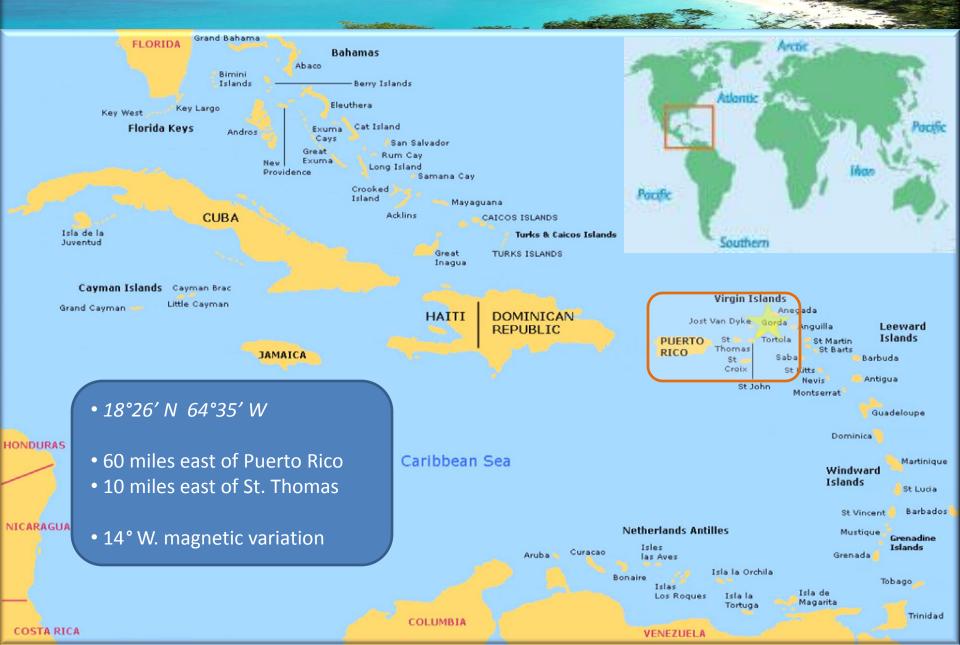
Chartering in the BVIs

(British Virgin Islands)

- Where are the BVIs?
- Why choose the BVIs?
 - · The Islands
 - General Information
 - Getting to the BVIs
 - Chartering
 - Provisioning
 - Living aboard
 - 7 Day Itinerary
 - · Q & A

Where Are The BVIs?



Why Choose The BVIs?

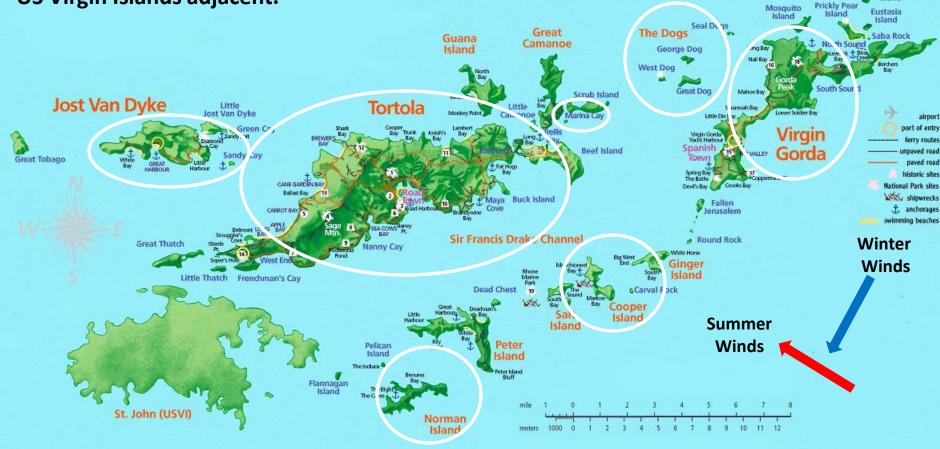
- Easy to get to.
- Large selection of charter companies.
- Easy to navigate.
- Consistent climate and trade winds.
- Economy and infrastructure caters to charterers.
- Currency, language and voltage same as United States.
- Friendly people, safe environment

The Islands

- 16 inhabited and 20+ uninhabited islands.
- Tortola largest, 12 miles long, 3 miles wide.
- Capital is Road Town. Beef Island Airport (EIS).
- Anegada. ~12 miles from Virgin Gorda.
- US Virgin Islands adjacent.



The British Virgin Islands



- ·History
- ·Language & Time
- Money
- ·AC/DC
- Transportation
- Telephony
- ·Climate
- Cruising Guides
- ·Charts
- ·Fishing
- ·Snorkeling/SCUBA/Rentals
- · Communications

- Sighted by Christopher Columbus in 1493
- Settled by the Dutch in 1648
- British colony from 1672-1960
- Granted autonomy in 1967
- Robert Louis Stevenson's
 Treasure Island based on parts of the BVIs
- Sir Richard Branson (Virgin Everything) owns Necker Island

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- The official language is English with a West Indian inflection.
- BVI standard time is 4 hours behind Greenwich Mean Time (GMT-4) or 4 hours later than Pacific Standard Time. (PST+4)
- BVIs do not observe daylight saving time.
- Legal drinking age is 18.
- Painkiller official drink

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- The official currency is the US dollar.
- On Tortola ATM's can be found at the airport, banks and larger grocery stores and in Spanish Town Virgin Gorda.
- Cash needed for taxi's, moorings, small shops and tipping.
- Restaurants and grocery stores accept major credit cards.

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- The BVIs use 110 volts AC. No transformers or special plugs are needed for U.S. appliances.
- Charter boats provide a 12 VDC socket. You will need a 12VDC to 110 VAC inverter (buy or rent) to run battery chargers, cell phone chargers, laptops, hairdryers etc.



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- ·Climate
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- · Communications

- Taxi's are available on Tortola, Jost Van Dyke, Virgin Gorda and Anegada
- Taxi's ready and waiting at EIS airport for 25 minute ride to Road Town. \$9-\$15 p/p
- Drive on the left side of the road
- Car and scooter rentals on Tortola, Virgin Gorda and Anegada.



