

## WHY TRAVEL TO ST. JOHN

Unspoiled natural grandeur meets modern luxuries on this small gem, which will remain protected because two-thirds of the island is a national park. The mountainous landscape and beach laden coastal plain create intricate hiking trails that interconnect throughout the island giving visitors spectacular views from white sand beaches to breathtaking vistas of the nearby islands. Hidden within this landscape is Trunk Bay - known worldwide for its stunning overlook, white powered sand beach, and underwater snorkeling trail. The island has as many activities on land as at sea, so make sure to explore the various water activities offered, from kayaking to scuba diving.

## THINGS TO DO

Annaberg Sugar Plantation Ruins – Tour the self-guided trail of the historic plantation that once produced sugar, molasses, an rum. The blast to the past gives visitors a peak into life on the plantation, resiliency of those that built and maintained the land and a chance to revel in the architectural ingenuity.

**Horseback Riding** - Explore St. John on horseback through riding trails with scenic views of white-sand beaches, natural vistas and coral sunsets.

**Maho Bay** – Take in the serene and calming waters at this roadside beach popular with local families and visitors looking to relax under a shady tree.

Reef Bay Trail and Petroglyphs – One of the longest and most popular National Park trails, Reef Bay culminates with the Reef Bay Factory ruins, a breathtaking beach and the Reef Bay Valley petroglyphs carved within a natural waterfall. The petroglyphs are rock carvings made by Taino Indians as early as 500 AD.

**Salt Pond Bay** - Accessible by hiking trail or boat, the trail leads to a secluded beach offering vibrant snorkeling, crystal clear waters, and plenty of adventures.

**Tektite** - Once an underwater laboratory, the remnants offer divers terrain of coral encrusted tunnels, caves and ledges. Dive into the space designed for 'aquanots'.

**VI National Park** - A trail for every hiker from beginner to expert can be found among the two dozen trails. Hike on your own or with an experienced guide.

**Scuba, snuba and snorkeling** – Take in the vibrant coral reefs and view the local sea life in their natural habitat up close and personal. Shore dives gives swimmers an opportunity to mingle with friendly sea life while boat dives open divers up to a world of wrecks, tunnels, preserved underwater national park.

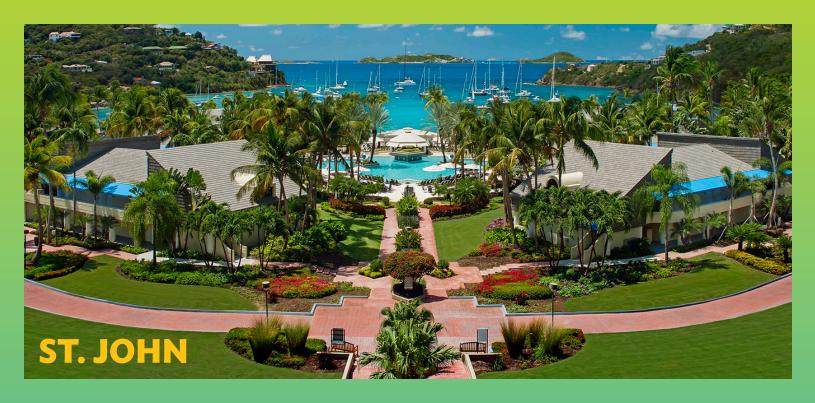
**Boating** - Spend a day on the waters of St. John with a day sail, fishing charter, sunset sail, or thrill seeking powerboat charter. Visit Pizza Pi, the floating pizza boat, or the floating taco bar 'Lime Out'.

# **FESTIVALS & EVENTS**

**February** – 8 Tuff Miles: A foot race from Coral Bay to Cruz Bay where participants reach elevations of 999 feet. The race takes place on the last Saturday.

May – Beach to Beach: Swimmers race along St. John's scenic shoreline on three courses: short course from Maho Bay to Cinnamon Bay, intermediate course from Maho Bay to Trunk Bay, and long course from Maho Bay to Hawksnest.

