



★ *Proposed* ITINERARY ★

British Virgin Islands

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PHOTO © BIRAS CREEK RESORT



BEEF ISLAND AIRPORT

Airport Code: EIS

The international airport is located on Beef Island because Tortola's mountainous terrain makes an airstrip unfeasible. EIS, mainly a commuter connection to and from Puerto Rico, is the main gateway to most of the British Virgin Islands. Upon your departure, be prepared to pay a \$20 USD departure tax.



DAY 1: *Tortola... North Sound, Virgin Gorda* (9NM)

Fly into Beef Island and transfer to your private yacht anchored in Trellis Bay. Your Captain and crew extend a warm welcome and help you settle in as the yacht gets underway to North Sound, Virgin Gorda. Enjoy al fresco cocktails and luncheon with panoramic views of Great Camanoe Island, the Scrub Island resort complex and "The Dogs". Dive and snorkel enthusiasts will want to include a stop on their itinerary at one or more of the nine, adventurous Dog Islands sites. There are novice reef and wreck sites and swift currents create challenging intermediate and advanced dive conditions. Sir Richard Branson's private Necker Island, adorned with Polynesian styled architecture and fine art, is worth a passing gaze. Secluded Mosquito Island offers a romantic anchorage off North Sound, with sublime beach, rocks you can jump off into the sea and ideal conditions for water sports fun. In the evening, go ashore for souvenir shopping, fine dining and Caribbean-style nightlife.

RESTAURANT

Biras Creek Resort, Hilltop Restaurant — <http://www.biras.com/dining.html>

NIGHTLIFE

Bitter End Yacht Club, The Crawl Pub — <http://www.beyc.com/index.php/dine/the-crawl-pub>

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In 1992, 22 flamingos wrapped in cheesecloth arrived by private jet from Bermuda to Beef Island airport. Once through customs they took a boat to Anegada to be reintroduced into the vacant salt ponds that had once harbored tens of thousands of these birds. Today the flock numbers about 50.

DAY 2: *North Sound, Virgin Gorda... Anegada* (13NM)

On your early morning passage to Anegada take breakfast on deck to watch for dolphin and whales. Scan the horizon for palm trees, the first sign of this coral and limestone atoll with a highest point of just 8.5 meters. At the northern and western ends of the island are expansive, sparkling white-sand beaches. Venture inland by foot, bicycle or jeep to discover exotic flora and fauna protected by the BVI National Parks Trust. Amazing shell collecting, pink flamingos, wild goats and gigantic iguanas are not the only reason to be here. Above the water line, Anegada has steady trade winds ideal for windsurfing and kite boarding. Below the waterline, the island has legendary snorkeling and diving. Swim through the surround of shallow reefs, the watery grave of literally hundreds of ships. Try bone fishing, a popular sport here due to many shallow flats teeming with bonefish, snook and permit. In the evening, your crew will prepare an unforgettable private beach barbecue 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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The Salt Island population of three people upholds its obligation to pay a one pound bag of salt as annual rent to the Queen of England delivered each year via the Governor.

DAY 3: *Virgin Gorda... Salt Island... Peter Island* (27NM)

Explore The Baths on Virgin Gorda, a marvel of enormous boulders, scenic pools, deep caves and underwater grottos. Follow the winding path to Devil's Bay Beach or Spring Bay for superb snorkeling. Pause for a beverage at a local venue before hiking back to your yacht. Enjoy lunch on the breezy aft deck with breathtaking landscapes of Ginger and Cooper Islands. Salt Island is the site of the RMS Rhone, a British mail ship lost in the hurricane of 1867 that is considered one of the world's best wreck dives. The bow section and 15-foot propeller at stern are largely intact. A giant green moray and several octopuses live in the mid section, and turtles are everywhere. Go ashore and climb the hill to visit the gravesite for victims of the wreck. Share in their eternal view of Tortola. Continue to Peter Island to anchor for the night in Little Harbour with very good snorkeling at Buttonwood Bay and access to some of the Peter Island Resort facilities.

RESTAURANTS

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

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

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PHOTO © PETER ISLAND RESORT & SPA



A sailors' jingle for remembering the order of the smaller islands from west to east goes: "Norman and Peter give Salt to Cooper and Ginger."