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- · Communications

• Cell phones – No Verizon or AT&T towers but phones using those providers usually work (maybe not all features) via US Virgin Island cell towers. Call your provider for options.



- Charter bases are beginning to provide cell phones with each boat.
- Internet Access is available on Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Jost Van Dyke, Norman Island and Anegada.

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- Air : AVG HI 83F, LO 70F
- Water: AVG 81F
- Hurricane season Jun-Nove
- 70% of rain happens April-Oct
- Dec-Mar. AVG 80F. N-NE 15-20+ kts (Christmas winds)
- Apr-Jun. AVG 85F. E 10-15 kts
- Jul-Sep. AVG 87F. ESE 9-12 kts
- Squalls pass quickly, can be chilly
- 2 high and 2 low tide per day
- Tidal range of 12"-18"

- ·History
- ·Language & Time
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 Cruising Guide to the Virgin Islands, 14th edition by Nancy
 Simon Scott and Ashley Scott



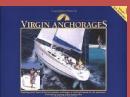
 Exploring the Virgin Islands,
 2nd edition by Joe Russel and Mark Bunzel.



 The Drinking Man's Guide to the BVIs by Julian_Putley (coupons)



 Virgin Anchorages by Nancy and Simon Scott



- ·History
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• Maptech R10-07 Chartkit.

Detailed charts of Puerto Rico ,U.S.,

British, and Spanish Virgin Islands

22" x 17". \$70



- Waypoints most charts have them. Program them into your handheld GPS.
- BVIs observe red right return buoy system

- ·History
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- ·Charts
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- ·Snorkeling/SCUBA/Rentals
- · Communications

• A temporary fishing permit cost \$35. Allow 2 weeks to process permit. Crewed charter should take care of this. Confirm!





- SPEAR FISHING is not permitted in the BVI's.
- Many reef fish carry ciguatera. "CATCH & RELEASE" is recommended

- ·History
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- ·Climate
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- ·Charts
- ·Fishing

- Snorkeling most charter companies provide free snorkeling gear. Obtain yours A.S.A.P. for best selection.
- SCUBA most SCUBA companies will deliver rental equipment (tanks, BC's etc) to your boat and/or pick you up at your boat and bring you to a dive site.
- Rentals water toys, rafts, floaties etc are available for weekly rental.





- ·Snorkeling/SCUBA/Rentals
- ·Communications

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• Virgin Islands Search & Rescue (V.I.S.A.R.) VHF Channel 16 or 911



- Channel 16 for distress, hailing and contacting businesses
- Channel 68 for ship-to-ship
- Channel 12 charter base
- Weather: 780AM, Channels 3-6 NOAA

- Beef Island airport (EIS) is the only major BVI airport.
- There are NO non-stop flight from USA to the BVIs



- Connections to Tortola from San Juan, PR (SJU), St. Thomas (STT) or St. Maarten (SXM).
- American Airlines has the most routes from the USA.
- Average cost from SFO is ~\$750. SFO (redeye)-LAX-SJU-EIS EIS-SJU-MIA-SFO.
- Two free 50lb bags of luggage for international flights.

•Airlines
•Ferries
•Documents & Customs
•Departure Tax

• St. Thomas to Road Town, Tortola ferries takes 50 - 90 minutes. The return trip takes longer as you must clear customs in St. Thomas.

- Ferries do not operate at night.
- There is ferry service between many of the major islands of the BVIs.

AirlinesFerries

Documents & CustomsDeparture Tax

- US citizens coming to the BVIs
- 1. are required to have a valid passport



- 2. must pass through customs at the Tortola Beef Island (EIS) airport or, if coming by ferry, the customs house in Road Town
- 3. must have a valid US driver's license to rent a vehicle

- AirlinesFerries
- Documents & Customs
 - Departure Tax



•Airlines
•Ferries
•Documents & Customs
•Departure Tax

- Monohulls 31'-54'. 2-5 cabins. A/C available
- Pros: tacks easily, goes upwind well, less cost, what real sailors sail ;-)
- Cons: Heeling, large draft, anchorage rolling, living space

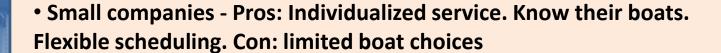


- Pros: stability, small draft, speed, little heel, privacy & space
- Cons: does not go upwind well. Cost more than mono's



- 2-5 cabin motor yacht, trawler or power catamaran's are also available for charter
- ·Monohulls/Catamarans/Power
- Charter companies
- Qualifications
- ·Bareboat/Flotilla/Crewed
- ·Cost breakdown
- ·Chart Briefing/Boat checkout
- ·What to bring and not to bring

- More charter companies on Tortola then anywhere in the Caribbean!
- First tier: Newer boat. Moorings and Sunsail largest companies
- Second tier Older boats . Footloose









- Large companies Pros: large standardized fleets & maintenance Cons: lots of simultaneous charters, fixed day of departure/return
- ·Monohulls/Catamarans/Power
- Charter companies
- · Qualifications
- ·Bareboat/Flotilla/Crewed
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- Most charter companies require a sailing resume containing:
- a. sailing/anchoring experience
- b. Sailing school accreditations
- c. Boat handling experience (size)
- d. Chartering history, boat ownership
- e. Long distance/offshore experience
- f. 1st mate information



- ·Monohulls/Catamarans/Power
- Charter companies
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- Bareboat pros: go where you want and when you want, privacy, cost cons: on your own, BBC skills suggested
- Flotilla pros: safety in numbers, less planning, floating party cons: less sailing, set timetable/destinations
- Crewed pros: no sailing skills required, no sailing paraphernalia needed cons: less privacy, more cost, need larger boat
- ·Monohulls/Catamarans/Power
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- ·Bareboat/Flotilla/Crewed
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Sunsail costs: 2 person, 7 day/8 night 39' premium monohull - Dec '09

 Charter Fee 	\$2888
---------------------------------	--------

- Damage Waiver \$48 per day \$384
- Fuel \$125
- BVI Cruising Tax \$2 p/p per day \$32
- BVI National Parks Permit \$25
- Search and Rescue \$2 p/p

