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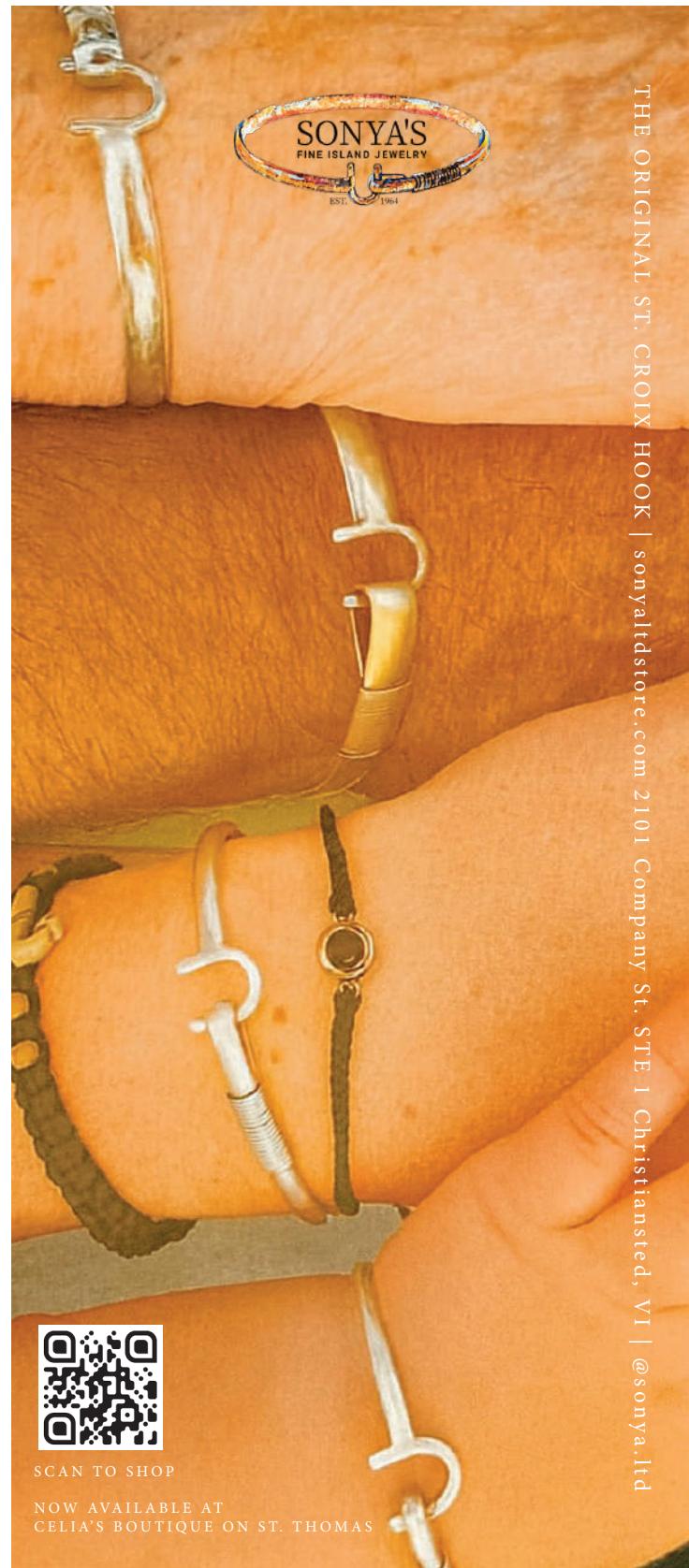
calendar of events Page 30

2026 events listed by month. Subject to change.

St. Croix Explorer LLC celebrating 26 years! Photography, design, layout, distribution and advertising sales by Diane Butler. Map & Graphics by Michael Gelardi. Edited by Dana Anderson and random urchins that come wandering along.

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1 welcome

DEAR VISITORS AND FRIENDS,

I extend to you a warm and heartfelt welcome to the beautiful island of St. Croix, the largest of the U.S. Virgin Islands. Whether you are a first-time guest or a returning visitor, we are thrilled to have you here to explore the unique wonders of our island.

St. Croix offers an enchanting blend of natural beauty, rich history, and vibrant culture that is truly one of a kind. Our local cuisine reflects this blend, offering a delectable tapestry of flavors influenced by African, Danish, and Caribbean traditions. It is a culinary journey that mirrors the diversity of our island's heritage.

As you immerse yourself in the culture and history of St. Croix, you will discover the charm of our twin cities, Christiansted and Frederiksted. Explore our museums, art galleries, and historic landmarks to gain a deeper understanding of our island's story.

While exploring, you may also find visiting our distilleries, including Cruzan Rum, Captain Morgan, and Mutiny Vodka, fascinating. Each distillery tells a unique story of St. Croix's spirits, from traditional rum to modern vodka, creating a delightful tapestry of flavors for you to savor.

During your stay, we encourage you to partake in our vibrant local events, which celebrate our heritage. On behalf of the people of St. Croix and the U.S. Virgin Islands, I wish you an unforgettable visit. May your time here be filled with cherished memories and experiences that will stay with you long after you have left our shores.

Regards,



Commissioner of Tourism
Jennifer Mataranges King

A *Vibe* ST. CROIX
LIKE NO OTHER



Welcome
English

Velkommen
Danish

Bienvenido
Spanish

Welkom
Dutch

Bienvenu
French

Willkommen
German

いらっしゃいませ
Japanese

欢迎
Chinese

Welcome to St. Croix, the largest of the Virgin Islands, and the one that has the most Danish influence in its architecture and names. St. Croix has a unique history dating back to pre-Columbus and ruled by seven nations.

St. Croix is the island to discover, explore and celebrate! Use this guide and map to find treasures of history, culture and art. Read through the pages of the Explorer to find great restaurants and shopping spots. Use the map to find the beaches, go for a drive and tour the historical sites, gardens and rum factories. Wander from cafe to courtyard in Christiansted and Frederiksted and stroll along the waterfronts. Try a new sport like scuba diving or sailing. St. Croix loves that you are here to relax and soak up the warm Caribbean sun and we hope that you feel familiar and comfortable walking around our towns.

We know your time with us will allow you to meet some friendly Crucians that can answer your questions with a smile. You will go away with fun stories of the great times you had exploring the St. Croix culture, food and new friends that you've made. Explore and Enjoy!

travellers tips

2

St. Croix offers its explorers the comfort of traveling under the U.S. flag, while still maintaining the feel of a truly international destination. Try some of the wide variety of Caribbean, Danish, Puerto Rican and local Crucian cuisine, like roast goat, fish and fungi or kallaloo. Sample coquito and painkillers with our island rum.

You will hear a chorus of languages spoken here, including the beautiful Caribbean-accented English, as well as Spanish, Creole, French, Danish and Patois. If you don't understand what someone is saying, take a look at the Explorer's Island Dictionary on page 13. Soon come you'll be saying "Ar'ight" to "A yo", spreading the weekend's melee while limin' on the beach. (Got that, right?)

As a U.S. territory, the Virgin Islands use U.S. currency, the U.S. Postal Service, U.S. and Canadian banks and U.S. Customs. It is recommended that you carry your U.S. Passport and Drivers License because of the TSA, Customs and Immigration checkpoints at our airport. It's also handy to have your documents with you if you plan to travel to any of the non-U.S. Caribbean islands, including the British Virgin Islands.

Most major credit cards and ATM cards are widely accepted. When leaving, customs will require you to claim any items you purchase. However, as a duty-free port, you can return to the mainland with up to \$1,600 in local merchandise such as perfume, jewelry, art and clothing, tax-free. Remember the six bottles of rum each visitor is allowed to take home. Most shops open at about 10 a.m. and close around 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Sunday is a day off, so go to the beach. Restaurants usually serve dinner until 9 p.m., but some of the local bars and pubs serve food until midnight.

On St. Croix, take the same safety precautions you would on any vacation. Lock your car, villa or hotel room door. Stay alert in dark or suspicious areas of our towns. Take your purse, wallet, camera or cell phone with you, don't leave them on the beach chair. Be cautious when approached by unknown people just as you would anywhere else.

If you need emergency help, from your cell phone dial 911 or 340-772-9111. Dress is casual, but not too casual. Wear only your bathing suit into town or shorts to church, and you are sure to get the "Tourist Stare."

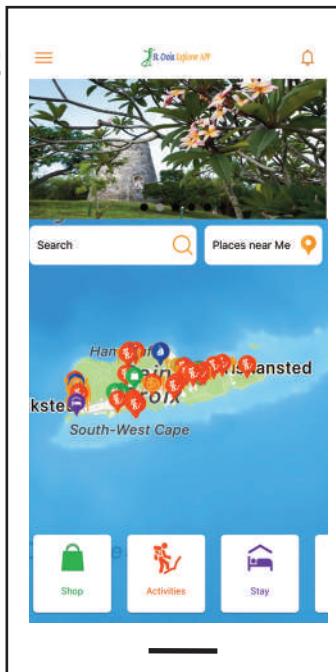
The weather? Perfect... almost. Rainy season is September through November and March through May. But no matter what time of year you are here, if it rains every day of your trip, buy yourself a lottery ticket because chances are one in a million. If you visit during Hurricane Season, you might just see one. Schedule your time on St. Croix around a great event: Triathlon, Taste of St. Croix, Virgin Islands-Puerto Rico Friendship Day, Columbus Weekend, St. Patrick's Day Parade or Carnival.

