



★ *Proposed* ITINERARY ★

Virgin Islands

LUXURY *Yacht* GROUP



ST. THOMAS AIRPORT

Airport Code: STT

STT is one of the busiest in the Caribbean, servicing 1,215,000 passengers in 2012. This international airport has direct flights to and from the USA and connecting service from Canada, Europe, South America and Asia.

DAY 1: *St. Thomas... Jost Van Dyke* (12NM)

Cocktails, canapés and panoramic views await you on deck as you get underway on the passage from St. Thomas to Jost Van Dyke. After clearing customs at Great Harbor, explore Sandy Cay, a botanical garden and nature preserve once owned by the Laurance Rockefeller Estate. The trail is an easy 20 minute walk with dramatic views. Sunning on the white-sand beach and swimming in crystal clear water is sublime. Thousands of iridescent fish greet snorkelers on the shallow reef. Go play at “The Playground” on Green Cay, with perfect conditions to splash about on the water toys and enjoy great diving. Sandy Spit is splendid for beach games and barbeques; the quintessential deserted island, complete with lone coconut palm at center. Return to Great Harbour in time for sunset at Foxy’s, starring the iconic islander whose amusing songs, accompanied by extreme tropical drinks, have entertained yachtsmen for over 50 years.

RESTAURANT & NIGHTLIFE

Foxy's Tamarind Bar — <http://foxysbar.com>

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Excluding pirate enclaves and indigenous populations, The United States, Spain, Holland, The United Kingdom, France, Knights of Malta and Denmark have all laid claim to one or more of the Virgin Islands.

DAY 2: *Jost Van Dyke... Tortola... Virgin Gorda* (21NM)

This morning, breakfast al fresco features magnificent views of North Shore, Tortola. Great wave action attracts surfers, boogie boarders and everyone who loves to play in the waves. Lively Cane Garden Bay has world-class surfing on a north swell, beach bars and barbecues, trinket shacks and Reggae bands. Further east, sparkling secluded beaches, scenic coves and seaside villages beg exploration. Time permitting, include a dive or snorkel adventure at one of the spectacular sites off Guana Island, Great Camanoe, or Scrub Island. This evening, dock in North Sound, Virgin Gorda, at the prestigious Yacht Club Costa Smeralda. Access to Biras Creek Resort & Spa offers the ultimate in amenities to pamper high profile clientele. Alternatively, anchor out and tender ashore for spa treatments, shopping, fine dining and Caribbean-style nightlife at these resorts, or any of the many acclaimed venues that rim the Sound.

FIVE STAR RESORTS

Biras Creek Resort — <http://www.biras.com/index.html>

YCCS Marina — <http://www.yccs.com/marina>

Bitter End Yacht Club — <http://www.beyc.com>

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Anegada, or “drowned island”, was named by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Horseshoe Reef is the third largest barrier reef in the world.

DAY 3: *Virgin Gorda... Anegada* (13NM)

Approaching Anegada, the only coral island in the volcanic chain, be the first to spot palm trees rising from the highest point of just 8.5 meters. Anegada has barely 250 residents, none of whom has found the legendary treasure from the more than 500 wrecks claimed by the notorious Horseshoe Reef. Dive or snorkel around sunken ships and parti-colored coral. Collect shells and sea glass along miles of sparkling beach. Consistent winds are ideal for windsurfers and kite boarders. On shore, protected wildlife includes a pink flamingo colony, wild goats and donkeys, and the Anegada Rock Iguana Preserve. Chat with other yacht owners and locals over a Cow Killer or Wreck Punch at the Cow Wreck Beach Bar, or try a refreshing Dark and Stormy at Neptune’s Treasure. In the evening, your crew will prepare an unforgettable private beach barbeque that features the island’s main attraction, Caribbean lobster.

RESTAURANTS & BEACH BARS

Cow Wreck Beach Resort — <http://www.cowwreckbeach.com>

Neptune’s Treasure & Pam’s Kitchen — <https://www.neptunestreasure.com/Menu.html>

Big Bamboo — <http://www.bigbamboo.vg/anegada.html>

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At some point back in time the extinct Caribbean Monk seal lived on The Dog islets. Sailors who moored here heard their bark and mistook them for wild dogs.

DAY 4: *The Dogs... The Baths... Peter Island* (27NM)

On your early morning passage from Anegada take breakfast on deck to spy dolphin and whales en route to “The Dogs”, nine spectacular dive sites ranging from novice to advanced. The Chimney is famous for its canyon structure and archway of multi-colored sponges. An old Air BVI aircraft fuselage at Great Dog, oxygen masks still hanging from the roof, is home to reef fish, barracuda, lobster, turtles and nurse sharks. French celebrity diver Jacque Cousteau declared Bronco Billy at George Dog his favorite dive site in the BVI. This rough ride on the surge propels daring divers through a box canyon. Four miles south explore The Baths at Virgin Gorda, a wonder of enormous boulders, scenic pools, deep caves and underwater grottos. At Salt Island dive the RMS Rhone, a world’s best wreck made famous by Jacqueline Bisset’s risqué T-shirt dive for the 1977 movie *The Deep*. A photogenic sunset cruise to Peter Island is perfectly timed for arrival in Deadman’s Bay, rated one of the most romantic beaches on earth.