- Charity donation \$1 p/p
- Travel insurance \$95 p/p \$190

\$20

- Sub Total \$3650
- Special offer discount \$1010
- Total \$2640
- Moorings \$175, Self provisions \$150
- Dinners \$50 p/p, Lunch \$25 p/p
- Air \$ \$750 p/p, Moped \$50
- ·Monohulls/Catamarans/Power
- Charter companies
- ·Qualifications
- ·Bareboat/Flotilla/Crewed
- ·Cost breakdown
- ·Chart Briefing/Boat checkout
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- Day of arrival: Buy provision. Get boat 6PM. Sleep on boat.
- 1st charter day: 1 hour chart briefing. Destination, mooring and anchorage advice.
- Pick up charter base provided cell phone (mostly for emergencies)
- Pick up provisions and any waters port rentals (if not done the night before)
- Grab extra ice and towels. Can't have enough of either!!!!!!
- Top off your fresh water tanks and confirm you have enough fuel
- Pre-cruise your boat. Pay special attention to sails (reefing), dinghy, heads, water, refrigeration. Double check yacht inventory list before signing it.
- Leave a credit card deposit for your dinghy and go sail!



Boat space is usually at a premium so pack everything in SOFT luggage (i.e. sail/duffel bag). Put all essential items in your carry-ons.

Clothing

- Quick dry(Dri-Fit) (Dri-Tech) T-Shirts
- Shorts with zipable pockets
- Swim suits
- Light sweater/jacket
- Long pants (required at 2 upscale restaurants ONLY)
- Sarongs (women)
- Shoes deck shoes, hiking shoes, water/reef shoes (velco straps)
- Long sleeve shirt for snorkeling (optional)
- Wide brimmed hat or baseball cap with clip/strap
- Sailing gloves (optional)
- Rain gear light poncho for the passing squall
- Extra towels and bedding



Non Clothing

- Passport.
- Driver's license (if renting a car)
- Cash ATM's aren't always available
- Suntan lotion waterproof
- Sunglasses 2 polarized pair with straps
- Camera extra film/memory cards/batteries
- Meds -prescriptions, first aid kit, insect repellant, bug bite medication
- Special dietary items
- Extra glasses/contact lenses
- SCUBA certification if applicable
- Reading material and board games
- IPOD charging cords, aux port cord and an FM transmitter
- Rechargeable batteries and battery charger
- Flashlights (can't have enough)
- Clothes pins strong ones







More Non Clothing

- Charts/GPS/Binoculars (boats usually have them but ..)
- Gas lighter
- Air and fabric freshener (Fabreze)
- DC/AC inverter (with multiple AC outlets)
- Extension cords for inverter
- Duct and boat tape
- Bungee Cords
- Lead weight to confirm fathometer
- Garbage bags small & large
- Zip lock freezer bags for food storage
- Dry bags and backpacks for going ashore
- Bio-degradable body wash/shampoo
- Dinghy ladder (optional)
- Blinking bike light identify your boat at night
- Flag/pennant –identify your boat in daylight









What Not To Bring

- PFD's adults will probably never wear them and the boat has them if needed. Check if children sizes are available
- Too much stuff you're mostly in shorts, bathing suits and T-shirts day and night
- Snorkel gear provided by most charter companies.

What To Expect

- You're on island time so kick back and relax, expect much slower service than you are used to.
- You're in a foreign country, don't be an ugly American. Show respect and you'll get respect.
- Cay is pronounced key and conch is pronounced conk
- Roti is a curry dish or wrap.

Charter company provisioning choices:

- Full All breakfasts, lunches and dinners. Snacks and drinks.
- Split All breakfasts and lunches.
 Some dinners. Snacks and drinks.
- Dinner's ashore All breakfasts and lunches. Snacks and drinks. No dinners.

Self provisioning:

Shop when you arrive or pre-order from local market. Market will deliver.

Pros: Cheaper and you get exactly what

you want. (Don't expect U.S. variety)

Cons: Time consuming.



- Markets are a short taxi ride from Road Town charter bases. Taxi's will wait for you or call markets shuttle.
- Do not expect U.S. market selections.



- Prices are reasonable.
- Ice available at charter base, buy there.
- Major markets: Bobby's Market Place and Riteway Food Markets





- Coffee
- Coffee grinder
- Snacks
- Dry goods







Full/Split/Self
 Supermarkets
 Bring from home
 Water/Ice

• Plan for ~2 liters of drinking water p/p per day. Do not drink water from boat water tanks.

- Get ice from charter base
- You can refill your water tanks for free at your charter company.
- Refill your water tanks for free at Saba Rock in Virgin Gorda if you moor with them. (free bag of ice too)
- Pay to refill your water tanks at Marina Cay, Soper's Hole in Tortola and The Bitter End, Leverick Bay, Biras Creek and Spanish Town in Virgin Gorda. 10-20 cents per gal.



Living Aboard

Sartland

- Power Management
- ·Water Management
- ·Waste Management
- · Garbage
- ·Refrigeration
- Dinghy
- Mooring & Anchoring
- Etiquette

- Probably won't hook up to AC your entire charter
- Run engine to charge boat house batteries at least 1 -2 hours a day. More if batteries require.
- Turn refrigerator and inverter on/off with engine
- Remember to turn off anchor light in the morning.
- Use extension cords to expand DC/AC inverter inputs. (see next chart)

Living Aboard

Sartland

- Power ManagementWater Management
- ·Waste Management
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- Etiquette

- 39' Mono = 126 gallons of water.
- Top off water prior to departing
- Don't drink boat tank water
- Bathe in salt water, rinse
- off with fresh water
- Use salt water to ring plates, finish with free wash
- Do not let water run brushing teeth etc
- Do not wash deck with fresh water





- Power Management
- ·Water Management
- ·Waste Management
- · Garbage
- ·Refrigeration
- Dinghy
- Mooring & Anchoring
- · Etiquette

- No toilet paper in heads. Put toilet paper in trash bags.
- Close dump valve in harbors and dump waste when in open water
- Bring air freshener



eactlance

- Power Management
- ·Water Management
- ·Waste Management
- · Garbage
- ·Refrigeration
- · Dinghy
- Mooring & Anchoring
- **Etiquette**

- Some islands charge \$2-\$3 per bag to dispose of garbage. Look for areas that allow free garbage disposal in Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Jost Van Dyke and Anegada.
- Combine small bags of garbage into large 13 gallon bags that tie off.
- Keep tied garbage bags in stern cockpit lockers until disposal.



