

Hooked - List of available programmes on DVD

£12.99 per DVD (includes 3 programmes- as listed)

Hooked on Scotland (BBC Series 1) Produced 1991-1992

Fair DVD 1

Wild Scottish Salmon

It's the 15 January, the start of the Scottish salmon season. At Kenmore in Perth, Paul and a small army of hardy, piper-led anglers parade down to the banks of Scotland's most famous river, the Tay, (also Scotland's longest river). Then it's on to Royal Deeside, (the river fished by Prince Charles and other members of the Royal Family). Again it's opening day, 1st February and the River Dee produces a massive, fresh run Atlantic salmon of twenty-five pounds, caught on a Devon Minnow.

Then on to March, and Paul is fishing the famous River Helmsdale and connects with a bright, silver springer. The season passes through to late summer with Paul fishing the beautiful River Thurso on Lord Thurso's private salmon spot. At the well named Source Pool, Paul lands two magnificent late season salmon caught on the fly. Finally, it's autumn and in the last few days of the season Paul returns to the River Tay and more great sporting action!

Shore Angling

Paul begins his search for shore fishing at Luce Bay in the south of Scotland and meets up with Trevor Harrison. Together they fish for flatties and bass and Paul gets some casting lessons. Then on to the rocks, fishing the deep cracks and gullies for some pollack and wrasse.

On the Firth of Clyde at Ardrossan, Paul joins an army of shore fishing anglers as they take part in Scotland's largest shore angling competition the 'White Horse', which annually has over six hundred entries. Just organising an event of this size is a major undertaking for the local club and security is tight because all anglers are after the £1,000.00 White Horse Cod!

Art of Coarse Angling

Paul sets out to meet the experts and to discover the secrets of the gentle art of coarse fishing. After a tactical meeting with local tackle dealer Jim Brown Paul heads for the Clyde at Glasgow Green and is surprised at the quality of coarse fish available.

Then on to Castle Loch at Loch Madden and pike to twenty-five pounds. Castle Loch is also well known for its shoals of large bream, which tend to be more active after dark! Duddingston Loch near Edinburgh is teeming with a variety of wildlife and some big carp to twenty pounds.

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Fair DVD 02

Sea Trout & Summer Salmon

Mid summer, and in Scotland with no rain for the past 4 weeks, rivers are low. Not ideal for daytime fishing but evening is often a productive time for sea trout. Paul travels far and wide in search of this highly prized sporting fish.

In Orkney, Paul joins skilful sea trout fly angler Stan Headley who hooks and lands three silver fish from the shore. Then on to the River Dee where the river is full of fish but they are not keen to take. When rivers are low often the best chance of success can come from loch fishing as Paul discovers when he fly fishes Loch Wester in Caithness and catches two well conditioned sea trout.

Fly Fishing Brown Trout

In Scotland most anglers have a soft spot for the native brown trout and trout fishing here can be fast and furious. In this programme Paul seeks them out in easily accessible lochs and out of the way places, where a walk of several miles in Sutherland is often well worth the effort.

He fishes the River Dee in Aberdeenshire and the lowland waters of West Lothian. In the extreme north in Sutherland he fishes the limestone lochs near Cape Wrath and even an old highland slate quarry, as Paul's out and about for trout!

In-shore Boat Angling

The safe waters that surround Scotland are ideal for the inshore boat angler. Paul sets off to visit one of Scotland's oldest sea angling competitions held each year on the Island of Arran in the Firth of Clyde. Then on to Shetland, Orkney and Lewis in time for the Island Sea Angling Championships, fished on the west coast.

Thurso in Caithness is a popular venue for cod and pollack as Paul discovers when he joins local angler Hamish Holmes. But Caithness is also home to some bigger species as Joe Donnelly discovers when he strikes into a porbeagle shark estimated to weigh over two hundred pounds!

Fair DVD 03

Deep Sea

The deep waters surrounding Scotland are home to some of our biggest salt-water species, fish like halibut and skate that can tip the scales at well over two hundred pounds. In this programme Paul is out for the big ones and begins drifting the channels around Orkney in search of Atlantic halibut.

To increase the chances of success Paul is joined by angling internationalist Mike Shepley, one of only a handful of anglers ever to have caught a halibut in Scotland on rod and line. From Orkney to Tobermory and the Island of Mull where Paul catches the largest fish of his career to date by landing a giant common skate of 140 lbs!

