

Barra - From from the streets of Rockhampton!

The most common criticism fishing writers, TV presenters and show personalities cop is that most of their work is derived from far-flung, exotic locations where the average fisho could no doubt pull fish too. This month, Kim picks up the challenge - and goes fishing just about in Rockhampton's main street. Don't have any doubts - this girl is good.

by Kim Bain with assistance from her Dad, Steve Bain.

Main Pic: Mum snared this barra in one of the small creeks that run into the Fitzroy River. It was taken around midday on the same day that she left Brisbane.



Fishing the Fitzroy River for barra is red carpet service with a bitumen road all the way to the boat ramp.

If that's not enough, some of the best fishing happens in the middle of town, right in front of City Hall - and in the middle of the day too!

Rockhampton's barra fishing is just about all good news. The barramundi fishing rates very highly. I'd go so far as to say that you'll catch more barra than in some of the more heavily promoted points further north. My best half a day of barra fishing saw us take over twenty fish to 70cm and I have many friends who have caught (unguided) barra within the first few hours of hitting the river for the first time. More than one angler has quipped at the annual tournament that they've caught more barra per day in Queensland's Fitzroy River than they have in hotspots elsewhere. Hey, look - I'm not knocking other spots and I love the adventure and wilderness myself, but if you're looking for an easy holiday with fish almost guaranteed for the whole family, then do

yourself a favour and hit the Fitzroy!

This is ideal family fishing country. You fish the tides, mainly the run out around the snags and the run-in around the rocks and bridges, so plan ahead to put yourself in town when the tides you wish to fish are in the middle of the day. That way you can sleep in and still not miss the best times to cast a lure.

As mentioned before I've made a few trips to the Fitzroy River, the first when I was about twelve. Each trip has reinforced to me that asking the local tackle shops "where are they biting" can save hours on



Above: The author shows off another first day barra.
Below: Yep, this barra was taken by Dad on his first day of the trip too. There's no shortage of action in Rockhampton.