Sartland

- Power Management
- ·Water Management
- ·Waste Management
- · Garbage
- ·Refrigeration
- · Dinghy
- Mooring & Anchoring
- **·Etiquette**

• Take food out of cardboard containers and put into zip lock freezer bags.

• Put ice in refrigerator

 Load refrigerator with least used items on the bottom

 Many refrigerators h to be manually (foot) pumped to empty.

 Rent cooler, fill with ice and drinks.



Sartland

- Power Management
- ·Water Management
- ·Waste Management
- · Garbage
- ·Refrigeration
- Dinghy
- Mooring & Anchoring
- ·Etiquette

- Never step off boat onto dinghy instead sit on transom, hold onto dinghy and boat while sliding onto dinghy.
- Always have oars, light and life jacket on board dinghy.
- Use kill switch cable when motoring dinghy. Remove kill switch cable when under way.
- Tape identifying marks on dinghy and engine to distinguish from others.
- Be careful with dinghy beach landings!



- Power Management
- ·Water Management
- ·Waste Management
- · Garbage
- ·Refrigeration
- Dinghy
- ·Mooring & Anchoring
- Etiquette

- Moor whenever possible.
 \$20-\$30 cash. Tie dinghy to mooring to reserve.
- Keep mooring bridals short.



- Anchoring is free. Set anchor alarm and anchor watch if needed.
- Choose overnight anchoring area by swell direction. Locate windlass breaker. 1500 RPMs may be needed to use windlass.
- Always dive anchors!!!

eactlance

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- · Etiquette

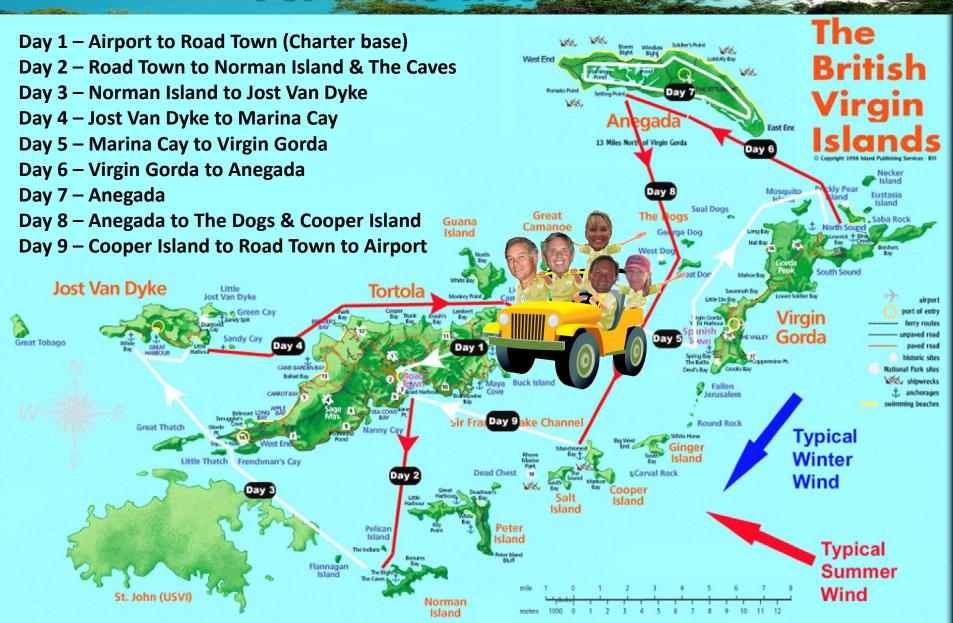
• Leave extra 5'- 10' of painter slack when tying to dinghy docks.



- Use bungee cords to stop halyards from banging on masts at night.
- Do not run engine early morning or late night.
- Do not cruise through mooring field at high speeds. (boat or dinghy)

Daily Itinerary

For a one week charter



Day 1: Airport to Road Town

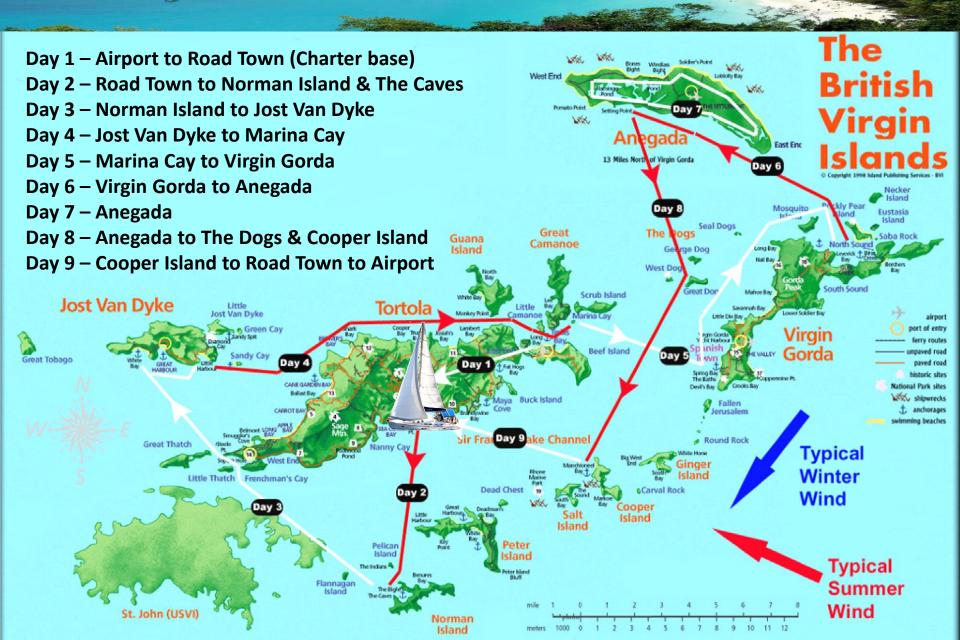


- Clear Customs (airport or ferry)
- 25 minute Taxi to Wickham's Cay II (Moorings, Sunsail, Footloose)
- Check in at charter company
- Get snorkel /rentals
- Get boat @ 6PM
- Check out boat
- Provision boat
- 1st night boat/hotel

