Get Hooked on Surf Fishing

Surf fishing along California’s beaches offers peaceful relaxation, fresh sea air, and perhaps a nice stringer of fish for the dinner table. With minimal equipment, some knowledge about the fish you seek, and a little practice, success is just one good catch away.

Never turn your back on the ocean—large waves can come up unexpectedly!

Surf fishing is best from two hours before high tide to two hours after, when fish follow the tide in to eat worms, sand crabs and shellfish uncovered by the waves. Though deep holes along the shoreline and areas near rip currents also attract fish, fishing near them can be more hazardous.

Remember

Anglers age 16 and older need a valid sport fishing license. It is your responsibility to know bag limits and equipment restrictions. Regulations are adjusted as necessary to maintain healthy sport fish populations, so check ahead for local restrictions and limits.