**June-July** - St. John Festival: St. John Festivities combines the excitement of festival with the spirit of emancipation. Honoring the July 3, 1848 date of the emancipation of the islands, the festivities start in late June. Cruz Bay comes alive with a festival village offering nightly live entertainment and local cuisine to the revelers from the neighboring islands. Festival staples include food fair, a colorful parade and fireworks.



# **▼** RESORTS & HOTELS

Gallows Point Resort gallowspointresort.com

The Westin St. John Resort & Villas marriott.com

# **▼ SMALL INNS/BED & BREAKFAST**

Estate Lindholm estatelindholm.com

Coconut Coast Villas coconutcoast.com

**Garden By The Sea B&B** gardenbythesea.com

Hotel Cruz Bay hotelcruzbay.com

**St. John Eco Suites** stjohnecosuites.com

**St. John Inn** stjohninn.com

## **▼ VILLAS**

Cimmaron St. John cimmaronstjohn.com

Crandall On St. John crandallonstjohn.com

Eco Serendib Villa And Spa ecoserendib.com

**Island Getaways** islandgetawaysinc.com

**Private Homes for Private Vacations** privatehomesvi.com

Sea Shore Allure seashoreallure.com

**St. John Estate Group** stjohnconciergeservice.com

Star Villas starvillas.com/star-villas/ Three Palms Villa stjohnthreepalmsvilla.com

Vacation Vi vacationvi.com

Vacation Vistas vacation vistas.com



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## WHY TRAVEL TO ST. THOMAS

Climb to the top of the infamous 99 steps for a view of the historical town and scenic harbor of Charlotte Amalie, if the steps don't take your breath away – the view will. Explore the vast history of St. Thomas by taking a tour of the iconic Fort Christian, visiting the childhood home of French Impressionism father, Camille Pissarro, seeing the oldest sand floor synagogue in continuous use under the American flag, or gaze at the architectural influences of former occupying countries. Amidst the rich history and forts, the island offers a wonderful shopping experience, exquisite dining and fun-filled activities and events.

#### THINGS TO DO

99 steps – Built in the 1700s, the 'step streets' were the easiest way to navigate the steep hills, by foot, of Charlotte Amalie. Wander through downtown Charlotte Amalie and you'll see over 20 other step streets which are still utilized by locals today.

Mountain Top – Carved by an inactive volcano, 1500 ft above sea level, this popular lookout spot is known for many cool facets: the expansive views of the Atlantic Ocean, the all encompassing gift shop and the famous Banana Daiguiri.

Magens Bay – Spend the day laying on the expansive mile long beach, paddleboard through the serene blue water, or enjoy a frozen drink at the beach bar and restaurant.

**St. Thomas Sky Ride** – The Skyride to Paradise Point whisks you 700 ft. above the town of Charlotte Amalie. It carries 24 passengers along its 8 tower ascent of Flag Hill. On top, head to Paradise Point for the true meaning of "limin."

**Coral World Ocean Park** - Visitors can Sea Trek along the ocean floor, swim with dolphins, sea lions, sea turtles, sharks, and stingrays. They can feed the lorikeets, Snuba and more.

VI Ecotours - Kayak, hike, and snorkel in the picturesque Hassel Island, Mangrove Lagoon Wildlife Sanctuary & Marine Preserve, complete with a deserted island, mangrove forests, and clear waters.

Charter a Boat – Plan for a day on the water! Charter companies throughout St. Thomas offer days sail, fishing charters, boat dives, all while taking in the serene beauty of the USVI.

## **FESTIVALS & EVENTS**

March - St. Thomas International Regatta: Sailors from the Caribbean, United States and Europe participate in the "Crown Jewel" of Caribbean racing.

**April - May -** VI Carnival -This is a time for friends and family to reconnect with captivating music, delicious food, and spirited pageantry.

June – King of the Wing: One of the tastiest competitions in the US Virgin Islands. Teams perfect their chicken wing recipes to be judged on taste, texture and originality.

