

Walleye Fishing on Lake Erie

Lake Erie is the 11th largest lake in the world. It is so, by surface area, but it is the shallowest of the five Great Lakes in the United States and Canada. Lake Erie is 241 miles long and 57 miles wide. The city of Erie, Pennsylvania is a great place to charter or personally fish for Walleye, Perch, Smallmouth Bass, Steelhead, Salmon and Lake Trout.

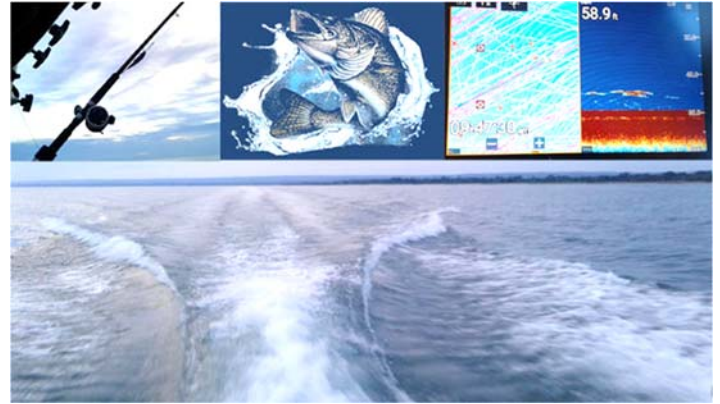
Another fish caught in Lake Erie is what the locals call Sheephead. Sheephead is also called Silver Bass, and other names such as Catawba dolphin, groaners, grunners and farm animals. One of 160 species of the Freshwater Drum, Sciaenidae family, they are popular in the South (Mississippi River area) and called Gaspargou. They are not on Lake Erie because the young are bottom feeders. The interesting thing is that you will find Sheephead among the Walleye and Perch. If you catch one, consumption should be sooner rather than later, as they do not freeze well and, due to their higher content of fats and oils, they tend to have a stronger fish flavor.

According to www.farmandairy.com, "Lake Erie is easily the most productive of all the Great Lakes and that on-going research efforts provide windows into the habitat and seasonal movements of the fish. In some cases, blocks to good spawning grounds in Lake Erie tributaries, have been cleared to allow more walleyes to reach more good spawning areas but no fish are stocked."

Below are some pictures taken from a charter boat. Five friends fished two days and enjoyed the weather and lake.



Erie, Pennsylvania, is named after Native Americans, the Iroquoians (erielhonan— "long tail"). It is the 4th largest city in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The city's population is approximately 100,000 people. Indigenous people lived in the area from 8,000 BC. Europeans arrived during the mid-1700s. Erie played an important part during the French and Indian War. During the 19th century, it was a shipbuilding, fishing and railroad center. To learn more about Lake Erie's fishing and charters go to www.fisherie.com.



Charters usually begin at 6:30 am and will be out until a limit per-person is reached. This could last all day or part of a day based on where and how many fish are spotted and hooked. The lake can be smooth or bumpy; it's all in the weather forecast. The charter we took trolled deep and had nearly 20 lures in the water at all times.

