

Gudgeon

Gobio gobio

Fish · Here all year · spawns May-Jun



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A small, cylindrical, bottom-dwelling fish with a rounded snout, a single sensory barbel at each corner of the downturned mouth, and a line of dark blue-grey blotches along the flank with speckling on the dorsal and tail fins. Gudgeon live over gravel and sand in the flowing reaches and shallow margins of rivers and lochs around the region.

BEHAVIOUR

Gudgeon feed on the bottom, using their barbels to find insect larvae, crustaceans and molluscs in gravel and sand, and are almost always in small shoals. They favour clean gravel and are sensitive to heavy siltation. Spawning is in early summer, when sticky eggs are laid over stones and gravel in the shallows and the males develop small white breeding tubercles on the head.

WHEN TO SEE IT

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QUICK FACTS

FAMILY	Carps and minnows (Cyprinidae)
SIZE	Typically 8-15 cm
UK STATUS	Native to Britain; introduced in parts of Scotland

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