Explore St. Croix at the relaxed pace at which the island moves. It will change any Type A into a Type Z by stays end. When entering a room you have the time to start your conversations with a "Good Morning," "Good Afternoon" and "Good Night," and should do so, as the locals do. Move slowly. Drive slowly and on the LEFT. Ask questions. Relax and take deep breaths. Explore the culture. Buy local. Fall in love. Come back soon.

Welcome to St. Croix!
Scan the QR code,
Download the free
App and get to
Exploring!



Scan for APP



**Going in the
right direction
in the left lane**

visitors checklist

- o Be a beach bum and watch the sunset in Frederiksted
- o Discover Scuba Diving at the Wall and Pier
- o Snorkel the Buck Island Underwater Trail, the only Underwater National Park
- o Ride something...a boat, an underwater scooter or horse
- o Dance to Quadrille, Soca and Reggae Music
- o Splurge on a delicious elegant culinary experience
- o Bring home island made Mutiny Island Vodka and Cruzan Rum as gifts-6 bottles per person
- o Take a hike to the Tide Pools or Monk's Bath
- o Go Zipping on the Carambola Zipline
- o Buy a locally made Island bracelet or piece of local chaney jewelry
- o Acquire local art from the Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts
- o Compare food prices at the grocery store
- o Be a mermaid or pirate
- o Catch the big one while deep sea fishing
- o Watch the sunrise at Point Udall
- o Do our Treasure Hunt in this map and on the APP.

3 what's going on?

Live Music & Entertainment

Monday

Brew STX-Live Music
 The Buccaneer Resort The Mermaid-Fire Dancers
 7pm
 Ziggy's Island Market-Steve Katz & No Problemo
 6pm - Every other

Tuesday

Brew STX-Live Music
 Leatherback Brewery-Trivia 6pm
 Lyric Sails-music on the sunset sail
 Sion Farm Distillery-Bingo on the Rocks 6pm
 The Buccaneer Resort-The Mermaid-Steel Pan 6pm

Wednesday

Brew STX- Crab Races 5-7pm, Live Music 7-10pm
 Blues' Backyard BBQ-Live Music 430-730pm, every
 other Wednesday
 Leatherback Brewery-Bingo 6pm
 Ruff Night-Hair of the Dog Bar-Wine Wednesday
 Sprat Net Beach Bar-Kareoke 7-10pm
 The Buccaneer Resort The Terrace- Live Music 6-9pm

Thursday

Art Thursday in Christiansted (3rd Thursday Nov-May)
 Brew STX- Live Music Art Thursday
 Blues Backyard BBQ-Live Music 4:30-7:30pm
 Caribbean Museum Center-Friends in the Courtyard
 Crafts - Every Wed 10am-12:30pm
 Lyric Sails-music on the sunset sail
 Sion Farm Distillery-Karaoke 6pm
 Sprat Net Beach Bar-Live Music
 St George Village Botanical Gardens-Yoga with
 Shera 10am
 The Buccaneer Resort The Terrace Restaurant-
 Live Music 6-9pm

*Live Music and Entertainment is
 seasonal and changes often.
 Reservations may be required for
 popular events. It is best to call
 the establishment and
 double check.*

Friday

Blues Backyard BBQ-Live Music 5:30-8:30pm
 Spectacular Spectacular Live Music and Talent
 Show 5-9pm, the Last Friday monthly
 Brew STX-Live Music
 Caribbean Community Theater-Local Play
 Caribbean Museum Center-EveryBODY Yoga every
 Friday 9:30am
 Leatherback Brewery-Crab Races 6pm
 Off the Wall- live music occasionally
 Rossie's Bar & Restaurant-DJ
 Ruff Night-Hair of the Dog Bar-Live Music
 Sprat Net Beach Bar-Live Music and Mocko Jumbies
 on the beach 6-10pm
 The Buccaneer Resort The Terrace Restaurant-Live
 Music 6-9:30pm & Beauregard's Fire Dancers
 7pm
 Umami-Live Music 6-8pm

Saturday

Caribbean Community Theater-Local Play
 Leatherback Brewery-Movie Night-first Saturday at dark
 Rossie's Bar & Restaurant- DJ
 Ruff Night-Hair of the Dog Bar-Live Music
 Shupe's-DJ upstairs 9pm
 Sprat Net Beach Bar-Live Music
 St George Village Botanical Gardens-Nursery Plant
 Sale 9am-1pm
 The Buccaneer Resort at The Terrace-Jazz Band
 6-9:30pm

Sunday

Blues Backyard BBQ-Bingo Brunch or NFL Game Day
 Caribbean Community Theater-Matinee Local Play
 Sprat Net Beach Bar-Soca Party Sunday
 Leatherback Brewery-Sunday Football
 The Buccaneer Resort at The Terrace-Live Music
 6-9pm

what's going on?

4

— Daily Deals —

Monday

Alba's Bar & Restaurant- Chicken Soup
 Brew STX- Lobster Grilled Cheese
 El Sol- Stew Oxtail
 Goat Soup Whiskey- Fresh Fish
 Ital in Paradise- Coconut Curry Tofu
 Chick Peas or Grilled Salmon
 Rossie's Restaurant- Roast Pork
 The Mermaid at the Buccaneer
 Resort-Lunch and Frozen Drinks
 Beach Side

Tuesday

Alba's Bar & Restaurant- Burritos, Tacos and Quesadilla Dinner
 Beachside Cafe- Surf and Turf
 El Sol- Stew Beef
 Goat Soup Whiskey-Fresh Seafood
 Ital in Paradise- Grilled Tuna, Sautéed Mushroom & Spinach and Gluten Free Pasta Salad
 Rossie's Restaurant- Conch
 Spratnet Beach Bar & Grill- Taco Tuesday- All you can eat
 Sunny Shore Up-Veggie Burrito
 Umami- 2 for 1 Sake all day
 Ziggy's Island Market-Young Guns with Chef Dominic-every other

Wednesday

Alba's Bar & Restaurant- Beef Soup
 Beauagard's at the Buccaneer Resort- Lunch next to the pool
 Blues Backyard BBQ-Smoked Wing Basket
 Rossie's Restaurant- Chicharrones
 Spratnet Beach Bar & Grill- 99 cent Wings
 Umami-Customer Appreciation Day
 Ziggy's Island Market-Mr Nyce Guy

— Happy Hour —

Brew STX-4-6pm

Hair of the Dog Bar-Thursday-all day
 Shupe's-4-6pm

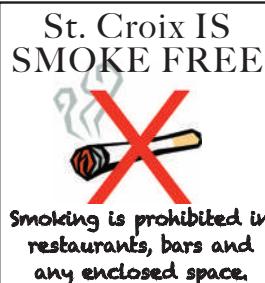
Sion Farm Distillery-Mon-Fri
 4-6pm Drink & Food Specials
 Umami Sushi-3:30-6pm
 -\$1 off sake and local drinks

Thursday

Alba's Bar & Restaurant- Tripe Soup
 Blues Backyard BBQ-Chicken Pot Pie
 Brew STX- Seafood Boil Special
 El Sol- Stew Goat
 Goat Soup Whiskey-one of the Islands best wine lists
 Ital in Paradise- BBQ Tofu or Grilled Salmon
 Napoleon's Pizza West-Ox Tail
 Rossie's Restaurant- Salmon
 Spratnet Beach Bar & Grill- Surf & Turf
 Sunny Shore Up- Rainbow bagels
 Umami-Sake Flight Specials
 \$5 Boba Tea 3-5pm
 Ziggy's Island Market-dinner til 6pm

Friday

Alba's Bar & Restaurant- Grilled Kabobs, Spare Ribs, Homemade 8oz Hamburgers
 Blues Backyard BBQ-Pulled Pork
 El Sol- Roast Pork
 Estera- Date Night
 Goat Soup Whiskey-Homemade Soup
 Ital in Paradise- Stewed Lentil or Grilled Tuna
 Napoleon's Pizza West- Roast Pork
 Rossie's Restaurant- Roast Pork
 Spratnet Beach Bar & Grill- Caribbean Beach BBQ
 The Terrace at the Buccaneer Resort- Date Night
 Umami-\$20 Lunch Combo & Happy Hour Specials
 Ziggy's Island Market-Chef Dave Dinner Special varies weekly



Saturday

Beach Side Cafe- Brunch 10-2
 Alba's Bar & Restaurant- Seafood or Meat Kallaloo
 El Sol- Stew Beef
 Goat Soup Whiskey-Hand Cut Steaks
 Ital in Paradise- Grilled Mahi or Pepper Steak Tofu
 Rossie's Restaurant- Roast Pork
 Sion Farm Distillery- Brunch 10-2
 Spratnet Beach Bar & Grill- West Indian Pig Roast
 Sunny Shore Up Food Truck- Veggie Burrito
 Umami- Industry Day
 Ziggy's Island Market-Chef Dave in the afternoon