Chasing Rainbows

Paul takes us to some of Scotland's man-made fisheries which stock American rainbow trout. Paul begins with a visit to the most common type of rainbow fishery in Lanark, a typical well run establishment that caters for up to 60 anglers a day.

In contrast, we visit Scotland's only lake, the Lake of Mentieth where the beauty of the natural surroundings provides a more tranquil setting and more challenges! On Loch Fitty in Fife Paul is challenged to see if fine coarse fishing techniques can catch more rainbow trout than fly fishing!

Island of Mauritius

In this programme Paul leaves Scotland to travel to the enchanted island of Mauritius, a leading destination for big game anglers. The surrounding waters of the Indian Ocean teem with a great variety of marine species including sailfish, tuna and blue marlin. Paul starts his trip at the local fish market to discover what is caught locally by the commercial boats then joins a local boat to try a traditional Scottish fly for yellow fin tuna.

In part two Paul sets out in search of blue marlin with Leo Kennedy, the current world record holder for Mako shark. After a couple of false alarms Leo finally hooks up with a marlin which is successfully landed.

Hooked on Scotland (BBC Series 2) Produced 1993-1994

Fair DVD 04

Hooked on Harris

Paul heads north for Harris in the Outer Hebrides and discovers the delights of island fishing. The programme begins with Paul watching salmon leaping the falls on the little Castle River on the island's North Harris Estate, then on to fish perhaps one of Scotland's most famous salmon and sea trout lochs, Loch Voshmid.

With sea angling also available from boat or shore, Harris has something for everyone, especially after some good old-fashioned heavy rain.

Hooked on Wester Ross

Fishing amidst Scotland's beautiful Torridon Mountains can be reward enough for any angler. Although fishing nowadays is not as prolific as it once was, there is always the chance of sport, especially if you are prepared to persevere and adapt your tackle to meet the often changing conditions.

Paul begins on a small highland loch near Torridon fly fishing for salmon. As in Harris, the deep water close inshore can provide some excellent summer sport from both shore and boat with cod, coalfish and skate

Hooked on Stirlingshire

The home to Scotland's William Wallace and the location of the Braveheart film with Mel Gibson. Here Paul joins local anglers on the River Forth, fishing the craggy corner pool where bait, fly and spinning are all successful methods for catching salmon.

Every season the River Forth produces a good number of big fish and salmon to over twenty pounds are certainly not uncommon. Stirling also offers some excellent coarse fishing for perch, roach and common carp.

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Fair DVD 05

Hooked on Tweed

Perhaps Scotland's most majestic river, here set against the backdrop of Floors Castle estate. Paul fishes with his grace, his Grace, the Duke of Roxburgh, on the Floors beat estate. He then meets up with Jim Miller to fish the world famous Junction Pool in the heart of Kelso, a memorable day as Paul hooks and lands his heaviest salmon to date.

Hooked on Caithness

The extreme north-west of Scotland is famous for its rugged coastline. Here Paul begins with loch fishing for wild brown trout then explores the sea angling potential in the area.

On the River Thurso Eddie McCarthy, the head river keeper, shows Paul how the river level is maintained during summer droughts. This artificial spate in turn helps Paul connect with a couple of very nice Thurso salmon!

Hooked on Speyside

It's back to school for Paul on Speyside as he meets up with journalist and fly casting tutor Arthur Oglesby, a recognised expert Spey caster and salmon angler. Later they both head down river to fish the Castle Grant beat, a notable stretch of the Spey in May for lively runs of fresh spring salmon. Sea trout also feature strongly on the middle Spey but the best time to catch them is after dark.

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Fair DVD 06

Hooked on South Uist

South Uist in the Outer Hebrides is well known for its sporting brown trout, speckled fighters that thrive in the rich Macher Lochs which run almost the entire length of the island's west coast. Paul joins estate manager John Kennedy on Loch Mill for an evening's trout fly-fishing. It's a calm evening but as darkness starts to fall the trout become more active and eager to take the fly!

But South Uist is not only about loch fishing, the inshore waters surrounding the island can provide some excellent saltwater sport, as Paul discovers when he and the local police officer head out to a couple of inshore fishing marks in search of pollack and cod. Sea trout and salmon is the quarry when Paul visits Loch Fadda to wade the windy shoreline.

Hooked on Fife

The Kingdom of Fife on the east coast is home to Scotland's best-known trout lochs and Loch Leven, a fishery that in its hey day could boast 35,000 rod visits per season. It's also home to the famous silvery Loch Leven Trout, a slim powerful fish that looks more like a sea trout than a true brownie. Paul spends an evening fishing Loch Leven then goes sea angling, and salmon fishing in the beautiful little River Eden.