RESTAURANTS & BARS

The Rock Café — http://www.bvidining.com/Rock_Cafe/index.php

Top of the Baths — <http://topofthebaths.com>

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The eco-conscious family, owners of Peter Island Resort & Spa, pioneered the installation of windmill generators in the British Virgin Islands to minimize their carbon footprint.

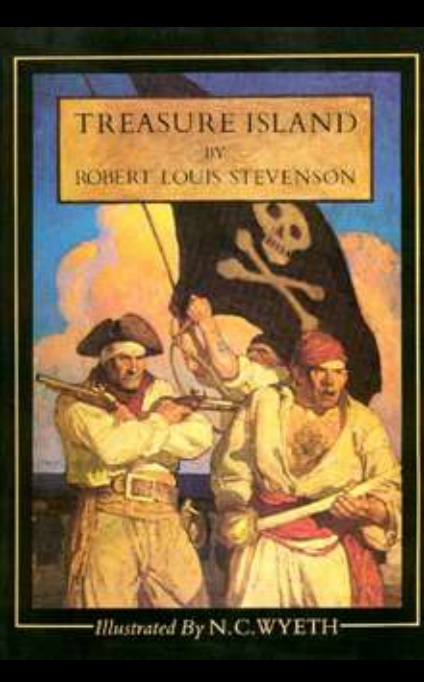
DAY 5: *Peter Island* (14NM)

Deadman's Bay, a mile long arc of sparkling sand and soaring palms, is an enchanting beach to walk, swim, sun or snorkel. Jet skis are prohibited in the BVI, but all the other yacht toys make a big splash in this tranquil, turquoise cove. Cruise to Dead Chest Island, where Blackbeard marooned 15 pirates and a bottle of rum. Just offshore are three very different but equally astonishing sites; Dead Chest West, Coral Gardens and Painted Walls. Remote Key Cay is a secluded, seldom visited, peaceful spot for snorkeling and sunning in an undisturbed environment. Peter Island is the largest private island in the BVI. Hiking and biking trails that crisscross the island reveal indigenous flora and fauna and picturesque beaches on the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea and the Sir Francis Drake Channel. Humpback whales have been spotted in Great Harbour, and snorkeling is quite good in Buttonwood Bay. For upscale rejuvenation, the Peter Island Resort and Spa, ranked one of the world's top resorts, welcomes yachting guests for an afternoon or evening of pure indulgence.

LUXURY RESORT

Peter Island Resort & Spa — <http://www.peterisland.com>

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In 1910 a poor man named Creque supposedly found the Norman Island treasure chest; bought Norman Island, and properties on St. Thomas and St. John, and several business ventures. In downtown Charlotte Amalie, Creque Alley was made famous by the Mommas & the Poppas in an autobiographical hit single in 1967.

DAY 6: *Peter Island... Norman Island* (3NM)

Norman Island, the inspiration for Robert Lewis Stevenson's pirate epic *Treasure Island*, has a captivating, mythic history. Rumors persist of buried treasure, pirate booty and sunken chests of gold. In the checkered past, some islanders are recorded as making significant purchases with large sums of money derived from questionable sources, but nobody has actually declared finding the lost treasure. Embark on a snorkeling adventure through Treasure Caves, where the deeper you go the darker it gets. Keep an eye out for Spanish doubloons. The Indians are dramatic rock pinnacles that descend 50ft. below sea level. The site is equally exhilarating to snorkel or dive, and gentle enough for children. Anchor at The Bight to join festive boaters for a wacky time at the Pirates Bight restaurant or Willy T barge. For solitude, anchor at Soldier Bay, Benures Bay or Money Bay, conditions permitting.

RESTAURANT & NIGHTLIFE

Pirates Bight — <http://www.piratesbight.com>

Willy T's — <http://www.williamthornton.com>

LOCAL HISTORY

The Story of Norman Island Treasure — http://www.seestjohn.com/history_norman_island.html

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Quelbe, the official music of the Virgin Islands, is created by scratch or fungi bands using improvised musical instruments such as gourds and washboards to create their original sound and beat.