Sunday

Alba's Bar & Restaurant-Bullfoot Soup
 Beach Side Cafe- Fun Day Dinner
 Blues Backyard BBQ-Smoked Wings
 El Sol- San Choco (local soup)
 Goat Soup Whiskey-Italian Dinner
 Spratnet Beach Bar & Grill- Snapper Specials
 Sunny Shore Up Food Truck-Sunny Mimosa

Sunday Brunch

Beachside Cafe- Brunch- 10am-3pm
 Blues Backyard BBQ-11am-3pm
 Goat Soup Whiskey-10am-2pm
 Leatherback Brewery-10am-2pm
 Rum Runners
 Sion Farm Distillery- Brunch 10-2
 Sunny Shore Up Food Truck- Sunny Mimosa
 The Buccaneer Resort-Terrace Restaurant-Buffet-7-10am
 Ziggy's -Brunch Chef Dave

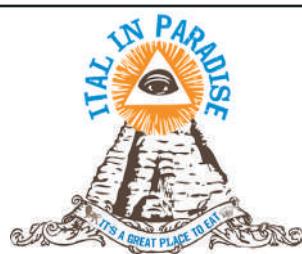


5 where to eat

Serving Lunch & Dinner
Dine In or Take Out
Monday- Saturday
10AM-11pm



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christiansted

St. Croix is world-renowned for its cuisine, food events and chefs. Christiansted features restaurants with boardwalk waterfront dining and wrought iron tables in hidden courtyards. Walk through the town and find eclectic restaurants with a variety of culinary styles and various budgets. Crucian casual means to wear cover-ups and shorts, so come as you are. Our restaurant recommendation: eat every meal out. There's great fresh food and it's an excellent way to meet people.

Ital in Paradise is on Queen Cross Street and has outstanding authentic vegan soul food. Fresh, locally grown ingredients are used in all meals and gluten-free dishes are always available. Try a home-made natural drink and a plate of delicious Ital food while on St Croix. Find the daily specials in the *Daily Deals* section in this guide.

Shupe's on the Boardwalk, at the end of the Pan Am Pavilion, is a popular party bar serving refreshing cocktails, ice cold beer and great burgers and sandwiches. It's the best late night spot on the boardwalk! Join the DJ upstairs on the weekends for an ultimate dance party of soca and world beats.

Brew STX serves handcrafted pale ales and stouts as well as mixed drinks, lunch and dinner seven days a week. Stop by for crab races on Wednesday and live music. The menu offers lobster grilled cheese, crab cakes and local seafood prepared by local chefs. Large salads with fresh local ingredients, grilled brussel sprouts and big steaks as well as food for the kids.

Rum Runners has served delicious breakfast, lunch, light bites, dinner, and Sunday brunch since 2000. They serve your favorite dishes with fresh, mouthwatering flavors, from fish n' chips and burgers to savory steaks, fresh fish, and tasty pasta dishes. *The Deck Bar* serves freshly made panini sandwiches and light bites. Enjoy stunning harbor views and spectacular sunsets while sipping one of their specialty cocktails or an ice-cold beer at Christiansted's only waterfront restaurant. Check their Facebook page for daily specials. Experience the perfect blend of great food, drinks, and island vibes!

In 2015 Jordan and Shane opened *The Courtyard Juices and Fitness Center* with a clear objective to offer a relaxing, healthy, non-judgemental space for all people to enjoy and share in their offerings. They started small with just a couple instructors and a few smoothies and quickly grew both with the Juicebar and with daily and weekly class offerings. The open air studio is a beautiful quiet space in downtown Christiansted surrounded by historical buildings and close to the water. They serve whole fruit smoothies, cold pressed juices, delicious coffees, sandwiches and salads and offer a wide variety of Yoga, Aerial Yoga, Yomassage, Barre fitness and more.

Brought to you by owner Derek Shupe and Chef Dylan Lewis, *estera* is housed in the Pan Am Pavilion in the historic district of downtown Christiansted. An exciting take on classic American flavors filter through the dining experience—from the first bite to the last. Expect to see menu items that are uncategorized, fluid and changeable with consistent dinner specials. The open kitchen layout and intimate indoor space embodies an ambiance of clean simplicity, warm neutral tones, and a modern industrial feel. A reservation gets you access to the hand-crafted dining room tables, full kitchen menu, eclectic cocktails, and specialty wines. At *estera* they strive for perfection in execution, elevation, and approachability.

where to eat

6



— north shore —

North Shore and Cane Bay is even more laid back than the rest of the island, if you can imagine! When you take the long drive between the sea and the mountains along the coast driving past rolling hills and sugar mills with the view of Ham's Bluff it helps you remember and appreciate how St Croix was before it was dotted with hotels. The North Shore, Cane Bay, Rust op Twist and Carambola are set on the edge of the island with the best diving in the world, hiking, bars and restaurants and a friendly community to show you a great time while you're here.

Off the Wall, a favorite for both St. Croix locals and island visitors. Delicious meals prepared to order from fresh ingredients. Experience friendly service at the bar, and a chance to meet a congenial crowd at perhaps the best view on the entire North Shore. Open for lunch and dinner serving pizza, burgers, fries and bbq.

Spratnet Beach Bar & Grill on the beach at Cane Bay offers lunch and dinner plus loads of fun in the sun and a local traditional pig roast on Sunday. Get ready to enjoy the bacchanal and dance your bahna off and then cool off in the Caribbean Sea. Try a free shot of Papawana, just say you read it in the St. Croix Explorer Map! Live music on Sunday afternoon.

Sunny Shore Up Food Truck serves breakfast on the beach, parked at Cane Bay Beach Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday mornings from 8am-12pm. Look for the yellow truck and colorful tables where they serve espresso coffee drinks, bagels, pastries, egg sandwiches and burritos. Grab breakfast, cold drinks, sunny mimosas and snacks before your dive, hike or island tour.

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Seafood Boil Dinner Special & Live Music

7 where to eat

BLUES' BACKYARD BBQ



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10:00am - 2:00pm



• Groceries • Gas •
• Tavern •
340-773-8382
East End Rd



— around the island —

If you're looking for some beach side or off the beaten path cuisine then you'll have to stretch your legs and grab our map. Easy to find and well worth exploring, these restaurants are located out of town and around the island.

Rossie's Bar and Grill is local Latin cuisine right outside of Christiansted. St. Croix is known for Latin food and this is the place to try some. Stew chicken and mofongo, man soup, and fried snapper. With a lively local bar crowd, you'll feel like a local after a great meal and some rum drinks. And when the Soca music starts on the weekends, you'll want to bring your friends for a dance!

McDonald's restaurants are located near Christiansted and mid-island at LaReine. A familiar treat found around the world. Open seven days a week for that Big Mac and McNugget craving. Get your McValue for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Loving It!

Mutiny Island Vodka is the world's first and only vodka made with breadfruit. It is the first vodka distilled and bottled on St. Croix. Take a tour of the *Sion Farm Distillery*, home of *Mutiny Island Vodka* and enjoy lunch while you sample some specialty cocktails. Their Gold Medal distiller uses fresh local ingredients in the delicious small batch vodkas. Add *Mutiny Island Vodka* to your day of touring, eating and sampling at the various distilleries on St Croix and take some bottles home duty-free.

Umami Sushi offers hand rolled sashimi and sushi, sourcing fresh local fish and produce daily. Conveniently located at five corners with plenty of parking for easy take out. Try your favorite roll or one of the local creative favorites, poke bowls and sake. Join them for live music on Friday's.

El Sol Bar & Restaurant cooks up local foods like fried fish and cassava, baked ribs and fat steaks. Stop in for authentic atmosphere, cold drinks and amazing local rice and beans and Latin food. Easy to find in Peter's Rest, right off of Rt. 70 near Sunny Isle. Your one stop restaurant for seafood, great steaks and local cuisine. Check out their new location this spring.

Blues Backyard BBQ offers brisket, ribs and pork smoked over Cruzan Rum oak barrels. This casual backyard restaurant offers BBQ platters, 1/2 pound hand pattied burgers, sandwiches and live music every Thursday and Friday evening. Wednesday and Sunday smoked wings and Thursday homemade pot pies. Stop by for Sunday Brunch and to watch your favorite sport on one of the five TV's.



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CLOSED THURSDAY

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OFF THE WALL STX
@OFFTHEWALLSTX

where to eat

8



east end

You must take a drive out east on Rt 82 & 60, the road that loops along the North and South Shores to the easternmost point of the island, Point Udall, and around the Great Pond. A few outstanding restaurants are dotted along the route, each special in its own right.

With jaw-dropping views in every direction, *The Buccaneer* has welcomed travelers to 340 oceanfront acres of natural St. Croix beauty since 1947. Three secluded beaches surround its 18-hole seaside golf course, complemented by pools, a spa, water sports, tennis, boutique shopping, and spacious accommodations. Guests enjoy three beachfront restaurants: *The Terrace* overlooking the Caribbean Sea with the best sunset views on St. Croix; *The Mermaid* serving local flavors and favorites right on the sand; and *Beauregard's on the Beach* offering fresh sushi in a relaxed hideaway just steps from the water. Family-owned and operated for three generations, the legendary resort pairs gracious hospitality with unforgettable island views.

