



Thvera | Kjarra



The ultimate salmon fishing experience in Iceland

Welcome to the legendary Thvera/Kjarra in Iceland

The river Thvera/Kjarra provides some of the best salmon fishing in Iceland, if not the world. With coastal netting banned, the only barriers to the ascending fish are the natural rushing waterfalls and your favourite fly.

The Thvera/Kjarra are in fact the same stream, originating in the north-western highlands of Iceland in the district of Borgarfjordur, about an hour's drive from the capital Reykjavik. The upper part of the river is named Kjarra and is characterized by its remoteness from civilisation where one fishes in the highlands of Iceland in perfect solitude. The lower part of the river is named Thvera where the river flows through the lowlands along lush fields with the occasional farmhouse in sight.

The Thvera/Kjarra stretches 90 kilometres from its confluence with the glacial river Hvita up to an altitude of 400 metres with no obstacles to hinder the salmon on their journey up river. Posts on the riverbanks identify just under 200 named pools from the lowest part of Thvera to the highest in the Kjarra; where the headwaters flow from an abundance of untouched highland lakes.



A bit of history

Salmon fishing has been practised in Iceland for centuries. Fly fishing for salmon was first introduced in Iceland by English fishermen who arrived in the country in the later part of the 19th century.

The Thvera/Kjarra was one of the first rivers the English gentry fished on a regular basis, and many of the pools reflect this heritage. Thus pools such as Hambro, Stewart, Wilson, and The Three Princesses reveal these early days of fly fishing.

The English built a lodge at the mouth of the river in 1904 that still stands, albeit unused. The lodge is still referred to as The English House. The fishermen then moved their base further up the river system to the Kjarra in 1919 where they built a second lodge which no longer stands.

Today there are two first class lodges serving the Thvera/Kjarra. At both lodges our award-winning chefs and attentive staff do their utmost to make your stay a memorable one.

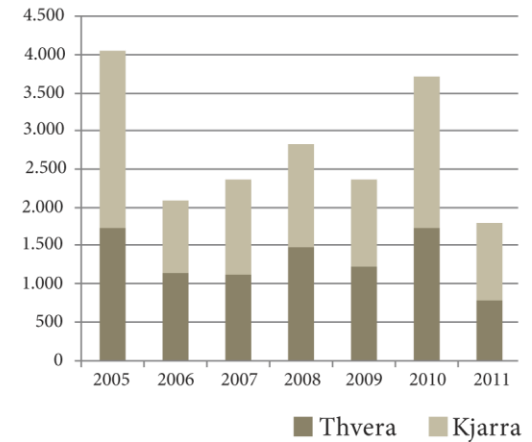


Catch Statistics

Thvera/Kjarra is one of the world's best salmon rivers and boasts some of the highest catches of any Icelandic river. The river's average catch for the past seven years is just under 2800 salmon annually with the best year exceeding 4000 salmon landed. The prime season runs from the last week of June well into the month of August.

It is in July that the highest numbers of salmon are consistently caught. The best weeks in July on the Thvera/Kjarra have produced over 600 salmon between the two lodges in recent years. During the prime period on the river an angler can expect to land between four to six salmon to his rod per day.

Thvera/Kjarra total catch by year



“Thvera/Kjarra is my favorite river to fish in because of its natural beauty that has become the river’s hallmark. One can fish there all day undisturbed by others, with a view of the majestic glaciers and expansive landscapes that surround the area”.



River Thvera

The Thvera is the lower part of the Thvera/Kjarra, and stretches 26 kilometres. The fishing is organised on a three or six day basis commencing mid-afternoon and finishing at noon on the last day of fishing. Fishing is permitted for up to 12 hours each day.

Fishing hours on the Thvera are normally from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. and then in the afternoon from 3.30 to 9.30 p.m., unless groups prefer otherwise.



The river is fished with just 7 rods on seven private beats that rotate every fishing shift. There are 107 named pools on the Thvera that offer the angler a vast variety in fishing, from fast moving streams in the upper river, down to the meadow pools where the river flows quietly along the flourishing fields. Most of the beats are easily accessible, with no trees to hinder casting.



River Kjarra

The Kjarra is the upper part of the Thvera/Kjarra. It is 45 kilometres long and is fished with just 7 rods on seven private beats that rotate every fishing shift. There are 92 named pools on the river offering great variety to the angler.

The fishing is organised on a three or six day basis, commencing mid-afternoon on the first day and ending at noon on the last day of fishing. Fishing is permitted for up to 12 hours each day. Fishing hours are normally from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and then again from 3.30 to 9.30 p.m., unless groups prefer otherwise.



The Kjarra offers a vast variety of pools and is characterized by its remoteness and untouched nature. The river varies greatly in character, from steep canyon pools with challenging fly water to the more easily accessible pools in the Kjarra valley. In these truly unique surroundings one can fish for days on end in total privacy in the midst of the Icelandic highlands.





The fishing season

The first spring salmon arrive from the sea at the end of May to the river of their birth, the Thvera/Kjarra river. As summer surpasses spring and the midnight sun casts its glow over the terrain, the runs of salmon steadily increase until they reach their peak in the month of July. By then, all pools are vibrant with an ever-increasing number of fresh run salmon.

Fishing remains consistent well into the month of August, with fresh runs of salmon still arriving, though in smaller numbers. The season comes to an end in early September with the onset of autumn and ever shortening days.

The guides

Our knowledgeable guides, many who have been fishing the river for decades, will do their very best to assist you in every way during your stay. They have a passion for fly-fishing and the river they hold dear. All our guides are English speaking and provide our guests with four-wheel-drive vehicles for transport along the river.

Each guide is normally shared by two anglers, but a private guide can be provided upon request.





The lodge and our team

At Thvera/Kjarra we offer luxurious accommodation set in magnificent natural scenery. Both our lodges offer attractive lounges, dining rooms and terraces with great views of the river and its surroundings. The rooms are all twin-bedded with a private shower.



There are outdoor Jacuzzis on the terraces of both lodges and saunas where one can relax after a day's fishing. Later one can enjoy a three-course dinner prepared by our renowned team of award-winning chefs.

We focus on providing our guests with the best there is in Icelandic cuisine and offer a distinguished selection of wines from around the world. All our meals are prepared using only the freshest ingredients.



Our commitment to the Atlantic Salmon

The Atlantic salmon is one of our most respected game fish with a great and enduring history. Without the fresh runs of salmon that arrive every year from the Atlantic Ocean the rivers would not come alive with the onset of spring.

The Atlantic salmon has been faced with constant threat in recent times. It is still too early to claim that the wild salmon's future is assured, but there are encouraging signs on the horizon that stocks are recovering in many parts of the world.

A continuous joint effort is needed by all responsible parties to maintain our great Atlantic salmon heritage. Management of salmon rivers plays a vital part in this conservation and is something that Iceland takes a distinct pride in. We at Thvera/ Kjarra favour catch and release as part of the solution and our contribution towards Atlantic salmon conservation. By encouraging anglers not to kill more than a few salmon annually we can all do our small part in securing the future of the Atlantic salmon for future generations.

Welcome to Thvera/Kjarra





Thvera/Kjarra is a truly unique river.
An angler is not likely to find a more
enjoyable and varied salmon fishing
experience in the world of fly-fishing.

