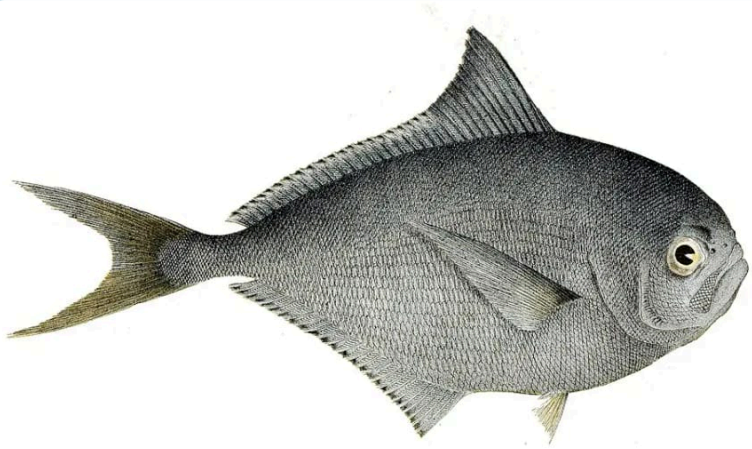
RARER VISITORS AND OTHERS

Ray's bream

Brama brama Also known as Atlantic pomfret

Not recorded off Sussex in our sources | Confirmed record



Ray's bream (*Brama brama*). Picture: Arthur Bartholemew, Public domain, via Wikimedia Commons: commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Brama_brama_McCoy.jpg.

IN SHORT

Ray's bream is a deep, narrow, silvery fish with a snub nose and a mouth that angles downwards. Our sources do not record it off the Sussex coast. British boat record: confirmed.

Key facts

IDENTIFY IT
Deep, narrow-bodied silvery fish with a snub nose, a downward-angled mouth and dorsal and anal fins covering the rear half of the body.

SIZE
Can exceed 3 kg and 65 cm (Planet Sea Fishing). An Irish guide says it can top 1 m and 5 kg.

HABITAT
Pelagic, usually deep water. In Ireland it is taken from offshore reef and deep-sea marks.

OFF SUSSEX
Not recorded in our sources

AROUND BRITAIN
Summer and autumn on the Irish guide's account. It can also strand on North Sea shores in cold winters.

METHODS
Mostly boat fishing and usually by accident. Drift a long trace over a mark with mackerel strip, squid or worm on 1/0 to 3/0 hooks.

GROUP
Rarer visitors and others

COME FISHING WITH US

Fish with Kestrel Warrior from Brighton Marina

The Ray's bream is not one of the fish our sources record off Sussex, so no Kestrel Warrior trip targets it. Come and fish the Sussex coast on one of our eight trips (Prices 2027):

- **Sightseeing tour** 1 hour, £20 pp
- **Squid and cuttlefish trip** 3 hours, £55 pp
- **Sea fishing trip at anchor, multiple species** 8 hours, £75 pp
- **Wreck fishing at anchor** 10 hours, £110 pp
- **Mackerel trip** 90 minutes, £27 pp
- **Sea fishing trip, multiple species** 4 hours, £55 pp
- **Flatfish drift trip** 8 hours, £90 pp
- **Shark fishing trip** 10 hours, £150 pp

Free tuition and free gutting and filleting of your catch. Rod hire £10 per person; fishing tackle is included on the shark trip.

Scan to book

Book: ring **07896 471691** (8am to 9pm, seven days a week) · info@kestrelwarrior6.co.uk · kestrelwarrior6.co.uk/contact/

About the Ray's bream

Ray's bream is a deep, narrow, silvery fish with a snub nose and a mouth that angles downwards. Its dorsal and anal fins cover the rear half of the body. It is a pelagic fish, usually found in deep water, and in Ireland it is taken from offshore reef and deep-sea marks. Planet Sea Fishing says it can exceed 3 kg and 65 cm, and an Irish guide says it can top 1 m and 5 kg. It is mostly a boat fish, and most are caught by accident. Wikipedia, which lists it under the name Atlantic pomfret, rates the species as Least Concern. The Irish guide puts the season in summer and autumn, and says it can also strand on North Sea shores in cold winters. For most boat anglers it is a curiosity rather than a target. Large catches are rare even on deep marks. The British boat-caught record is 6 lb 3 oz 13 dms, from Barra Head, Scotland, in 1978, so a fish of that size would be a rare prize.

On the boat

Ray's bream is mostly a boat fish and usually a surprise. An Irish guide suggests drifting a long trace over a mark with mackerel strip, squid or worm on 1/0 to 3/0 hooks. It names summer and autumn as the time to expect one. The record gives no Sussex months, so none can be given here. Large catches are rare even on deep marks.

British boat-caught record

Confirmed record

Weight	6 lb 3 oz 13 dms (2.829 kg)
Where	Barra Head, Scotland
When	1978
Angler	L/Cpl J Holland

Confirmed British boat-caught record: L/Cpl J Holland, 6 lb 3 oz 13 dms (2.829 kg), Barra Head, Scotland, 1978. The official list gives the year only. The official weight-based boat records were frozen in June 2024, and newer claims are by length only.

Care and rules

The sources give no landing size for Ray's bream, and Wikipedia lists it as Least Concern. Nothing in them says it is protected. Rules change: check the current rules before you fish.

Did you know?

Ray's bream can strand on North Sea shores in cold winters. Wikipedia lists the species under the name Atlantic pomfret.

Sources: Planet Sea Fishing: Ray's bream; Sea Angling Ireland: Ray's bream; Wikipedia: Atlantic pomfret; BRFC sea fish records, June 2026. The full guide, with links to every source: kestrelwarrior6.co.uk/sea-fish-guide/rays-bream/