND
Located in Willow Park, 500 West, 700 South, near the Zoo

This pond is reserved for young people 14 and under and people with disabilities. The pond has a fishing pier that is handicapped accessible. It is stocked with trout, channel catfish and bluegill. Fishing is great fun for the kids. Try powerbait or a worm with a bobber. Willow Park is a very popular spot for family picnics and visits to the zoo.

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Cache Valley Fishing Shops/Guides

For up-to-date information, fishing supplies and great stories, drop by one of these local shops.

S = supplies  G = guide service  F = trout farm

AL’S SPORTING GOODS  S  (435) 752-5151
1617 North Main, Logan

C·A·L RANCH STORE  S  (435) 753-0611
1224 North Main, Logan

CISCO’S LANDING  S, G  (435) 946-2717
Garden City, Utah

CUSTOM SPORTS  S  (435) 563-9466
72 West Center, Hyde Park

MOUNTAIN VALLEY TROUT FARM  F
(435) 563-3647
1471 West Hwy. 218, Smithfield

PJ’Z FISH FARM  F  (435) 245-5530
Hwy 91, 21/2 blocks south of Burger King, Wellsville

ROUNDRACKS FLY FISHING  S, G
(435)755-6870
530 South Main, Logan

SPORTS AUTHORITY  S  (435) 752-4287
1050 North Main, Logan

SPORTSMAN’S PARADISE  S, G  (435) 245-3053
750 W. 8700 South, Paradise

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ABOVE AND BACK PHOTO BY JULIE HOLLIST