**July** - Bastille Day Kingfish Tournament: St. Thomas is a top 10 destination to celebrate this French National Day. There's fantastic fun on land and at sea. **August** - Marlin Billfish Tournament: Catch and release some big blue marlin, all while giving back. The tournament helps a different charity each year.

**November** – Paradise Jam Basketball Tournament: Top college basketball teams compete to prepare for the season.

## ▼ RESORTS & HOTELS

Bluebeard's Castle Resort- Renovating bluebeardscastles.com

**Bolongo Bay All Inclusive Beach Resort** bolongobay.com

**Crystal Cove at Sapphire Beach** antillesresorts.com

Elysian Beach Resort clubwyndham.com

Emerald Beach Resort emeraldbeach.com

Frenchman's Reef & Morning Star Marriott Beach Resort Reopening in 2020 marriott.com

Margaritaville margaritavillevacationclub.com

Point Pleasant Resort pointpleasantresort.com

Sapphire Beach Resort
antillesresorts.com
Secret Harbour Beach Resort

secretharbourvi.com

The Ritz-Carlton, St. Thomas - Re-Opening Fall 2019 ritzcarlton.com

Titzcaritori.com

Windward Passage windwardpassage.com



# **▼ SMALL INNS/BED & BREAKFAST**

At Home In The Tropics Bed & Breakfast

athomeinthetropics.com

Bellavista Bed & Breakfast

bellavista-bnb.com

Bellavista Scott Hotel bellavistascotthotelvi.com

**Bunker Hill Hotel** bighotels.org

**Island View Guest House** islandviewstthomas.com

**Lindbergh Bay Hotel and Villas** lindberghbayhotelandvillas.com

Mafolie Hotel mafolie.com

Pavilions and Pools Hotel pavilions and pools.com

The Green Iguana Hotel thegreeniguana.com

Two Sandals by The Sea Inn twosandals.com

# **▼ VILLAS**

Calypso Realty calypsorealty.com

Mclaughlin Anderson Luxury Villas

mclaughlinanderson.com

Pineapple Village Villas

pineapplevillas.com



Virgin Islands Campground at Water Island

virginislandscampground.com



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#### WHY TRAVEL TO ST. CROIX

St. Croix has a unique and diverse culture that was influenced by Denmark, Great Britain, France, Netherlands, Spain, Knights of Malta and the United States. The cultural weaving of these nations has created an exotic tapestry rich in history, art, music, crafts and festivals. The island is the home of the twin cities and world-renowned for its farm-fresh and sea-to-table culinary scene. St. Croix is a diver's paradise and offers superior pier reef, wall, and wreck dives. On vacation, a visit to Buck Island is mandatory to experience the natural beauty and underwater national park.

### THINGS TO DO

Horseback Riding Stable – Learn the intricacies of the island from horseback. Scenic shores and lush countryside await you and an experienced guide.

**St. George Village and Botanical Garden** – More than 1500 native and exotic plants thrive in this 16-acre garden along with plantation and historical ruins.

**Cultural Food Tour** – This cultural walking tour offers visitors a chance to experience St. Croix's rich culture and history through its diverse foods and authentic desserts.

**Rainbow Beach** – Join locals and visitors on the small sandy bay that sits in the heart of Fredriksted; great for swimming, live music, beach sports, and capturing amazing crucian sunsets.

**Diving** - St. Croix has amazing beauty above and below sea level. Nowhere else in the Caribbean can you dive a wreck, wall, pier, and reef in one day! Explore the Butler Bay Wrecks and the Frederiksted Pier. **Buck Island** – Home of the hawksbill turtle, this is one of three underwater national monuments in the U.S.

Fort Christansvaern - Situated in St. Croix's first town Christiansted, this fort once protected the town from pirates and other invaders during the 1700s and 1800s.

**Distilleries and Brewery** - The alcohol trade still thrives in the islands and its history lingers. Learn how it's all made when you visit Cruzan Rum, Sion Farm Distillery-Mutiny Island Vodka, Captain Morgan and Leatherback Brewery Co.