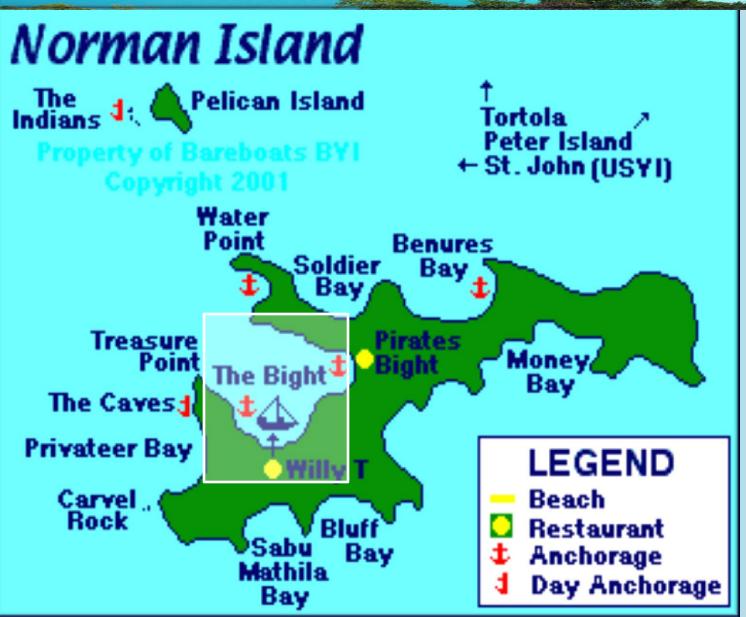


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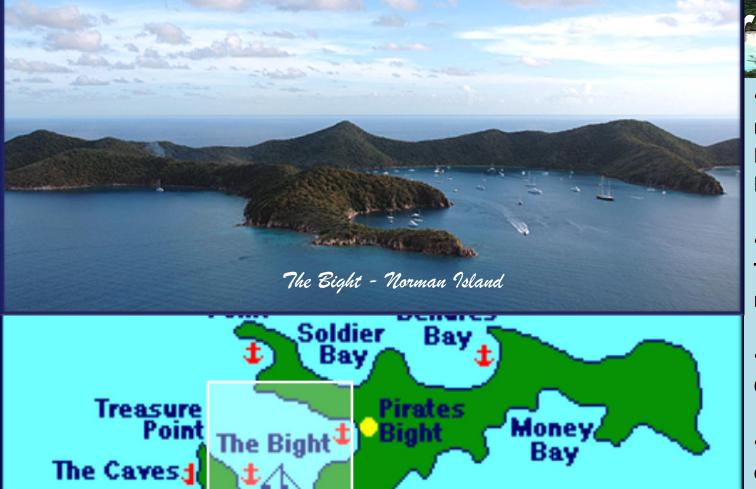
Day 2: Road Town to Norman



Day 2: Road Town to Norman



- 8 mile beam reach. Pass Pelican Island and The Indians. (snorkel)
- Moor overnight in The Bight (over 60 moorings)
- Dinghy to The Caves to snorkel
- Dinner at Willy T's or The Pirates Bight



Bay

Bay

Privateer Bay

Carvel ... Rock

man

- 8 mile beam reach. Pass Pelican Island and The Indians. (snorkel)
- Moor overnight in The Bight (over 60 moorings)
- Dinghy to The Caves to snorkel

LEGEND

Restaurant

Anchorage

Day Anchorage

Beach

 Dinner at Willy T's or The Pirates Bight

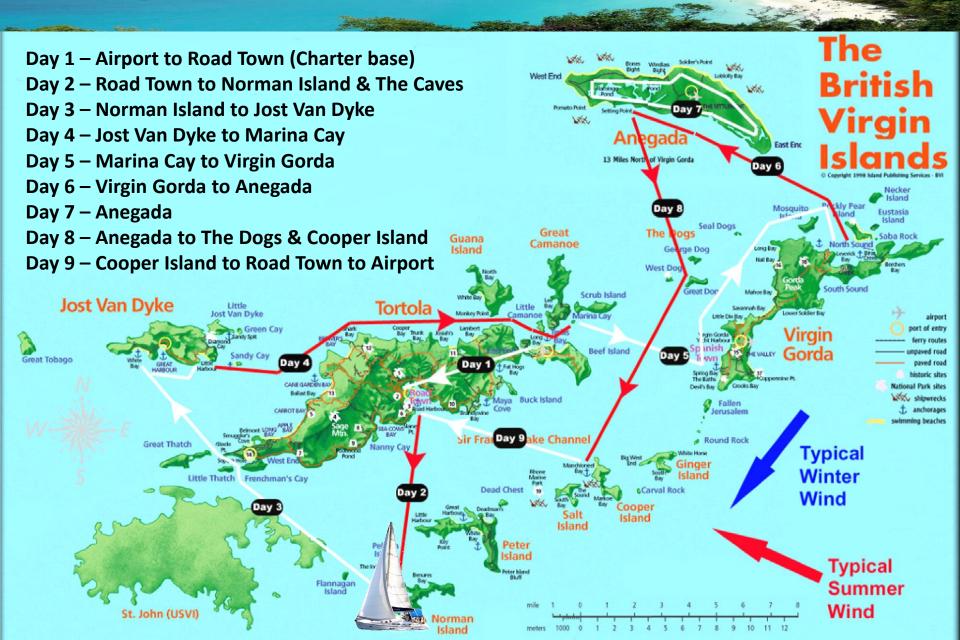




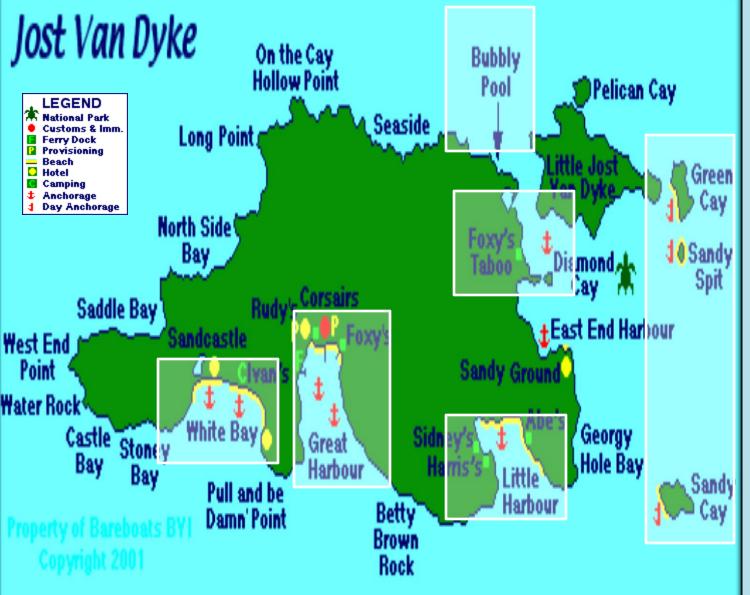
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- Dinner at Willy T's or The Pirates Bight