The third *Goat Soup and Whiskey* location opened in 2019 on St. Croix. This tropical location features open air dining with a beautiful view of Buck Island and the Caribbean Sea. They take pride in fresh ingredients, friendly staff, and made from scratch dishes. Featured menu items are the daily homemade soups, hand cut steaks, fresh local seafood specials, and shareable appetizers. Fresh cocktails and infusions can be found at the bar along with a local beer selection. Reservations are highly recommended.

Ziggy's Island Market is more than a gas station! With well stocked grocery aisles, coolers of cold drinks, and grab-and-go food as well as daily specials, you will find snacks for everyone! An outdoor tavern with live music, cornhole and an amazing Sunday Brunch! Live Music on Monday evenings. Stop at Ziggy's and get gas!

As you explore St Croix stop and take a brewery tour at *Leatherback Brewery*, the first brewery on St Croix. Sample Leatherback's fresh brewed lager and IPAs at bars all over the island. They use local ingredients to make small-batch craft beers. Sample the seasonal beers, come for some live music and check out the cool merchandise. Enjoy lunch, all while sipping on some cold suds! Crab races and live music on Friday, a perfect way to end the week.

estera
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Fitness Classes

Rum Runners Restaurant

Casual Dining on the Christiansted Waterfront

Monday and Wednesday - Saturday

Breakfast 8 am - 10 am

Lite Bites @ The Bar 3 pm - 5:30 pm

Dinner 5:30 pm - 9 pm

Sunday Brunch 10 am - 3 pm

Lite Bites @ The Bar 3 pm - 5:30 pm

Dinner 5:30 pm - 9 pm

closed Tuesday

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9 where to eat



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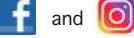
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Sunday 12pm-8pm

Christiansted, Peters Rest
Frederiksted, King St
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frederiksted

"West is Best," as we like to say. Come rate your dining experience in Frederiksted. This historic beach town has taken its blows from the many hurricanes that have passed through but it keeps its sleepy appeal because of the fantastic beaches that surround it. You will find restaurants around the town open in tiny dark courtyards and lively open-air porches. Beach bars and restaurants dot the shore both to the north and south. Frederiksted is the quintessential sleepy little beach town, so relax and explore the coast at a slower pace, then stay for the amazing sunset.

Beach Side Cafe at Sandcastles on the Beach is where you can celebrate life, love and good friends while enjoying the casual and breezy dining experience on the beach. The menu ranges from traditional favorites to local island specialties that are sure to please. Don't forget about the fantastic brunch on Sunday.

Alba's Bar and Restaurant is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner serving latin and local food. This local hot spot offers daily soup specials and is known for fried fish, lobster, johnny cakes and conch. Try the local beef and conch pate and seafood kallaloo.

Ruff Night "Hair of the Dog" Bar is the only bar and dog cafe in the VI! Food for dogs and cocktails for their humans. Open afternoons except Tuesday and Thursday in Frederiksted. Live music on the weekends. Get gifts for your furry friends and play with some rescued doggies while sipping a cool cocktail.

The islands best pizza is *Napoleon's Pizza* and it is available in Peter's Rest right outside of Christiansted and on King St in Frederiksted. The seafood pizza and chicken alfredo pizza is a popular local favorite. The New York style pizza and lasagna is perfect for lunch or dinner. Check out the West location for local food specials. End Sunday Funday with a warm pizza!

Always fresh. Always friendly. For breakfast, *Polly's* offers egg dishes, huge waffles, and various breakfast sandwiches. *Polly's* lunch features gooey gourmet grilled cheese sandwiches, and award-winning homemade veggie burger, healthy wraps & rice bowls, salads, quesadillas, and nachos. They offer gluten-free options too! A waterfront neighborhood cafe in downtown Frederiksted serving breakfast and lunch Monday - Friday 7 - 3, Saturday 8 - 3 and Brunch on Sunday 8 - 1. Don't forget to look for the daily specials on social media!

let's shop 10



One of the little known secrets to St. Croix's uniqueness is the local handmade jewelry. Our jewelry shops are family-owned and make handmade jewelry in their original designs. You will be hard-pressed to find a piece of jewelry that wasn't made on St Croix. Sure, you can find the cheap stuff found anywhere, but your first purchase should be Crucian hand-made jewelry.

Explore the streets of Christiansted for unique gifts, Caribbean-style clothing, original art and photography, swimsuits and snorkel gear. Wander the simple streets under mostly covered sidewalks and along the waterfront boardwalk. The towns are not big and slowly meandering along is exploring at its best!

Crucian Gold has become synonymous with their island home and culture of St. Croix. Find your next favorite jewelry piece in silver or gold! Visit *Crucian Gold* at their shop on Strand Street, Christiansted, near the government parking lot. Feel the Love of *Crucian Gold*'s handcrafted jewelry that is inspired by St. Croix's natural beauty and culture. Nathan and Brian Bishop and his family of jewelers create the Island Bracelets, the Chaney Collection, and a wide array of stunning original silver and gold artisan jewelry and gifts.

At *Southern Saint*, they create beautiful, sustainable clothing for the entire family. Inspired by the easy elegance of island life and a wink of Southern flair, their pieces are made to move, breathe, and live with you—whether you're barefoot on the beach or dressed up for sunset cocktails. Located on King Street across from Government House.

Discover exceptional shopping at the *Mermaid Boutique* at *The Buccaneer Resort* located on St. Croix's east end, featuring thoughtfully curated boutiques. Explore island-inspired beachwear, relaxed resort wear, designer swimwear, accessories, and unique gifts for women, men, teens, and children. From sun-ready essentials to elegant statement pieces, each collection reflects the vibrant spirit of the Caribbean, perfect for elevating your vacation wardrobe or finding a memorable local keepsake. Open Daily.

The *Maufe Gallery* features the art of Therese Trudeau and many local artists. Bring back an original piece of St. Croix handmade jewelry and art. The art is displayed on the walls at *Crucian Gold*.

Food Town grocery store in Estate Princesse offers a generous liquor section as well as fresh fruit and vegetables and many options in the snacks and desserts. Get a delicious deli sandwich or salad from the well stocked deli. Plenty of parking close to the store and conveniently located outside of Christiansted.

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11 let's shop

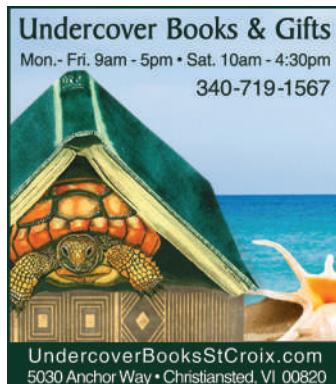


MAUFÉ*
gallery

* a mixture or concoction; a Caribbean term

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Nestled in the middle of the Apothecary Courtyard on Company Street is *Barbara Art Studio*. Renowned artist Barbara Gelardi offers Sip and Paint events and a lively show at each Art Thursday. Browse her work and if you find something to bring home, she can help you ship it there.

Sonya's Ltd was established 1964, home of the original St. Croix Hook. Located on Company St. in historic Christiansted steps away from the Christiansted Fort. *Sonya Ltd.* has been producing fine hand made jewelry for over fifty years. Fellow "Hookers" have been seen all around the world. Each piece is individually hand crafted by our team of artists. Worn by generations of locals and visitors from birth and celebrated through every major milestone. Stop by the corner store to get your piece of St Croix.

As you continue to explore Christiansted, you will walk past the big yellow building called Government House. This building's government offices with an inner courtyard can be toured, and it is the residence of the Governor.

As you wander towards the waterfront peek your head into *Purple Papaya*. This corner gift store located in the heart of Christiansted has everything from alcohol to underwater cameras and much, much more. Anything you need on your vacation, they have it, plus gifts for everyone in your life. Browse the custom and printed T-shirts and colorful dresses and button down shirts. Taste from the rum bar and stock up on liquor and gifts for the whole family.

let's shop

12

Gallows Bay is located adjacent to Christiansted in the harbor. It has a small downtown area with a post office, bank, hardware store, marina, restaurants and *Undercover Books*. This local book-store features local authors, Caribbean coffee table books, popular fiction, cards and a comfortable kids' corner. Look for details about their monthly book club and kids' story hour. They also sell candles, candy and gifts for the book lover in your life.

The Market on Centerline Road, minutes from the airport, is a large gourmet grocery store with pharmacy, deli, hot local foods, liquor and a butcher. This premier grocery store has locally grown produce, a fresh fruit section and many organic items. Order your groceries online at www.themarketvi.com and use their curbside pickup to avoid the crowds.

Love & Light began as a cherished metaphysical gift shop in Frederiksted, nestled across from the pier and waterfront. Today, they've expanded to an online store, continuing their heartfelt mission to cultivate a loving community for those on their paths of growth and healing. They support spiritual awareness and personal development, providing you with tools to nurture your inner journey. Explore the diverse collection, which includes crystals, books, candles, and other thoughtfully chosen items to inspire balance, harmony, and alignment in your life. Whether you're seeking to enhance your environment, deepen your self-discovery, or embrace mindfulness, *Love & Light* is there to guide and support you. Through their online space, they strive to bring the same warmth and intention that made the physical store a sanctuary for so many.