**Estate Whim Plantation Museum** – The 12 acres of Whim Museum is the oldest sugar plantation in the Virgin Islands. Walk among the 18th century architecture and take in the history.

**Kayaking** - Ecological and historical tours take place from a kayak during the day or night. Discover hidden reefs, mesmerizing lagoons, and a bioluminescent bay.

**Watersports** - If it's on the water, you can find it here. Enjoy jet skiing, snorkeling, and boating with inflatable or paddle boats.

### **FESTIVALS & EVENTS**

**February** - AGRIFEST: The largest agricultural exposition in the territory and probably the largest in the Caribbean. There is food, music, plants, animals and fun. Activities fit for the entire family!

**April** - St. Croix Food and Wine Festival: Local and celebrity chefs prepare awe-inspiring dishes infused with local ingredients which capture the hearts of participants. Celebrate the food and culture of the island with dinner events, tastings, and celebrity chefs. There is no better way to learn about the history than through the food, spirits and island culture.

**April** - Taste of St. Croix: Celebrates the farmers and ingredients of this island. One of the finest culinary events in the Caribbean it continues to attract thousands of guests.

**July** - Mango Melee: The island is known for its Mango infused sauces, meals and desserts. Hosted by the St. George Village Botanical Gardens, this fundraiser develops a greater appreciation for tropical fruits, and educates the public about ways Mangoes can be used.

**December -** St. Croix Triathalon: Known globally as 'Beauty and the Beast', it's a beautiful and challenging event. The race includes a crystal clear swim. A ride that climbs 'The Beast'. The run goes through ruins, to The Buccaneer Resort. Accompanying festivities occur throughout the day.

**December - January -** Established in 1954, Crucian Christmas Festival: A unique display of Crucian culture and revelry. The tradition includes festive pageantry, local and international musical entertainment and a parade which features mocko jumbies adorned in historical madras costumes. St. Croix is the only Caribbean island which offers visitors a chance to participate in Ouelbe street serenades.

## RESORTS & HOTELS

All Inclusive Divi Carina Bay Resort & Casino - Reopening In 2020

diviresorts.com

Carambola Beach Resort And Spa Reopening Summer 2020

marriott.com

**Chenay Bay** 

chenaybay.com

**Club Comanche Hotel St. Croix** 

clubcomanche.com

**Company House** 

hotelcompanyhouse.com

**Holger Danske Hotel** 

holgerhotel.com

**Hotel Caravelle** 

hotelcaravelle.com

**Hotel On The Cay** 

hotelon the cay.com

**King Christian Hotel** 

kingchristian.com

The Buccaneer

thebuccaneer.com

**Colony Cove Beach Resort** 

antillesresorts.com

**Cottages by The Sea** 

caribbeancottages.com

Sand Castle on The Beach

sandcastleonthebeach.com

**Sugar Beach Condo Hotel** 

sugarbeachstx.com

**Tamarind Reef Resort, Spa & Marina** 

tamarindreefresort.com

**The Fred** 

sleep with fred.com

The Palms at Pelican Cove

palmspelicancove.com



## **SMALL INNS/BED & BREAKFAST**

**Arawak Bay: The Inn at Salt River** 

arawakhotelstcroix.com

King's Alley Hotel

kingsalleyhotel.com

**Longford Hideaway** 

longfordhideaway.wordpress.com

Sugar Hill by The Sea sugarhillbythesea.com

The Waves at Cane Bay

thewavescanebay.com

The Inn on Strand Street

innonstrandstreet.com

**VILLAS** 

**Ford Real Estate Vacation Rentals** 

for dreal estate vacation rentals. com

**Northside Valley Eco-Villas** 

northsidevalley.org

**Vacation St. Croix** 

vacationstcroix.com



## **CAMPGROUNDS**

**Cane Bay Campgrounds** 

canebaycampground.com

Ridge to Reef Farm

ridge2reef.org

Mt. Victory Camp Eco-Lodge

mtvictorycamp.com



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