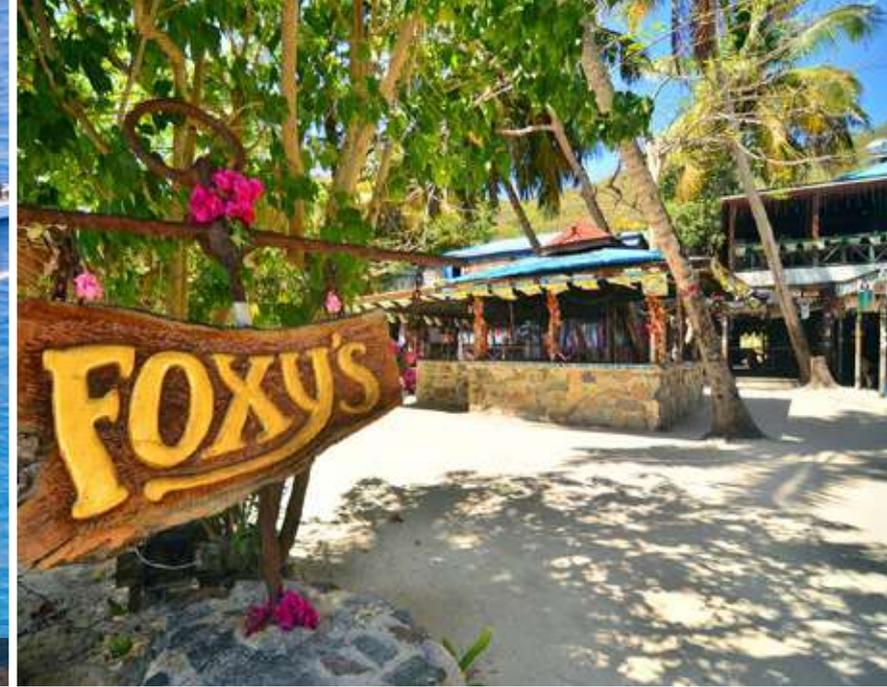
DAY 4: *Peter Island*

The chic surroundings and welcome tranquility of Peter Island belies a dramatic past when tyrannical pirates ruled the Caribbean. Deadman's Chest Cay, a large rock at sea with a sliver of beach, is where Blackbeard marooned 15 men and a bottle of rum. Dead Chest Cay and Deadman's Bay still lure treasure seekers with tales of buried pirate spoils, but a better reason to drop anchor is perfect conditions for water sports fun. Deadman's Bay, with a spectacular, mile long beach, is rated one of the most romantic beaches on earth. Inland, biking and hiking trails traverse the island providing views of flora and fauna found only here. For an afternoon or evening of onshore luxury, reserve a treatment room or couples suite at the outstanding Spa at Peter Island. The Peter Island Resort can serve up a slice of paradise at the Tradewinds Restaurant and true connoisseurs of the Caribbean should sample the Sipping Rum Collection at Drake's Lounge. The Peter Island Resort and Spa is consistently ranked as one of the world's top resorts.

LUXURY RESORT

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

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Jost Van Dyke has a young population with 46% of residents under the age of 35 and almost 70% under the age of 50. In a decades old tradition, islanders celebrate "Old Years Night" with thousands of yachting partiers welcoming the New Year at Foxy's and the other bars in Great Harbour.

DAY 5: *Norman Island... West End, Tortola... Jost Van Dyke* (14NM)

Persistent tales of pirate booty and buried treasure surround Norman Island like a spectral cloak. The 250 year saga involves a Spanish Galleon, three governments, bands of buccaneers, millions in missing cargo and islanders inexplicably transformed from poor to wealthy citizens. Even without finding a doubloon, a snorkeling adventure through the deep, dark Treasure Caves is unforgettable. The Indians are an equally famous underwater site for all levels of ability including children. Tortola's West End harbor is lined with colorful shops. Stroll to Frenchman's Clubhouse for tropical drinks in lush surroundings. A late afternoon sail to Jost Van Dyke is perfectly timed to reach Foxy's by sunset, famous for cocktails and camaraderie for over half a century.

RESTAURANT

The Clubhouse Bar and Restaurant — <http://www.frenchmansbvi.com/dining>

GALLERY

Hucksters Customs House — <http://www.huckstersbvi.com>

NIGHTLIFE

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

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Callwood's Rum Distillery and Museum in Cane Garden Bay, the oldest, continuously operated distillery in the Eastern Caribbean, uses a single pot still, makes rum directly from sugar cane juice, and claims patrons will never get a hangover.

DAY 6: *Sandy Cay... Little Jost... Cane Garden Bay, Tortola* (8NM)

Cruise to the nearby islands of Sandy Cay, Green Cay and Sandy Spit. Sandy Cay, another Virgin Island property owned by the Laurence Rockefeller Estate, is an enchanting 14-acre tropical nature preserve with a visually superb trail, a gorgeous beach and great snorkeling. Green Cay's ocean-side has an area called The Playground, which is an excellent dive site on calm days and a perfect setting to launch the water toys. Tiny Sandy Spit, the quintessential deserted island complete with coconut palm at center, is one of the most frequently photographed locations in the islands. Swim, sun, relax and savor a gourmet picnic laid out by your crew. After lunch make the crossing to Cane Garden Bay and world-class surfing on a north swell. Here beach bars, restaurants, trinket shacks and Reggae bands enliven the beach, and Bomba's, famous for zany full moon parties, is just a short cab ride away.

NIGHTLIFE

Bomba's Surfside Shack — <http://www.reservationbvi.com/Bomba>



The International Business Companies Act, passed in the early 1980s, inaugurated a financial services sector that has made BVI residents among the most affluent in the Eastern Caribbean. Approximately 500,000 international business companies are on the Register in a country of 31,912 people.

DAY 7: *Tortola's North Beach Coast*

Tortola's north shore is a breathtaking vista of lush greenery, beautiful beaches, scenic coves and seaside villages. Explore a fishing village, visit an open-air market, sample West Indian food, lounge on the beach or remain on board to photograph the passing landscape. Anchor off Guana Island, a private island and wildlife sanctuary that protects at least 50 species of birds. There are a couple of excellent snorkeling areas at White Bay and Monkey Point where large tarpon, turtles and an abundance of marine life can be seen. Great Camanoe has good snorkeling and diving in Cam Bay and the ever-popular Lee Bay, watch out for the huge octopus. Both islands have beautifully protected anchorages to swim and play on the water toys. In the evening, be prepared for fun and folly as the crew throws an amazing theme party, making this last day the most memorable of all!

GALLERY

Aragorn's Studio — <http://aragornsstudio.com/fire.htm>

RESTAURANT & BAR

De Loose Mongoose — <http://www.beefislandguesthouse.com/restaurant.htm>

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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.

Images A-E courtesy of bvitourism.com

VISA INFORMATION

www.projectvisa.com



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