B 3
A 4
R 0
B 5
A 1
R 4
A 9
R 0
A 3
A 8

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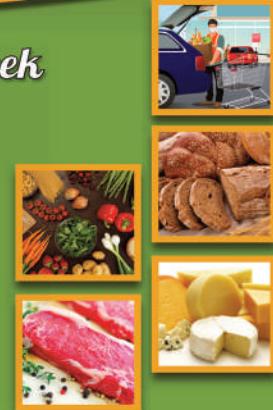
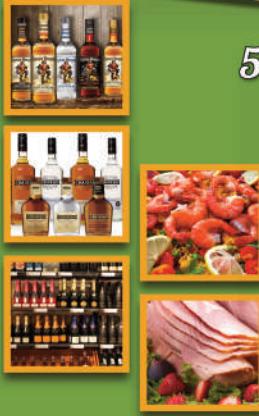
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13 island dictionary

“Good mahnin!, Good aftanoon!, Good evening!, Good night!”

In all situations, Crucians begin with a greeting, and you should too. “Good aftanoon” starts at the stroke of noon.

On St. Croix, “Good night” is a greeting used after dark.



Island Facts

Crucian is the Local Person & Language

Quelbe is the Music

Quadrille is the Dance

VI March is the Territory Song

Bananaquit (Sugar Bird) is the Territory Bird

Yellow Trumpetbush (Ginger Thomas) is the Territory Flower

United in Pride & Hope is the Motto

Coordinates 17°44.23.N -64°44.20.W

Saint Croix in other languages- Spanish: Santa Cruz;

Dutch: Sint-Kruis; French: Sainte-Croix

Danish: Sankt Croix, Taino Indian: Ay Ay

The US Virgin Islands are the only place in the USA where you drive on the left side of the road.

St. Croix, Estate Grove, is home to the oldest Baobab tree in the Caribbean. The tree is native to South Africa, it was brought to the Islands and planted in the 18th century. These trees can live for thousands of years, so expect it to be around for a long time.

St Croix is the only island in the US that is surrounded by the Caribbean Sea. The US Virgin Islands is the only territory in the US to have coasts on both the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. Take the opportunity to travel to the other Virgins, stick your toe in both the ocean and the sea.

common words

ar ight:	all right, thanks, yes
a yo:	everyone “all of you”
bacchanal:	a really great party
bahnna:	your bum or backside
bahn ya:	born here
chaney:	a fragment of old china or pottery
chups:	the sound of sucking teeth, shows displeasure or disbelief
chook:	to poke or pierce, “the thorn chook my finger!”
conch:	local shellfish, pronounced conk
Crucian:	a native of St. Croix
Cruzan:	the rum made on St Croix
Cuttin Style:	Looking Good!
dem:	them, they, more than one, i.e. mongoose dem
eh eh:	uh oh, an exclamation denoting surprise or concern, followed by “Well, me God!”
fig:	local name for bananas
fungi:	boiled cornmeal, a popular native food
gecko:	local lizard
goat mouth:	saying it will make it happen
irie:	all good, happiness
Kallaloo:	a native soup made of greens and herbs seasoned with ham, fish, conch and crab. St.Croix speciality.
lechon:	roast suckling pig
limin’:	relaxing
mampi:	“no see’ums,” the seemingly invisible biting insects that emerge at sunset
mehson:	an exclamation used to emphasize “son or mon”
melee’:	gossip, mixed up story, confusion
Mocko Jumbi:	a masquerader on wooden stilts used to scare away evil spirits
mongoose:	a small animal that runs across the road while you are driving. Looks like a low rider squirrel.
ol’ conch:	old tough, stubborn
salty dog:	an old sailor
skylarkin’:	to boast about oneself
soon come:	it will happen soon
sweet-eye:	to wink at someone
sweet mout’:	flattery, buttering up someone
t’anks:	thank you
tutu:	a conch shell used as a horn
wha:	what
wuk:	work

phrases

“Check yoh latah!”	See you later!
“geez um bread”:	Gosh!
“Fa true?”	“Do you mean it?”
“How yoh mean!?”	expresses surprise, disbelief
“I gan from yah”	“I’m leaving”
“I telling yoh!”	expresses agreement
“Leh we go nuh”	“Let’s go”
“Me ain know mehson”	“I don’t know, sir”
“Pah you goin?”	“Where are you going?”
“Mekin foot fo shoes”	“She’s pregnant!”
“A crab never forget he hole”	There’s no place like home
“Dutty han mek greasy mout”	Work hard and you will eat well
“All fish does bite but shark does get da blame”	Those with a history of bad behavior are always the first ones accused









treasure hunt 18

Let's do a treasure hunt! It's fun to do by yourself or with your friends and family. Find the answers while you read the St. Croix Explorer Map. Visit the different locations around St. Croix. Learn history and interesting facts about the island. Explore the hills of the East and the beaches of the West. The village on the North Shore and the streets of Frederiksted and Christiansted. After you have toured the island, read this guide cover to cover, and find all the answers. Scan the QR code and fill out the treasure hunt form with your answers or best guess. Have fun exploring St. Croix and *Keep Left!*

map clues



"Feel the Love", their statement is bold,
they make a love knot at _____.

In the heart of Christiansted, the largest gift store with
gifts, clothes and a rum tasting bar.
_____ has everything you'll need, hats,
shot glasses and much, much more, by far.

Order your groceries online at _____,
then drive up and just park it.

From near or far, no matter where you are from
we all do the same thing, drink the _____!

Dangling from mountain tops and thru valley's, for a fun,
fast ride try the _____.

Dive East, West, Salt River or along North Shore drive.
Across from the Pier and at Salt River is _____.

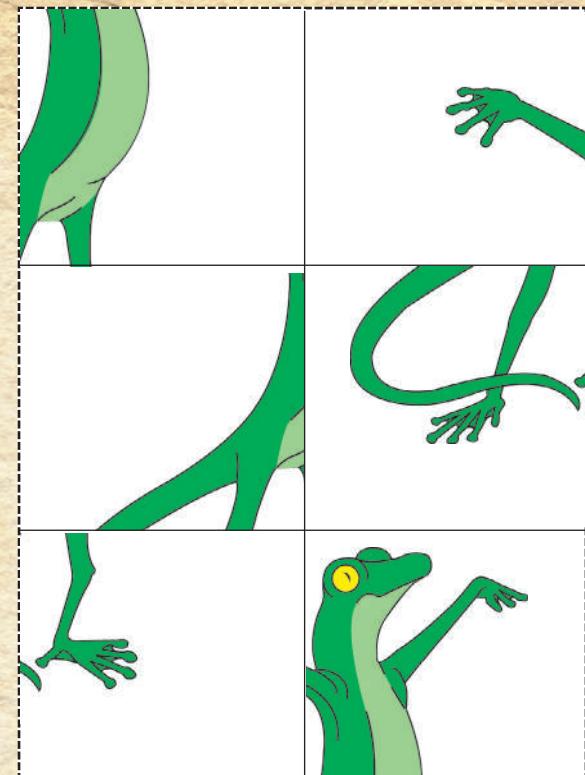
In Frederiksted along the beach, on trails and in the water
you can ride, swirl and whirl on rescued horses with
_____.

St. Croix handmade jewelry, hook or by crook,
many imitations but only _____ is the original St. Croix
hook.

The _____ has 18 holes to defend, a
boutique and three restaurants, nestled in the hills of the
east end.

The best view on the north shore is at _____,
burgers and frozen drinks all day til last call.

To see the sunrise first at _____,
you take an Eastern Trip on the edge of the cliff,
on the very tippy, tip.



Name this local reptile, The St. Croix Explorers
beloved mascot, Girl _____

The Underwater National Park is on the isle of _____.
You can see dolphins or sharks with a little luck.

He sailed into Salt River, an unknown port
and didn't believe his eyes or compass.
History says he's the first, his name is Chris _____.

Flags from _____ nations, flew over the island
before it became the best place to have family vacations.

They dot the island once alive, now silent and still,
They are a glimpse of the past, our _____.

It is not a squirrel or a rat, a small dog or a cat.
While you relax and sip mango juice,
keep your eyes alert for the quick, sly _____.

On weekends find _____ Wildlife Refuge
in the West, with a salt pond and covered in turtles,
you can sunbathe and rest.

19 things to do



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Carambola Zipline is the Caribbean's most scenic zip, and the single longest run in the Caribbean. Located near the Carambola Golf Course, you will meet at the Visitor's Center and take a scenic safari bus ride to the top of the mountain to start your zip down. Zip from platform to platform above the trees and finish at a historic sugar mill. The safari bus will bring you back to the visitors' center after your memorable zip adventure. Check out *Carambola Zipline* facebook page and call to reserve your spot.

While you're enjoying our beautiful island, you can also make a difference for St. Croix's animals! As the island's only open-in-take shelter, the *St. Croix Animal Welfare Center* never turns away an animal in need, and you can help while creating loving memories that will last a lifetime! Stop by the SCAWC's adoption center, to pick up a dog for the day. Take your new four-legged friend to the beach, on a hike, or out sightseeing. Travelers can also help by escorting a pet airport-to-airport for relocation to a shelter on the U.S. mainland. Find out more about how you can help the dogs and cats of St Croix on the SCAWC website.