Day 3: Norman to Jost Van Dyke



Day 3: Norman to Jost Van Dyke



- 13 mile broad reach.
 Pass St John and
 Soper's Hole.
- Lunch at Soggy Dollar in White Bay (anchor or moor)
- Moor at Foxy's
 Taboo. 20 min. hike to
 Bubbly Pool or anchor
 and snorkel at Green
 Cay, Sandy Spit or
- Moor overnight in Little Harbor
- Dinner @ Harris'
 Place, Sidney's or taxi
 to Foxy's in Great
 Harbor.

Little Harbor Little Harbor – Jost Van Dyke. Jost Van Dyke NUNUW FUND Pelican Cay Pool LEGEND **National Park** Customs & Imm. **Long Point** Ferry Dock Provisioning Beach Hotel Camping 4 Anchorage Day Anchorage North Side **1♦**Sandy Bay Dis mond 🔏 Spit Saddle Bay **±East End Har**bour andcastle **West End** Point Sandy Ground ₩ater Rock[∢] White Bay Georgy Castle) Great Hole Bay Bay Harbour Little Pull and be Harbour Betty Damn' Point Brown Rock

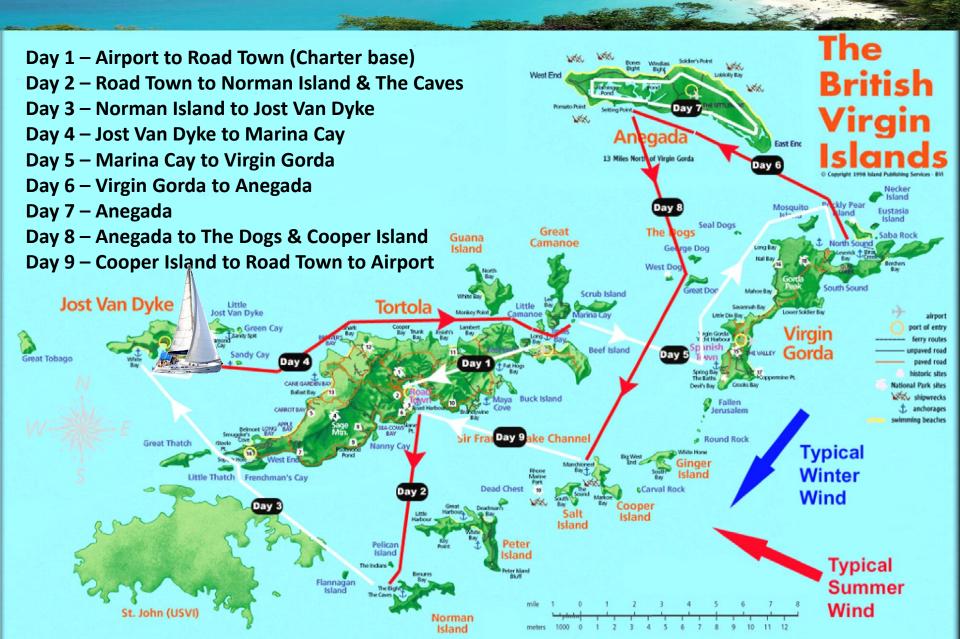
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 Cay, Sandy Spit or
 Sandy Cay
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White Beach Jost Van Dyke Soggy Dollar Bar hite Beach Ferry Dock Provisioning Beach Green Hotel Camping 4 Anchorage Day Anchorage North Side 10 Sandy Bay Diamond , Spit Saddle Bay **±East End Har**bour Sandcastle **West End** Sandy Ground Point ₩ater Rock[∢] Castle Stoney White Bay Georgy Great Hole Bay Bay Harbour Little Pull and be Harbour Betty Damn' Point Brown Rock

n Dyke

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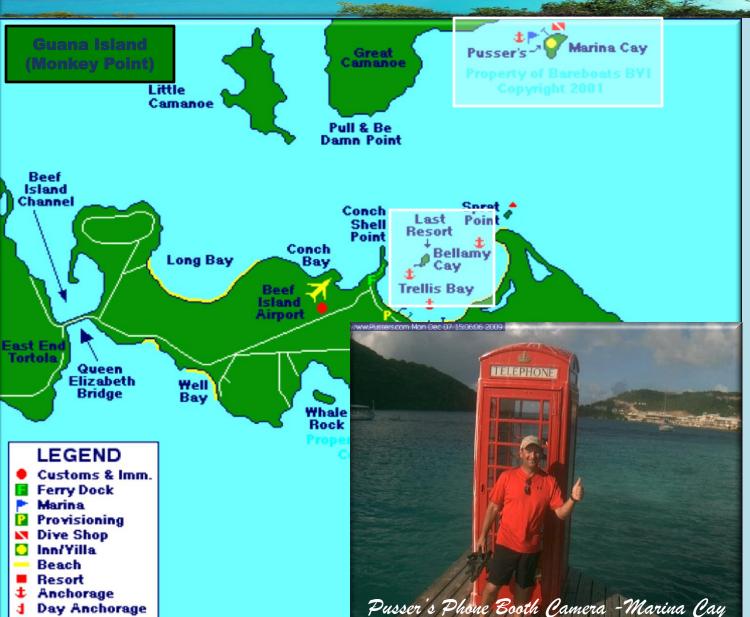
- 15 mile close haul
- Stop at Monkey
 Point (Guana Island)
 to snorkel. Lunch on
 boat. 2-3 mooring
 balls. Might have to
 anchor.
- Moor overnight at Marina Cay.
- Dinner @ Pusser's.
 Seasonal happy hour pirate's (Arr) bar top of hill.
- Showers and laundry available. Red phone booth.
- Alternatives: Trellis Bay and Bellamy Cay



