

Irish Reef Fishing



A Slyne Head cod

The season runs from March to mid October and every year Bluewater will have a number of days with over 1000 lbs of fish. The two main techniques are drifting and anchoring. Drifting over reefs in 15 to 100m of water will yield Ling, Cod, Coalfish, Wrasse and Mackerel, to name but a few. Using Red Gill's and lead heads for Pollack is a speciality and provides excellent sport with fish average about 2.5 kg (5lbs +) and frequently edge over 5.5 kg (10lbs +). Summer cod are plentiful and fish in the 10 to 15 lbs range are common, shoals of Coalfish vary in size from clouds of 1lb fish to tackle smashing adults over 10 lbs. A day's drifting over reefs should yield 10 to

15 species and some additional bait could well increase this up to 15 or 20.

The annual average number of species stands at an impressive 34 over the last 5 years, with rarities like Bluemouth, Hake and Blue Whiting making up the numbers. Anchoring over any of John's reef marks could well entice a whopper from the depths. A Mackerel strip or flapper fished on a flowing trace for Conger or Ling is often successful and there may well be a bonus Bull Huss or big Cod ready to take the bait. The many sand and gravel patches are home to different types of Ray, flatfish like Plaice, Dabs and Turbot and, if you are lucky, you may run into a common Skate. UK journalist Alan Yates did on a recent trip aboard Bluewater and, after a battle lasting an hour, a truly magnificent fish in excess of 200lbs was photographed, tagged and released. Norman Dunlop of the Central Fisheries Board was also on board and he verified the weight estimate but also told the happy anglers that their catch was over 100 years old!!

WEATHER AND DISTANCE: If the weather is poor there is excellent ground for all species in the shelter offered by the numerous islands; in all but the very worst weather we will get good reef fishing. Most of the time we will be fishing within 20 minutes of Clifden but might travel for up to 1 hr 30 mins depending on the conditions..



And
Finally.....

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Alan Yates with his Bluewater Skate prior to release. Estimated weight 230lbs

The Bluewater

Our boat Blue Water is a 13 metre Cygnus Cyfish launched in 1996.

She has twin 250 H.P. engines, giving her a top speed of 24 knots. This leads to very short journey times to fishing grounds and hence more hours in the day to catch fish. She will fish up to 12 anglers and is fully equipped with navigational and fish-finding electronics. She has a fighting chair and Tuna door for the larger fish. This allows us to boat very large tuna without putting excessive stress on the fish and hence to improve the fish's chances on release. She has the Department of the Marine's maximum safety licence, allowing her to travel up to 40 miles off shore. There is a large cabin with twin berths, W.C. and galley. All these features make long trips more comfortable. A cup of tea and light catering are all possible. Blue Water is a top class angling machine, well able to get you over fish in comfort and safety.



Sharamore House



The Hallway



All our rooms were

completely refurbished in 2005 and all have ensuite bathrooms. The house is set in an extremely quiet location, far from road noise and the background sounds of urban areas we have a variety of possible sleeping arrangements in our bedrooms. Some rooms have twin single beds and some a double and

single. We can therefore offer flexible accommodation for couples, families and anyone travelling alone. Some rooms have views over the bay and some to the rear over the mountains and valleys of Connemara. At all events, you are assured of quiet restful conditions and the clear clean air for which the region is famous. Most of us live lives surrounded by noise pollution. Sharamore is the antidote. Sharamore is Bord Failte approved accommodation for anglers and the house reflects this, with fishing memorabilia and angling gear to be found throughout the living areas of the house, as well as angling photos of momentous fish and their captors. Amongst whom, you could find yourself commemorated - for that Blue Shark or prodigious Ling which you may catch next time out with Bluewater. Some more detail on the accommodation in the photos.



For prices and availability contact – Richard Sheard

WORLD SPORT FISHING LTD

TYTHE FARM, STAPLOE RD, WYBOSTON, BEDS, MK44 3AT

PHONE: 01480 403293 • FAX: 01480 403292

WWW.WORLDSPORTFISHING.COM

EMAIL RICHARD@WORLDSPORTFISHING.COM