Hooked on Sutherland

For the angler it's the limestone rich, wild brown trout lochs in and around Durness near Cape Wrath which makes this part of Scotland famous as each year specimen trout are taken by visiting anglers. Paul joins Bruce Sandison on Loch Meadaidh for an early season casting session.

An endearing feature of Sutherland is its mountainous terrain and numerous highland spate rivers, Paul casts a fly on the River Dunard in search of a fresh run salmon.

Fair DVD 07

Hooked on Loch Lomond

Paul sets off to discover the great variety of fishing available in Loch Lomond, perhaps Scotland's best known loch. Loch Lomond is also Scotland's longest loch and holds the Scottish record for pike, a massive fish of 47 lbs. Paul meets up with coarse fishing expert and pike hunter, Mike Maule to try a spot of dead bait pike fishing.

Game angling on the loch for salmon and sea trout is controlled by the Loch Lomond Angling Improvement Association and Paul meets up with a few of their members to discover just how the association operates and the best way to fish this big loch!

Hooked on Island of Mull

Paul returns to the Island of Mull and again meets up with the brothers, Brian and Duncan Swinbanks. Brian and Duncan have made a successful business from fishing and Paul meets them at their new lure producing workshop where their Bridun lures are manufactured. Armed with a selection of these fish catchers they head for Loch Frisa to try trolling for the outsized brown trout which are resident in this scenic loch.

For the visiting saltwater angler, it's the sheer variety of sea angling that makes fishing here so fantastic and the group sets off aboard Brian's charter boat to see just how many different marine species they can catch in a day.

Hooked on Orkney

Approximately 18 miles to the north of Dunnet Head in Caithness across the Pentland Firth sits the fertile chain of islands collectively known as Orkney. For the angler the islands are home to a great variety of trout lochs the largest of which is Loch Harry not far from Kirkwall.

Local angling experts Stan Headley and Billy Sinclair go in search of Orkney brownies with Paul. The rugged coastline around the islands offers great scope for sea angling as seen when Paul fishes Hoxa Head for big pollack and coalfish!

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Fair DVD 08

Hooked on Dumfries

Paul goes American brook trout fishing in a then newly opened fishery near Locherbie, the fishery is also well stocked with big brown trout and rainbows which thrive in the crystal clear spring fed water.

After some relative success at Locherbie next stop is a visit to Drumlanrig Castle and the picturesque River Nith, to try for some late season salmon fishing. At Polnuer Paul is up to his neck in mud when he enters the world Flounder Tramping Championships. On rods or reels contestants have to catch the flounders with their bare feet.

Hooked on the Clyde

The programme begins at the very source of the Clyde high in the hills of Lanarkshire, and from here Paul explores the river down stream to the estuary. Nowadays the Clyde offers a variety of fishing including salmon, sea trout and trout as well as a whole host of coarse fish. Many sea anglers also enjoy fishing the Clyde estuary.

Hooked on Islay / Jura

Known as the Queen of the Inner Hebrides and just a short ferry sail from Oban on the mainland. Paul fishes Loch Gorm with local angler Billy Butcher, then sets off on a trek around the numerous lochs on Jura.

There's sea angling out from Port Charlotte, and even a spot of coarse fishing for roach and rudd. Pollack fishing next as Paul tries from the rocks at the notorious southern channel off Jura.

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Fair DVD 09

Hooked on Isle of Skye

Paul travels over the seas to Skye to join members of the local angling club to fish the famous Storr Lochs, which lie in the shadow of the Old Man of Storr, (an ancient tall rock stack). There's sea angling out from Portree with the local angling club members and salmon fishing on the River Snizort.

Two centuries ago the monks of Skye used to cultivate a rare variety of char and armed with some inside information Paul sets off to locate the Monk's Loch to see if the char are in.

Hooked on West Argyll

Paul begins fishing on the River Fynne for salmon then onto awesome Loch Awe to discover its superb pike potential. Loch Awe is also home to some hefty trout and the programme also includes shots of the then, new British record brown trout; a magnificent beast of just under twenty pounds.

Hooked on Perthshire

Paul visits Scotland's most famous river, the River Tay and its surrounding area. As well as some excellent salmon fishing Paul also visits Perth museum to see the famous British record Tay salmon caught in 1922 by Miss Georgina Ballantine, it weighed 64lbs.