DAY 7: *Norman Island... West End... St. John* (13NM)

Embark early to clear BVI customs at West End, US customs at Cruz Bay, and spend the day at play on St. John. The “Beverly Hills of the Caribbean” is two thirds national parkland with dazzling beaches, idyllic coves and velvet green hills. Explore the well-marked underwater path at Trunk Bay, gentle enough for the youngest snorkeler. Caneel Bay on the former Rockefeller estate is achingly romantic; especially under a night sky with the shimmering lights of St. Thomas on the horizon. Take a half hour swim from Caneel Bay to pristine and isolated Honeymoon Beach. Go biking, horseback riding, rock climbing or hike any of 22 nature trails. Visit breathtaking ruins of plantations and sugar mills. Peruse the upscale galleries and trendy boutiques of Cruz Bay. This evening, prepare for an amazing theme party designed by your imaginative crew, a wonderful finale to an unforgettable charter vacation!

RESTAURANT & BAR

ZoZo's at the Sugar Mill, Caneel Bay — <http://www.caneelbay.com/sugar-mill-restaurant.html>

LOCAL INFORMATION

St John, Virgin Islands — http://www.seestjohn.com/about_st_john.html

National Park Virgin Islands — <http://www.nps.gov/viis/index.htm>

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Sephardic Jews that escaped Spanish persecution by fleeing to St. Thomas headed in very different directions. One group founded the oldest continuously active synagogue in the U.S. territories today, the Beracha Veshalom Vegimulth Hasidim Synagogue. Others became pirates, seeking revenge on the Spaniards.

DAY 8: *St. John ... St. Thomas* (10NM)

Whether you have just a few hours or plan an extra day prior to departure, St. Thomas offers interesting diversions from educational to extreme. Located along the Anegada Passage, a key shipping lane for the Panama Canal, Saint Thomas has one of the best natural deepwater harbors in the Caribbean. The island's popularity has inspired entrepreneurs from vendors to artisans to hospitality professionals. Main Street, Charlotte Amalie, is lined with duty free shops, but go early or late to avoid throngs of cruise ship passengers. Magic Ice is a cool idea, a gallery of works by international ice sculptors. Historical sites include the oldest continuously operating synagogue in the United States, and the fascinating collection at the St. Thomas Historical trust. For sports with a view, Tree Limin' Extreme has zip lines and rope bridges that careen down from the peaks of St. Peter Mountain.

EXCURSIONS

Magic Ice — <http://www.magicice.vi>

Tree Limin' Extreme — <http://www.ziplinestthomas.com/index.html>

St. Thomas Historical Trust — <http://www.stthomashistoricaltrust.org>

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THE VIRGIN ISLANDS:

Regional Guide

US\$
EURO
EC\$

CURRENCIES
The United States Dollar (USD), Euro (EU) and Eastern Caribbean dollar (EC) are most commonly used throughout the Caribbean, the USD is widely accepted. Establish the type of currency prior to any transaction. ATMs often only dispense the local currency.

TIME ZONE: UTC/GMT – 4 hours/Atlantic Standard Time or UTC/GMT – 5 hours/Eastern Standard Time + 1hr. Daylight Savings Time.

ECONOMY: Tourism, financial services, manufacturing, and agriculture

DRESS CODE: Proper attire should be worn in public areas. Bathing suits are appropriate only at the beach or pool. Some venues may require men to wear jackets and women wear dresses.

DRIVING: Motorists drive on the left side of the road. Some cars have the steering wheel on the left and others on the right. Rental cars are usually available with automatic or stick shifts, the latter being the best option when touring mountainous regions.

GOVERNMENTS & POLITICAL SYSTEMS:

The islands are democratic sovereign states, overseas departments or dependent territories. Various countries use one-party, two-party or multi-party systems.

OFFICIAL LANGUAGES: English, French, Dutch

ELECTRIC CURRENT: Some islands use 110/120V, 60Hz. Others use 220V 50/60Hz. Plugs are not consistent with voltage. Yachts operate on current according to the build or homeport.

When to visit:

The best yachting in the northern Caribbean islands is during the high season, December through April, when cool, consistent trade winds are a special plus for sailing yachts, kite boarders and windsurfers. The social season is in full swing and venues are crowded. The southern islands below the hurricane belt are less congested and gorgeous year around.

CLIMATE DATA FOR THE EAST CARIBBEAN													
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	YEAR
Average High °F	83	82	84	85	85	86	86	87	87	86	84	83	85
Average Low °F	73	72	73	75	76	78	78	78	77	76	74	74	75
Average Rainfall (inches)	2.5	1.3	1.6	2.3	2.3	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.7	4.4	3.8	3.7	36.7

Climate:

Winter is the dry season, with less humidity, rainfall and bugs, cooling winds and an average temperature of about 78 degrees. The rainy hurricane season, June 1 – November 30, peaks in September, with broiling midday sun, higher humidity, occasional showers and an average temperature of 88 degrees.

Image A: Biras Creek Resort | Image B and front cover: Yacht Club Costa Smeralda Marina | Images C, D & F: Peter Island Resort & Spa | Image E: bvitourism.com | Image G & H: visitusvi.com | Image I: Tree Limin' Extreme

VISA INFORMATION

www.projectvisa.com



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▶ Escape to Paradise...