Crucian Clayworks is the premier pottery shop on St. Croix. Founded by artists Sara Lee Hayes and Donna Prock (St. Croix Pottery). Their unique, small-batch pieces are inspired by the vibrant beauty and rich culture of the Caribbean. From everyday tableware to one-of-a-kind art pieces, their collection blends form and function with true island soul. Discover the charm of hand-crafted ceramics, made with care and creativity right here on St Croix. Whether you're a local or just passing through, stop by and find something meaningful to take home.

Escape from the humdrum sameness of everyday vodka and immerse yourself in the world's first and only *Mutiny Island Vodka*, made from breadfruit, that delivers the true taste of Island life. When you tour *Sion Farm Distillery*, located in the former home of St. Croix's well-loved Island Dairies Company, you can see, hear, smell and taste your way into an experience like no other. Your *Mutiny Island Vodka* tour begins as you enter the sleek, newly renovated space that serves as the bar and tasting

things to do 20

room. You'll enjoy a view through the glass wall to the newly installed, state-of-the-art artisanal copper still. And watch as our master distiller and his team perform the science and art of hand-crafted *Mutiny Island Vodka*.

The Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts, Inc. is where great art happens! Come stroll through the seaside open air galleries full of rotating cultural exhibits. Enjoy the historic Danish architecture and the beautiful tree-lined courtyard. The gift shop is the place to shop for exceptional local handcrafted Caribbean gifts and art. The Caribbean Museum Center for the Arts tries to preserve, promote and exhibit the arts of the Caribbean community. Events are held in the courtyard weekly. Mingle with artists and musicians at local art shows in this historic building. Donations to the arts can be made through the website.

The St. Croix East End Marine Park (STXEEMP) is managed by the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Division of the Department of Planning and Natural Resources. The STXEEMP is a multi-use marine protected area that allows for a variety of recreational activities, such as hook-and-line fishing, snorkeling, and kiteboarding. The Visitor's Center is located near Great Pond Bay (the old Camp Arawak), and has many interactive games and activities to learn about the marine protected area, sustainable fishing, and the conservation of St. Croix's natural resources. We offer field trips and events year-round. Stay tuned on our Instagram page (@friends.stxeemp) and Eventbrite (Friends of the St. Croix East End Marine Park).

Fly the Whale at the Henry Rolston Airport offers year round service and multiple daily flights between St. Croix and St. Thomas, USVI and St. Croix to San Juan, Isla Grande Airport, Puerto Rico. *Fly the Whale* makes it easy to take a day trip to our sister islands to the North or connect thru Puerto Rico to the mainland.

As you walk through the *St George Village Botanical Gardens* enjoy 16 acres planted with over 1,000 Caribbean and pan-tropical plants and trees growing against a backdrop of ruins and repurposed buildings of an 18th century Danish colonial sugarcane plantation. The land the garden sits on is characteristic of St. Croix's dynamic history and built heritage, dating from early indigenous history, through the colonial era, to the present day. We invite visitors to enjoy this space and take the opportunity to learn about this history through the lens of native and pan-tropical flora. The garden highlights and interprets the cultural and historical significance plants have played as a source of food, medicine, fibers, dyes, and building materials throughout the Caribbean.

Discover the ultimate escape at *Pampered VI*, St. Croix's premier luxury day spa. Their licensed professional estheticians, massage therapists, and manicurists offer a wide range of rejuvenating and revitalizing services, including customized facials, chemical peels, microdermabrasion, anti-aging facials, dermaplaning, brow tinting, eyelash extensions and fills, manicures, pedicures, and massage treatments. Unlock your inner radiance with their carefully curated selection of professional-grade products from renowned brands like Image Skincare, Bare Republic, Grande Cosmetics, and Rhonda Allison Skincare. Step into their tranquil oasis and experience the epitome of relaxation and rejuvenation in the heart of downtown Christiansted.

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21 things to do

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great rum**

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a tour of the
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distillery

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booking info

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Cruzan® Rum, 40% Alc/Vol. ©2024 CRUZAN International, Chicago, IL USA




As you explore St Croix stop and take a brewery tour at *Leatherback Brewing*, the first brewery on St Croix. Sample Leatherback's fresh brewed lager and IPAs at bars all over the island. They use local ingredients to make small-batch craft beers. Sample the seasonal beers, come for some live music and check out the cool merchandise. Enjoy lunch, all while sipping on some cold suds! Crab races and live music on Friday, a perfect way to end the week.

Cruzan Cowgirls offers horseback riding trips on the West end. Meet at Cowboy Beach and enjoy a leisurely ride through the rainforest and along the beach at the end of the day. The ride starts at the beach with a trail ride through lush trees along winding, shaded trails. A long walk along this white sandy beach and cool water may make the horses go for a swim. Hang on and enjoy the ride. All proceeds benefit Island Horse Rescue and the care of these rescued horses.

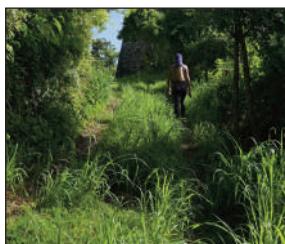
The *Cruzan Rum Distillery and Visitor's Center*, was founded in 1760 with the establishment of the land Cruzan Rum is made on today—Estate Diamond. The island of St. Croix and generations of the Nelthropp family, have influenced each flavor and left their mark on every barrel and batch. Visit the Cruzan Rum Distillery and see why Cruzan Rum was voted the #1 Best Caribbean Rum Distillery in the USA TODAY 10 Best Readers' Choice Travel Awards for 2023.

Other cultural explorations include taking in a *Caribbean Community Theatre* production. This local theatre group, located right outside of Christiansted, has staged top-quality plays and musicals for over 40 years. These top notch shows usually run for three weekends with a matinee on the first two Sundays. It's a wonderful cultural experience in a large air-conditioned theater for the whole family.

things to do

22

hiking



Windsor Trails Experience this 2.6 mile loop trail near Salt River. A moderately challenging route, this trail is great for hiking and mountain biking, and it's unlikely you'll encounter many other people while exploring. Dogs are welcome and may be off-leash in some areas.



Anally Bay Tide Pools The 2.7 mile Carambola Trumbull Trail is a mostly shaded moderately steep hike in lush forest from Carambola Resort Parking Lot to Anally beach. This is a dangerous hike requiring rock climbing and flat sea conditions.



Ham's Bluff Lighthouse Trail Moderate steep out and back trail with steady incline. Road to parking is rough but any car should be able to reach this trail. This is a great trail with excellent views of Maroon Ridge.



Creque Dam Rainforest This mile long hike is flat with a slight incline as you walk alongside the gut to the dam and beyond. The shaded road and ample trees and vegetation make this walk quite enjoyable.



East End Trails The hike to Jack & Isaac Bay Preserve Trail starts right before Pt Udall. There are a few parking spots or you can park along the road. Just a short down-hill hike to these pristine beaches on well kept gravel paths.



North Shore Trails Mt Eagle hike starts at West Scenic across from tower road. This one mile hike takes you to the top. Also Cane Bay Campground offers a 1.5 mile loop uphill to a suspension bridge and back down to the beach.

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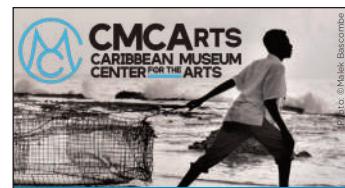
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Hiking on St. Croix offers diverse trails leading to secluded beaches, historic ruins, lush rainforests, and panoramic viewpoints like Goat Hill and Ham's Bluff, with popular options including the Jack & Isaac Bay Preserve Trail and the Carambola Trumbull Trail to Anally Bay Tide Pools. Join local hiking groups on one of their planned hikes. Most hikes can be enjoyed without a guide and have varying difficulty and rewarding coastal views.

The St. Croix Hiking Association sponsors monthly hikes and activities, and is open to all interested participants. Information can be found on their website <https://www.stcroixhiking.org>.

The Virgin Islands Trail Alliance Corporation (VITAL) is a non-profit organization in St. Croix for the purpose of creating multi-use pathways across the island and expanding throughout the territory for the benefit of the people of the Virgin Islands. More specifically, VITAL was created to identify, plan, develop, build and manage (in some cases) a system of interconnecting multi-use pathways, green spaces, parks, walking paths, and biking trails in the Virgin Islands. See all the trails and hikes on their website <https://vitrails.org>.