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 Point (Guana Island)
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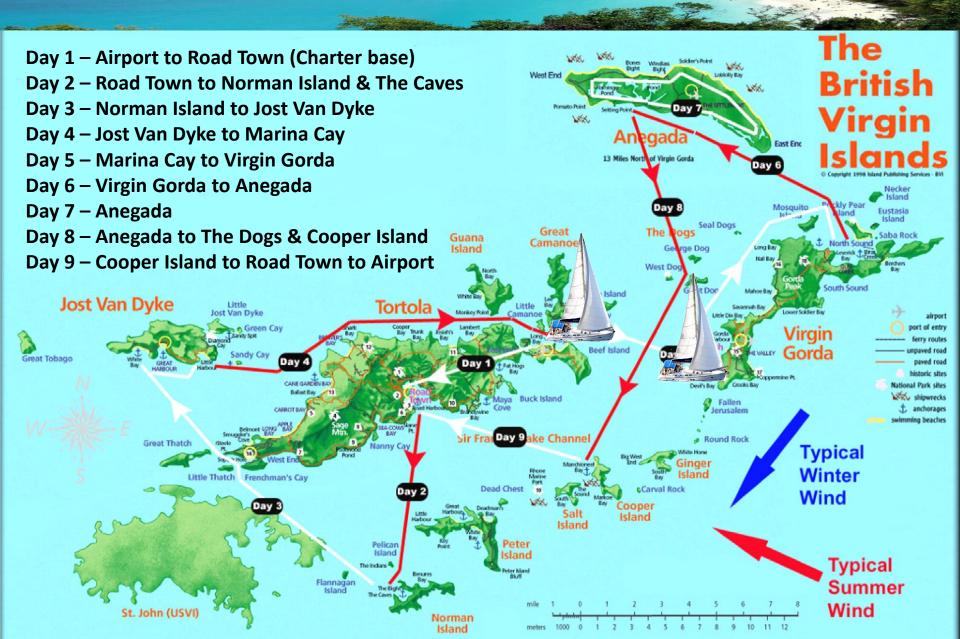


- 15 mile close haul
- Stop at Monkey Point (Guana Island) to snorkel. Lunch on boat. 2-3 mooring balls. Might have to anchor.
- Moor overnight at Marina Cay.
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 Seasonal happy hour pirate's (Arr) bar top of hill.
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- Showers and laundry available. Red phone booth.
- Alternatives: TrellisBay and Bellamy Cay

Day 5: Marina Cay to Virgin Gorda





Gorda

- 5 mile motor to The Baths. 10 mile close reach to Virgin Sound
- Arrive @ Baths no later than 8AM. Limited mooring.
- Check flag color.
 Red: Sea too rough.

Yellow: Caution Green: OK

Blue: Jelly Fish

- No dinghy beach landings allowed. Swim to beach from dinghy mooring. Explore The Baths.
- Lunch on boat or @ Baths.
- Sail to Virgin Sound.
 Moor at Saba Rock
 Free ice and water.



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Yacht Harbour Big Trunk Bay

Spring Bay

The Baths 1

Taylors Bay Copper Mine Bay

Copper Mine Point

Devil's Crooks Bay Bay

Ferry Dock

Marina

Provisioning

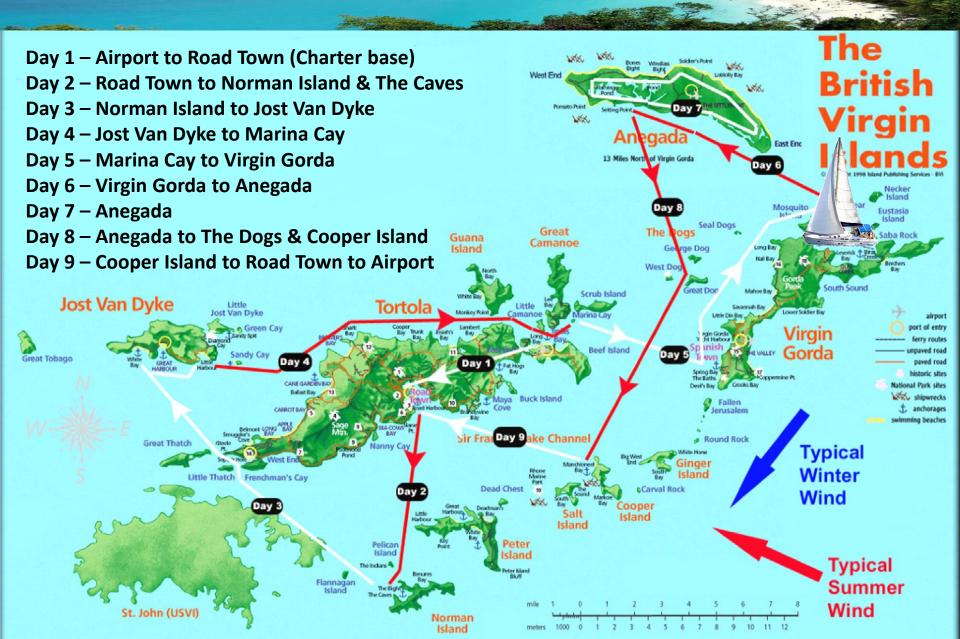
N Dive Shop Beach

Resort

Anchorage

Day Anchorage

Day 6: Virgin Gorda to Anegada



Anegada Cow Wreck Bay Bone Windlass Jack Bay **Bight** Ruffling Point ± West Lobiolly Bay End Deep Bay The Settlement Well Pond Pomato Setting Saltheap Poin Point Point **Nu**tmeg Pearl Lower Point Point Neptune's Bay Treasure Little Anegada Anegada Reef Hotel LEGEND Beach White Pelican Bay Hotel Point Anchorage

