

Top 10 Fishing Schools

From chalkstream classrooms to spate-river master classes, sea-trouting to Czech nymphing, *Helix* explores the options for would-be fly-fishers or those wanting to brush up their casting technique

A FLY-FISHER'S cast should be poetry in motion but for many it's accompanied by bad language, frustration and tree climbing. If ever a sport cries out for lessons it's fly-fishing, and yet many feel we should instinctively know how to cast. Wrong! This is a case where coaching with a professional in the early stages is required to prevent bad habits forming and give you the best chance of success. There's a huge range of options available across the country from taster sessions to residential courses, speycasting to saltwater fly. If you're not having much luck on the water give your casting an MOT with a pro: it will be money and time well spent.

1 ARUNDELL ARMS

WILD TROUT FISHING ON THE TAMAR

As one of England's premier fishing hotels, the Arundell Arms has been teaching people to fish for over half a century. With 20 miles of private fishing on the Tamar and six of its tributaries, and Tinhay Lake for casting practice, it's ideal for beginners or those brushing up their technique. The two resident AAPGAI instructors, David Pilkington and Tim Smith, offer residential courses for beginners, and there are also taster days on the lake, weekend salmon courses and family fishing weekends. Waders, rods and flies are all provided by the tackle shop.

Four-day Residential Beginners April - August, £450pp/Introductory Weekends April - September, £255pp/Taster Days April - October, £99pp (up to 10 pupils with two instructors)/Contact Arundell Arms Hotel, Lifton, Devon PL16 0AA, 01566 784666, email reservations@arundellarms.com, www.arundellarms.com