23 stay awhile



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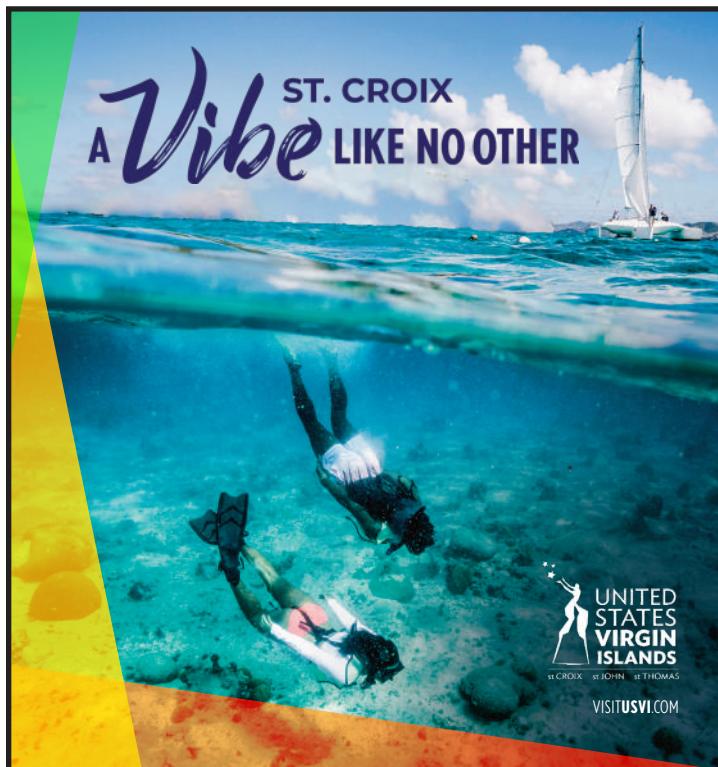


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real estate

While you're exploring St. Croix, the greatest treasure you may uncover could be your future home. Perhaps you have day-dreamed about what it would be like to live on an island full or part-time. Maybe you desire a vacation home to share with friends and family, or it's time for an investment property. Spend a day exploring the amazing real estate deals St. Croix has to offer.

Diane K Burns Group in Frederiksted will help you to find your dream house or property. With over 35 years in the real estate and construction business, she will get you through the bushes, up the hills and see your dream spot all the way to the finish. Need help renovating a fixer upper or building from scratch? Let her experience ease you through the building process. Her team can find a great rental for your business or vacation needs and will show you prime locations all over the island.

Christie's International Real Estate STX, experience matters! Over 38 years of buying and selling real estate in the US Virgin Islands. From luxury beachfront estates to charming island retreats, Christie's International Real Estate U.S. Virgin Islands combines deep local knowledge with world-class marketing and the prestige of the Christie's network.

Visiting on vacation, attending an event or want to stay awhile to see if you like the island life? Larger hotels offer the amenities of poolside fun, restaurants and lively guest life. If you are visiting or sharing a holiday with friends and family, the next time you visit our shores consider renting a villa or house. St. Croix offers a few unique boutique hotels. Need a large house for a destination wedding or a beach side bungalow for two? St. Croix has many properties from east to west.



**THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
GOVERNMENT HOUSE**



A MESSAGE FROM GOVERNOR ALBERT BRYAN JR.

Welcome to our beautiful Virgin Islands of the United States. Our islands are unique in what they each offer, and our communities are filled with people who are proud of our storied history. While visiting, I encourage you to immerse yourself in our culture and explore the unique offerings of all four Islands that make up our paradise.

St. Croix, the largest of the U.S. Virgin Islands, sits to the south of our small island chain and is renowned for its pastoral landscapes, Danish architecture, and historical landmarks. St. Croix is also a popular destination for diving enthusiasts with its offshore wrecks and unbelievably beautiful underwater reefs. Be sure to visit the historic towns of Frederiksted and Christiansted and indulge in St. Croix's renowned art and delicious culinary scenes.

St. John is one of the smaller U.S. Virgin Islands and conservation center of the territory. It is best known for its pristine beaches and the attractions within the Virgin Islands National Park, which occupies more than half the island. The lands in the Virgin Islands National Park shelter migrant birds, and the mangroves support corals and anemones. As with all the Virgin Islands, you will find that St. John provides a rich mix of our culture and history.

St. Thomas is our business and shopping center and the seat of government. Charlotte Amalie is the capital town of the U.S. Virgin Islands and is one of the busiest ports of call for cruise ships in the Caribbean. In addition, St. Thomas is among the most popular destinations in the Caribbean for sailing and yachting enthusiasts.

Water Island is the smallest of the U.S. Virgin Islands and rests just off the coast of St. Thomas. It is primarily residential but offers fun attractions like Honeymoon Beach and quaint accommodations. The island can be reached by ferry from the Crown Bay Marina or other vessels.

As the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, both Treganza Roach and I wish you a warm, fun-filled stay, and please accept our invitation to return often to our paradise.

Sincerely,

Albert Bryan Jr.
Governor

On St. Croix's many quiet beaches and hidden hiking trails, you may at times feel like the first explorer on the island, though Christopher Columbus claimed that title in 1493. Columbus and crew sailed into Salt River on his second voyage to the New World. They were met with hostility by the island's native inhabitants, who perhaps wanted to keep St. Croix the Caribbean's best-kept secret even then.

The island's first known inhabitants were the Igneri, Taino and Carib Indians. Archaeologists have dated evidence of Indian life on the island back to 2500 B.C. The Tainos called the island "Ay Ay," meaning "The River." To the Caribs, it was "Cibuguiera," or "Stony Land." Columbus named it Santa Cruz, meaning Holy Cross, which the French later adapted to their language; hence, St. Croix. Since that time, the U.S. Virgin Islands have been popular pieces of real estate for the world's nations. Seven flags have flown above these coveted plots of paradise. Spain, Holland, England, the Knights of Malta, France, Denmark and the United States have all laid claim to the islands.

The Danes settled Christiansted in 1735, constructing much of the beautiful architecture still seen today. Frederiksted, on the West End, was settled 17 years later. Explore the forts in each town to learn more about the Danish influences on St. Croix.

Sugar plantations, powered by the backbreaking work of slaves, led to most of the island's development in the 1700s. Today, the St George Village Botanical Gardens nestled in an old plantation offers visitors a glimpse into what St. Croix was like in the days when sugar was king and slavery was an unfortunate reality. On July 3, 1848, freedom was declared in Frederiksted. In 1878, labor riots partially burned Frederiksted and is known as "Fire Burn."

The United States acquired the Virgin Islands in 1917 from the Danish Government. eight years ago we celebrated our 100th Anniversary of the Transfer of the U.S. Virgin Islands from Denmark to a US Territory. Initially, the Navy was assigned the role of governing the territory. The U.S. Virgin Islands is now governed by a 15-member legislature, a governor and lieutenant governor, and its own Supreme Court system. St. Croix's economy has seen many ups and downs in its history. When sugar production decreased, so did the island's wealth. Agriculture was once a booming business when St. Croix was known as "The Breadbasket of the Caribbean." Currently a small number of farmers still cultivate the island and restaurants specialize in local foods.

When the oil and alumina industries landed on St. Croix's South Shore in the 1960s and '70s, so did thousands of workers from Puerto Rico, down island and the U.S. mainland, bringing a boost to the island's population and economy. The oil refining came to a halt a few years ago and was re-established as an oil storage facility. Recently the closed oil refinery was bought and renamed Limetree Terminals with plans to re-open and start refining oil in the next few years. This is a large project and the infrastructure around opening the refinery again is a huge endeavor. You'll see signs of this progress if you travel along the road that borders the huge complex.

Rum production and tourism are still St Croix's main source of income. Events such as Carnival, Taste of St. Croix, the St Pats Parade and Mardi Croix are reasons to come back again and again.

As a result of its patchwork history, the island remains a melting pot of cultures, bringing people of African, Middle Eastern, Hispanic, East Indian and European descent together, living quite peacefully on just 80 square miles of land.

25 try watersports

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Cane Bay Dive Shop has two locations on the island for dive certification classes and dive tours. Find them on the Frederiksted waterfront and at Salt River Marina. Their boat leaves from the Salt River Marina to take you to North Shore reefs that run from Christiansted all the way West past Salt River to Cane Bay and North Star. North Shore is home to dozens of well-known dive sites. This is a great dive shop to do an intro dive or resort course dive. Everyone will have fun trying this new sport (we heard they give you warm cookies between two-tank boat dives). Join them for sunset happy hour monthly. Give them a call for details about mermaid dives and photo shoots.

Mermaid Adventures provides tours using some of the latest Sea-Doo Explorer X Underwater propulsion scooters made. At speeds up to 3.3 mph (5.3 km/h) pulling you through the water, conserve your swimming energy and get the most coverage during your snorkeling time. Ask them about meeting at different great snorkel spots around the island.

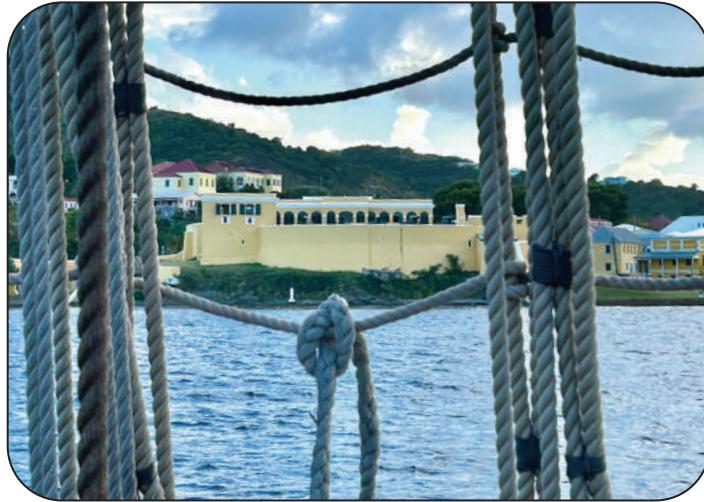
Come enjoy an educational and fun snorkel tour and effortlessly see the most aquatic life that you can. These scooters are ideal for beginners to expert snorkelers and they will meet you at a variety of beaches.