egada

- 16 mile close reach
- Meet Sunsail flotilla at 9AM @ Virgin Sound channel buoys.
- Moor @ Bender's Bay west of Setting Pt. (Mooring ball tells you where to pay for ball)
- If main mooring field filled go thru small, marked, channel to far west moorings.
- Lunch and dinner anywhere! Explore the island. R&R!
- Beautiful sunsets



egada

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- Meet Sunsail flotilla at 9AM @ Virgin Sound channel buoys.
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Anegada Sunset Anegada Sunset Lobiolly Bay POINT T Deep Bay **Well Pond** The Settlement Poma:o Setting Saltheap Poin Point Point **Nu**tmeg Pearl Lower' Point Point Neptune's Bay Treasure Little Anegada Anegada Reef Hotel LEGEND Beach White Pelican Bay Hotel Point Anchorage

egada

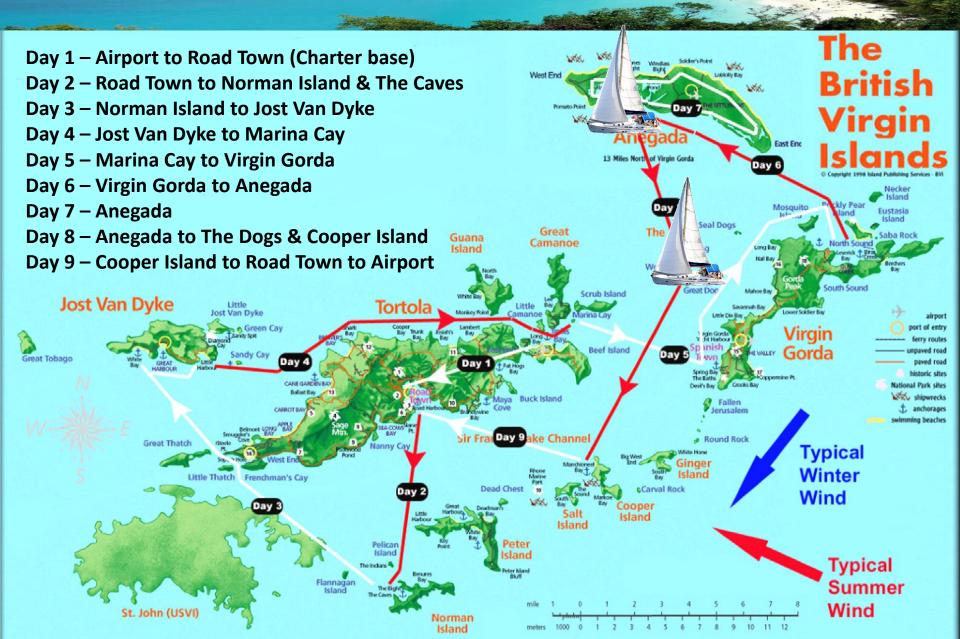
- 16 mile close reach
- Meet Sunsail flotilla at 9AM @ Virgin
 Sound channel buoys.
- Moor @ Bender's Bay west of Setting Pt. (Mooring ball tells you where to pay for ball)
- If main mooring field filled go thru small, marked, channel to far west moorings.
- Lunch and dinner anywhere! Explore the island. R&R!
- Beautiful sunsets

Day 7: Anegada.



- 16 mile close haul
- Rent scooters, jeep or take taxi to Cow
 Wreck and/or Loblolly
 Bay. Spend the day relaxing, swimming and snorkeling.
- Dinner on the waters edge. Anegada Lobsters are famous.

Day 8: Anegada - Dogs - Cooper Isl



Day 8: Anegada - Dogs - Cooper Isl



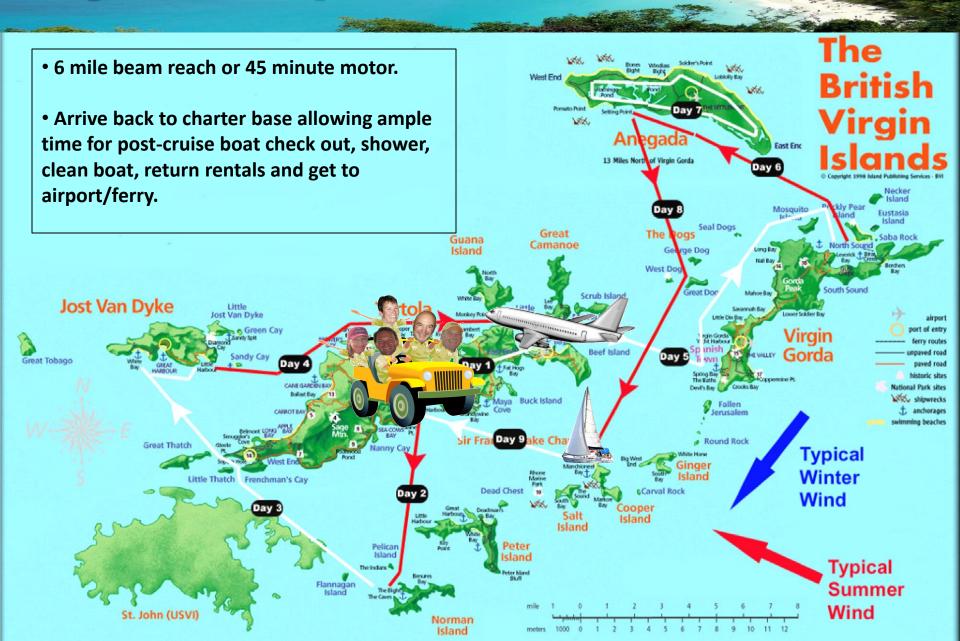
- 14 mile beam reach to The Dogs.
- Moor or anchor at Kitchen Point (George Dog) for lunch and snorkeling
- 8 mile broad reach to Cooper Island
- Moor in Manchioneel Bay.
- Many rays & turtles.
 Snorkel at Cistern Pt.
- Dinner at Cooper
 Island Beach Club



per Isl

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Day 9: Cooper Island to Road Town



Chartering in the BVIs

(British Virgin Islands)

- Where are the BVIs?
- Why choose the BVIs?
 - · The Islands
 - General Information
 - Getting to the BVIs
 - Chartering
 - Provisioning
 - Living aboard
 - 7 Day Itinerary

· Q & A