But Perthshire isn't only about salmon fishing, the area has coarse fishing for pike, perch, roach and grayling and many of the lochs in Perthshire also have a healthy stock of trout.

Hooked on Scottish (STV Series 1) Produced 1995

Fair DVD 10

Minnows to Monsters

Paul's off in search of monsters and on Loch Ness meets up with local salmon angling expert Ala McGruer who explains and illustrates the wide variety of tackle and techniques used for successful salmon fishing on Scotland's most famous loch. An early start on the River Ness brings Paul success with an Atlantic salmon on the fly!

Then it's time to cast off, as Paul learns from expert sea angler Dave Holt the skills needed to tempt one of Scotland's largest marine species the ton-up-plus common skate. Paul then lands a skate of 190 lbs, which is equal to 92% of the British record.

'Alaska' the Final Frontier

(Nominated for a 1997 BAFTA award). It's late July and Paul is on the famous river Alagnak in the Bristol Bay area of Southern Alaska. Along with experienced guide Dan Dickson, Paul fishes the fly for hard fighting king salmon. After a few near misses, the take! When it comes, it almost rips Paul's hand off, as the fish explodes onto the fly and he discovers their sheer power. With line screaming off the reel, Paul is quickly assisted to the boat to enable him to follow the salmon downriver. Twenty-five minutes later the king is landed, a magnificent salmon of 40 lbs.

Then it's off to Brooks Falls in Katmai National Park and bears are in abundance. We see the visual delights of those skilful fishing bears, catching salmon as they fly through the air. The excitement continues with 'woggin' for chum salmon on the estuary tidal flats with surface fly lures. Up river Paul joins writer and sports expert Trey Combs for some acrobatic action with silver salmon.

Watery Ways

Paul sets out to fish a few of the more unusual man made fishing venues in Scotland and is invited to try his luck for American steelhead trout. Then north to the Highlands by Strathspey steam train, for a scenic woodland encounter on Scotland's first ever, man-made rainbow river. On Hillend Loch, Paul joins members of Airdrie & District Angling Association in search of hard fighting brown trout then, in contrast, a relaxing morning coarse fishing along the picturesque banks of the Forth & Clyde Canal, near Kirkintilloch

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Fair DVD 11

'Florida' State of Sunshine

This time Paul discovers that the popular tourist destination of Florida also has some of the best angling action under the sun. Following success in Polk County for large mouth bass, Paul heads south to the island of Captiva for sea trout and shark.

Then on to Islamorada in the Florida Keys, home to some of the best salt water big game fishing in the world. Spectacular barracuda, dorado and sailfish are all taken in this blue water trip, but the action continues with the appearance of a hammerhead shark estimated at around 600lbs.

In the evening a session out in search for tarpon around the shallow flats, and Paul free lines a swimming crab bait for heavyweight tarpon which, when caught, produce one or two after dark surprises

Ireland - Bann Fishing

Paul discovers the delights of angling in Northern Ireland, fishing the majestic River Bann. The programme opens with Paul meeting local coarse angler Francis Duffin and together they encounter a whole host of specimen fish with roach, bream, and hybrids, finishing off the day with a pike caught on the troll.

Sea angling out from Larne, aboard the charter boat Missy Moo as Paul and a group of local anglers drift the rocky reefs of the Irish sea.. Pollack, wrasse and cod are all caught and released back to the sea. Then back on the River Bann at Carnrow for some salmon action on the fly and Dollaghan trout at dusk.

Decisions

This programme starts on the banks of the beautiful River Spey. Paul tackles up for summer salmon and sea trout fly fishing, but with low water conditions he faces the dilemma of many anglers, which fly to use! Success comes through a combination of perseverance and an early morning start which reward his effort with a fine double figure Atlantic salmon and a plump sea trout.

Then a trip to Inverness-shire to fish the renowned River Beaully. With the salmon season drawing to a close it's autumn and Paul is on a typical small Scottish river where he discovers that worming for salmon and trout can be very effective, especially after a heavy spate of rain.

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Hooked on Scottish (STV Series 2) Produced 1996

Fair DVD 12

Eastern Canada

From New Glasgow in Nova Scotia, Paul heads north to fish for Atlantic salmon in the regenerated Margaree River, one of the main salmon rivers in Cape Breton. At village of Cheticamp, Paul meets up with local angling expert and guide Patrick Le Blanc. Together they fish some wonderful water and discuss Atlantic salmon techniques in Canada before Patrick's recommended fly the Le Blanc Special finds its target and Paul lands a fabulous salmon around 15lbs.

