



Virgin Islands



PALM BEACH YACHTS
International



From snorkeling to diving to the great beaches, the Virgin Islands offer colorful waters teeming with life. The Baths at Virgin Gorda, a pile of pool-forming boulders that date back nearly 40 million years, are not to be missed. On shore, step back in time to visit Callwood at the Arundel Estate on Tortola, the last remaining pot still rum distillery.

St. Thomas

Though it's only 32 square miles in size, St. Thomas has a million miles worth of things to do. Go shopping and sailing, snorkeling and sightseeing, or diving and dining. Enjoy the island's world-renowned golf course, picture-perfect beaches and spectacular nightlife. Take the Skyride 700 feet above the city or climb the famous 99 Steps of Charlotte Amalie for an incomparable view of the Caribbean. And if you're interested in culture and history, don't miss seeing the second-oldest synagogue in the Western Hemisphere, the 1680-built Fort Christian or the childhood home of Camille Pissarro, one of the best-known French Impressionists.



Tortola

Experience the beauty of Tortola. Swim or stroll the white-sand beaches, explore ancient ruins or our delectable local cuisine, or drop anchor and rock with the rhythm of the azure ocean. In Tortola, the largest island of the BVI chain, there's a variety of Caribbean vacation activities to indulge in.





Norman Island

Treasure Island, as it's known in the history books, where long ago pirate ships scoured the caves and cliffs to find a secret place to bury stolen treasure. If it's adventure and spectacular underwater sites you are in search of then a visit to The Bight is must.

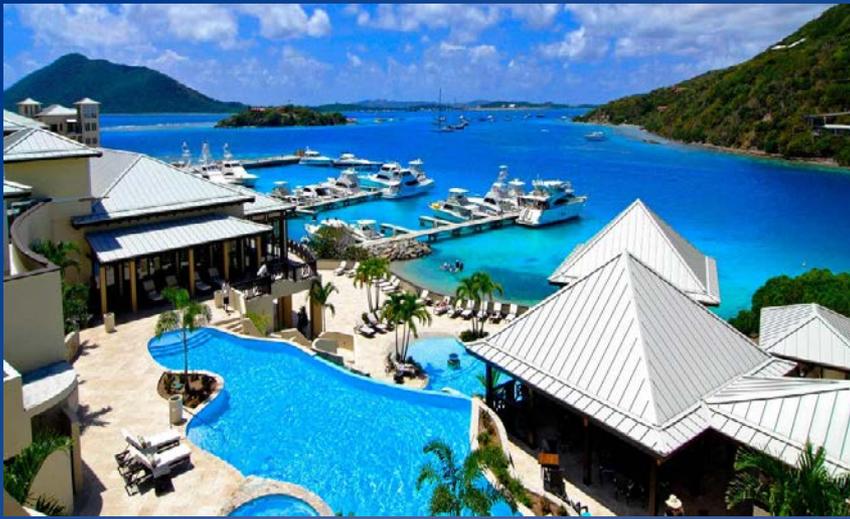
After departing Sopers Hole you will experience an exhilarating sail up the Sir Francis Drake Channel and then across to the Indians – our first stop for the day.

Snorkeling doesn't get better than this in the Islands. Explore a kaleidoscope of colorful corals and underwater canyons, teeming with an array of interesting sea life.

It's ships ahoy as we depart for the Infamous William Thornton, nick named "Willy T". Enjoy a tasty lunch aboard a floating replica of the old pirate ship. Another choice is Pirates Beach Bar offering a more relaxed family atmosphere.

After lunch we head to "The Caves" for a last snorkel. Moored close up, one can dive into the ink blue ocean where you will be greeted by friendly reef fish. Find adventure within these gold and bronze colored caves.





Virgin Gorda

Cruise past the Peter Island Resort, take a look at Dead Chest Island and then stop to snorkel or dive on the wreck of the mailship Rhone. Finish your day in the marina at Spanish Town on Virgin Gorda. You might want to try the pineapple-papaya scrub, topped by a coconut oil massage, at the luxe Sense spa at nearby Rosewood Little Dix Bay Resort.



Need To Know...

- **Time Zone** – The British Virgin Islands are on Atlantic Standard Time, the same as Eastern Standard Time (Florida).
- **Currency** – The official currency of the Virgin Islands (US. & British) is the US Dollar.
- **Driving Laws** – **Other than driving on the left side of the road, it's just like driving in the U.S.**
- **Duty-free Shopping** – **In the British Virgin Islands**, most of the major islands have duty-free shopping on cameras, binoculars and telescopes, china and crystal, watches and clocks, jewelry, perfumes, fine linens and tablecloths, liquor and leather goods. Savings on these items are between 25–50% below US prices.
- **Best Time To Visit** - Anytime of year is great for visiting as the average temperature is about 75 - 80 degrees year round. It rarely rains in the "winter" months and doesn't get below 60 degrees.
- **Music** plays a big part in Bahamian culture. Throughout the islands, you'll hear traces of African rhythms, Caribbean calypso, English folk songs and our unique Bahamian goombay traditional music, which combines African musical traditions with European colonial influences. Goombay can be traced back to slavery and is storytelling and dancing performed to a fast-tempoed "goom-bahhh" beat on a goatskin drum.
- **Bahamian Cuisine** - Being an international destination, you can rest assured that you can find any type of food here. But while you're here, give your taste buds a chance to discover Bahamian cuisine. It's spicy and uniquely flavored. Seafood is the staple of our diet. Fresh conch scored with a knife and sprinkled with lime juice and spices is delicious. Other delicacies you'll enjoy are land crabs and the Bahamian "rock lobster." We also love fresh fish, especially boiled fish served with grits. Many dishes here are served with pigeon peas and rice mixed with spices, tomatoes and onions. Wash down our cuisine with a cold beverage like a Kalik or Sands (beers of The Islands Of The Bahamas), a Bahama Mama, or Goombay Smash. There's also a Bahamian favorite that we call "Sky Juice," coconut water blended with sweet milk and gin. And don't forget to try Switcher, a refreshing drink made from native limes.

More You Need To Know...

- **Bush medicine** is using indigenous plants for medicinal purposes. It's a tradition African slaves brought with them when they came here. There are almost 100 plants found here that can be used for medical treatment. Examples include aloe vera, crab bush, fig leaf, sailors' flowers and white sage.
- **Junkanoo** is uniquely Bahamian and exists nowhere else. It's an incredibly energetic, colorful parade made up of brightly costumed Bahamians dancing and "rushin" to the music of cowbells, drums, horns and whistles. It is widely believed that Junkanoo was created by John Canoe, an African tribal chief who demanded the right to celebrate with his people even after he was brought to the West Indies as a slave. Celebrated since the 16th or 17th century, today Junkanoo has grown into an organized event with groups of up to 1,000 persons competing for cash prizes for best music, best costume, dancer, banner and best overall group presentation. Traditionally held on New Year's Day, Boxing Day and Independence Day, parades are also held during the annual "Junkanoo Summer Festival" and the "Just Rush" competition. In addition, many hotels offer Junkanoo shows for their guests throughout the year.
- **Religion** is important in the lives of the Bahamian people. Even small communities have several churches. Our religious devotion is evidence of the Eleutheran Adventurers and their Puritan influences.
- **Straw Market** - Explore one of our straw markets and bring home a piece of Bahamian culture. You'll find handmade hats, mats, baskets, woodcarvings and guava jellies. Test your bargaining skills and get a good deal on a great piece.

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