States of Guernsey
Sea Fisheries

Ormering Tides 2022

In accordance with the provisions of the *Fishing Ordinance, 1997*, persons are permitted to collect ormers on the days of the full moon, new moon and the two days following between January 1st and April 30th (inclusive). The permitted dates for ormering during 2022 are as follows:

January	Predicted Height (m)	**February**	Predicted Height (m)	**March**	Predicted Height (m)	**April**	Predicted Height (m)
2nd	1.5	1st	1.1	2nd	1.0	1st	0.8
3rd	1.2	2nd	0.8	3rd	0.7	2nd	0.8
4th	1.0	3rd	0.7	4th	0.6	3rd	1.0
17th	2.4	16th	1.9	18th	1.2	16th	1.1
18th	2.1	17th	1.6	19th	1.0	17th	0.9
19th	2.0	18th	1.4	20th	0.9	18th	0.8
						30th	1.2

Conservation Regulations

This is a guide only, for more complete information please contact Sea Fisheries or visit www.gov.gg/fishing to view the relevant ordinance.

- A person shall not take any ormer except on a permitted day. A permitted day is the day of each new moon and each full moon and the two days immediately following those days.
- The minimum size for retaining ormers is 80mm, measured along the longest axis of the shell.
- A person shall have ormers in their possession only on the day of a new or full moon and the four days following and on the first or second day of May, provided in each case that he can prove that the ormer was taken on a permitted day. This does not apply to preserved ormers. Preserved ormers are ormers which have been cooked or pickled, *not* deep-frozen.
- A person may not take or gain possession of any ormer whilst totally or partially submerged and either breathing with the aid of submarine breathing apparatus (including a snorkel and any other diving device whatsoever), or wearing a diving suit, face visor, mask or goggles: and cognate expressions shall be construed accordingly.
- Where a person using a boat as a base for diving is found in possession of ormers, the onus of proof that ormers were not taken by diving rests with that person.
- A person may not shuck (remove the flesh from the shell) any molluscan shellfish at sea or land shucked shellfish.
- A person may not export or import ormers (except cultivated ormers and then only with direct authorisation of Sea Fisheries).

The penalty for being found guilty of a breach of any of these regulations is a fine of up to £5,000 or six months imprisonment; in addition the Court may order the seizure, destruction or other disposal of the fish or any equipment to which the conviction relates.

Sea Fisheries advises all persons to carry a proper measure and to return any undersized specimens immediately. Sea Fisheries Officers will again be carrying out routine coastal patrols this year and any person found to be in possession of undersized ormers will be liable to prosecution. Sea Fisheries Officers will normally be easily recognisable by their uniform, but also carry warrant cards as proof of identification.

For further information please contact Sea Fisheries on 221161. Alternatively the Duty Officer may be contacted via the Island Police or JESCC.

A Code of Practice for Ormer Gatherers

This Code of Practice has been developed between Sea Fisheries and the Committee *for the* Environment and Infrastructure and must be read in conjunction with current fisheries legislation. The Code aims to promote ormer gathering as a sustainable and responsible activity that can be enjoyed by all users, whilst minimising the impacts on the local environment and preserving the Bailiwick's marine biodiversity for future generations:

- Undersized ormers should be returned undamaged to their original positions. You should not retain undersized ormers at any stage during your search.
- All efforts should be made to carefully return boulders and rocks to their original positions. This is to prevent degradation to the habitat. Where possible please push aside crabs, fish and other larger species when returning stones.
- Tread carefully whilst on the seashore to avoid crushing fragile marine plants and animals.
- Avoid putting any roosting or feeding birds to flight. There are important sites around our coastline for overwintering seabirds and any disturbance must be kept to a minimum. Lihou is particularly sensitive and no one should walk through the roped off area of shingle bank at Lissroy between 1st January and the 31st August to reduce disturbance to the birds breeding there.
- Park in designated car parks to avoid damage to coastal grasslands or nuisance to nearby residents. Do not park on slipways or Lihou causeway.
- Place all litter in bins provided or take home for disposal.
- Be aware of the incoming tide – it can rise very quickly. Take care not to get stranded.

For enquiries regarding the Code please contact Sea Fisheries or the Committee *for* Economic Development on 221161