Heading up river Paul encounters more angling action before heading east to New Brunswick

Island Sea Trout & Grayling

Paul heads for the islands of Harris and North Uist in search of island sea trout. Starting in North Uist, Paul tries his hand at fishing the beautiful sea pools for finnoch and sea trout, then on to Amhuinnsuidhe in North Harris to meet up with the new owner of north Harris Estate, Jonathan Bulmer of Bulmer's cider, to fish Loch Voshmid.

The programme ends with some late season sport as Paul joins grayling expert Andy Bowman as they trot a bait on the river Tummel in Perthshire.

Angling Test

For the first time since the programmes began in 1990, Paul crosses the border into England to fish the magnificent Hampshire chalk streams for trout and grayling. But before wetting a line Paul visits Winchester Cathedral and the shrine of Sir Isaac Walton which was erected by popular subscriptions from anglers the world over.

Penance paid Paul's first location is the upper Itchen, said to be the Queen of rivers, where the water is as clear as gin, but twice the price! A visit to this tranquil part on old England wouldn't be complete without a visit to the king of rivers, the Test, where Paul fishes with local Mick Lunn, a third generation fishing guide (now retired), and where he meets up with fellow actor and angling companion Bernard Cribbins.

Fair DVD 13

Return to Alaska

Paul returns to Alaska and the river Alagnak, but this time it's earlier in the season, a time which coincides with the huge runs of sockeye salmon which each year enter the river in millions! It's a great time of year for char fishing with little pink egg flies that also attract grayling. At the estuary the big fresh run king salmon are starting to make their way upstream and the anglers are there in force to meet them!

Piscatorial Predators

Paul starts the season out in search of predatory ferrox trout. Fish which in some Scottish lochs can get to over twenty pounds and grow quickly on a diet of other smaller trout. He joins Alistair Thorn (1993 Scottish trout record holder), and members of the Ferrox Eighty-Five Group on Loch Rannoch.

Later Paul joins two regular visitors from England on the shores of Loch Lomond as they bank-fish for pike

Mayo Magic

Fishing for Atlantic salmon is often perceived as being a tranquil pastime, the angler navigating slowly down the riverbank with only a few crows for company, but in this programme Paul travels to Ballina, in County Mayo to experience the urban challenges of fishing the Ridge Pool for salmon; this is situated smack bang in the town centre.

Despite traffic and construction noise in the background the Ridge Pool, as Paul discovered, is still one of the most prolific salmon pools in Europe, and when you catch a salmon, not only do you get a fish but also a round of applause! Estuary sea trout and sea angling are also highly popular in the Mayo area as Paul discovers in Mayo Magic!

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Fair DVD 14

Springers 'n Spey

Paul starts his salmon-fishing season on the North Esk at the Morphie Dyke beat, well known for its spring salmon and has the reputation of being perhaps the best 'Spring' in Scotland. Morphie only 20 years ago was primarily used for commercial salmon fishing and in the mid seventies, just one sweep of the net could provide over 400 salmon.

Paul begins fly-fishing but the awkward upstream wind makes this difficult and changes to a winning Red Devon. Paul travels north to lower Speyside to join Gordon Baxter of Baxter's foods to fish the expensive owner beats. Again Paul proves the only way to catch a salmon is to keep fishing, the result - a handsome Atlantic salmon of 18lbs.

The Wrong River'

In Iceland there is no such thing as the wrong river especially if like the Ranga (which translated means the wrong river), it is full of bright salmon. In this programme Paul travels to southern Iceland to fish the Ranga, a river that has been transformed in only 10 years into one of Iceland's top salmon rivers.

In this programme the sheer beauty of southern Iceland contrasts with fabulous fishing with salmon on the fly to 12lbs and big brown trout topping 8lbs.

Faroe Adventure'

The Faroe Islands, situated about 400 miles northwest of the Orkney Islands, are largely dependent on commercial fishing to sustain the economy. The surrounding seas teem with fish because they are well protected. Paul sets off on a Faroe adventure, to discover what makes this small chain of islands special and what's on offer for the travelling angler. Cod to over 20 lbs and even some salmon fishing in the Sandoy Island's only freshwater lake.

Programme Availability

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Our pre-formatted Hooked DVDs - cost £12.99 each (+ postage)

The Hooked on Fishing programmes (made for Discovery) and the new, Fishing Road Trip USA series, are both unavailable at this time

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