The Denis Sullivan sails the warm waters of St Croix each winter and offers sunset sails and special events November through March. This large ocean schooner has a lively crew that will let you help hoist the sails and serve you a rum punch after. What a great experience to be on this tall ship while sailing towards the breathtaking sunset. The price to sail is well-spent, as your donation is supporting the World Ocean Sailing School program.

Wanna catch fish?? Look no further than Lioness Sportfishing! Inshore or offshore fishing, they do it all! Welcome aboard the 42 ft Viking Sportfisher, the largest, driest boat in the St. Croix charter fleet. The native born captain and crew have the local knowledge and experience to consistently put our clients on quality fish! Also, they are a very family friendly operation and love putting kids on fish. Voted 3rd best charter in the nation by USA Today, Lioness Sportfishing is your ticket to an epic day on the water!

try watersports

26



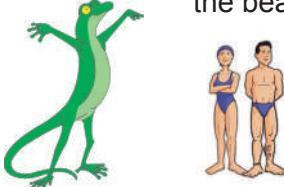
Down South Charters will take you out for the day, doing what ever you want to do! Fishing, snorkeling, sunset or just sightseeing! Dont fight the crowds, get your own boat for the day. Pack a cooler and explore the many beaches around the island by boat.

Caribbean Sea Adventures offers an unparalleled array of boats and excursions, ensuring there's a perfect match for every adventurer. From intimate sailboats to luxurious dayboats, and from thrilling watersports to serene island-hopping, our diverse fleet and expertly curated experiences cater to all tastes and preferences.

In Cane Bay you can get a ride on a banana boat from the beach to Carambola beach at *Sprat Net Watersports*. You can also rent kayaks, stand up paddle boards and boogie boards. Or just rent a chair and umbrella and relax on the beach and enjoy a frozen drink from the bar.

Lyric Sails offers Sunset Sails w/ live music, unique private day charters and Sunday Funday sails sailing out of Frederiksted, on the amazing 63ft custom sailing catamaran, *Jolly Mon*! *Jolly Mon* is a Peter Spronk built custom sailing catamaran, originally named *Che Cje* (pronounced Chay Cha). She is 63ft long and sports a beam of 24ft and a 3ft draft. She was built in 1968 in St. Maarten—originally for transatlantic racing which she held several records in throughout the '70s. She was then bought by a smuggler who lived off of Key Biscayne, FL in the '80s. In the mid-nineties, the US government caught up with him and seized the boat and sold her at auction. She was bought by Miles and Mark Sperber who retired her from her tough, previous life and turned her into a charter boat in St Croix. *Lyric Sails* officially purchased *Jolly Mon* in December 2015!

“How to be Cool”-
wearing a bathing suit at
the beach



“How NOT to be Cool”-
wearing a bathing suit
while strolling
around town

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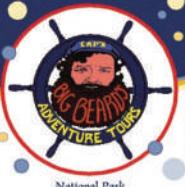
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buck island

Your day at Buck Island should be relaxing. Try a full-day BBQ on the motor yacht Adventure or sailboat Renegade. *Big Beard's Adventure Tours* is located right off the boardwalk. On the full-day trip, they provide the snorkel gear, drinks and a yummy lunch prepared on a private beach by the captain and crew. Those guys and gals can cook! Half-day trips are also available morning and afternoon and as well as end-of-day sunset sails.

Captain Heinz on *Tesoro Charters* and his son, Captain Carl on *Dragonfly* have sailed Buck Island Charters from Green Cay Marina to Buck Island for over 45 years. “Dragonfly” their 38-foot Trimaran is available for exclusive charter and can take parties of up to 8. The father/son sailors can handle a small or large crowd and are family friendly. Pack a cooler and lunch and meet them at the Green Cay Marina for a full or half-day of fun at Buck Island or enjoy a relaxing sunset sail.

Buck Island Underwater National Monument is 6,000 feet long and a half a mile wide, uninhabited, and rises 328 feet above sea level. St. Croix's premiere snorkeling site, with mounds of haystack coral, colored coral gardens, angelfish and crustaceans peeking from every hole. Buck Island Underwater National Monument includes the 176-acre island and 18,839 acres of submerged land and coral reef system. First protected in 1948, the area was proclaimed a national monument in 1961 and expanded in 2001 to preserve one of the finest marine gardens in the Caribbean Sea. Endangered and threatened species living and nesting here include the brown pelican, least tern and hawksbill, leatherback and green sea turtles. Unique elkhorn coral patch reefs, resembling haystacks, are scattered along the outside of the reef and rise nearly to the water's surface from the seabed as much as 40 feet below. Snorkelers encounter colorful parrotfish, French angelfish and blue tangs.

Buck Island has a hiking trail that is rough and will take you to the top of the hill for a view back towards St Croix or on a clear day, to St Thomas. Take a walk along the beach. At one end, the dock for the National Park and the other, shallow water where pelicans dive for lunch and if you're lucky, you can see the baby sharks playing near the reef. They are about one- to two-feet long and you will see a fin pop up as they chase each other and feed on the small sprat fish that thrive in the shallow, warm water. Don't be afraid of them, but we wouldn't recommend swimming with them.

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where's the beach?

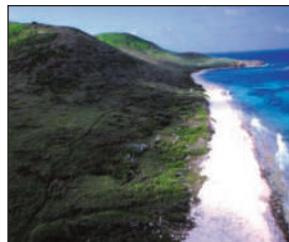
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Cane Bay, located on North Shore Road Rt. 80 offers a wide, white sandy beach with moderate surf, great for diving and snorkeling. Restaurants and a dive shop nearby make this area a great place to hang out and sunbathe.



Buck Island Beach is a short boat ride on a Buck Island Charter to the best snorkeling with the only underwater trail in the National Park Service. West beach is relatively quiet during the week with a large local flotilla on weekends.



Jack's & Isaac's Bays on the Southeast end are a nice hike to excellent long, sandy beaches and easy snorkeling. Adventurous and remote, but well worth the trek for the seclusion. Don't drive down to these beaches! It's too steep and you won't get out.



Southgate Coastal Reserve on the East end has a long, gentle beach perfect for a long walk and calm enough for a paddle board or kayak trip. Green Cay sits in the middle of this bay beckoning for a visit around her shore.



Rainbow Beach is just North of Frederiksted on Rt. 63. This West end beach is known for being the tourist hang out and for renting kayaks, jet ski's, chairs and umbrellas. Fabulous restaurant on site as well.



For some local color, **Salt River Beach** on Rt. 801 is a favorite local beach hangout that is sunny and natural. **Cramer's Park Beach** on Rt 82 to Point Udall offers a long white sand beach.



Three **large resorts** anchor St. Croix. Though none of the resorts are huge, each has great beaches with water-sports and restaurants. Golf courses around the island near these resorts challenge the most worldly traveller.



"Condo Row" on Rt. 752 West of Christiansted has wide, sandy beaches, dotted with volleyball nets and restaurants. Great for sunbathing and relaxing, walking or running.



Dorsch Beach, a local favorite, on Rt. 71 South of Frederiksted, offers wide white sandy beaches and good snorkeling. Small hotels and a restaurant are nearby and the beach is a great place for kayaking, snorkeling and sunbathing.



Protestant Cay in Christiansted Harbor is home to a hotel and restaurant. Catch a short ferry ride on the waterfront near the King Christian Hotel to this quaint little island located in the middle of the Christiansted harbor.



Sandy Point has the longest, whitest, softest sand on the island. It is a bird and wildlife habitat where hundreds of Leatherback turtles nest and hatch every spring, so access is restricted to Cruise Ship days, Saturday and Sunday 10am-4pm and is closed April-Sept.



West End Beaches located on Rt. 63 & Rt. 71, where restaurants, hammocks and beach chairs invite...these are the perfect beaches to hang out at all day, listen to live music and then enjoy a sunset.

29 getting around

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KEEP LEFT



Hints to keep you on the left.
"Keep your shoulder to the shoulder".
Pay extra attention at intersections and in parking lots.

Use the St. Croix Explorer "pull out" map and try your hand at driving on the LEFT! It takes about a day to go around the island with stops for shopping and eating. Some of the roads are rough. Go slow and enjoy the views. If you get a little lost, follow the Explorer Map or download the QR code for an accurate map on your phone. Be careful while driving on the LEFT! We want you to enjoy yourself safely on vacation. Always have a designated driver when drinking the local rum and vodka. KEEP LEFT and you will have a great time exploring. We encourage you to rent a car, SUV, minivan or 4x4 Jeep.

Find almost any type of vehicle to rent at *Centerline Car Rentals* located in Christiansted, at the Airport and in LaReine. Locally owned, ask them about long term or large vehicle rentals.

Well-known chains like *Budget* and *Hertz* have counters conveniently located at the airport. They have all types of vehicles, from vans and convertibles to pickup trucks and jeeps.

Olympic Rent a Car is located on the edge of Christiansted. Their staff will pick you up in their airport shuttle van and bring you to your vehicle. Ask about *Olympic Rent a Car's* three-day special.

Joseph Taxi Tours is available to take you to dinner or on a tour around St. Croix to see historic and other significant sites. With friendly, prompt service and many taxis in his fleet, no party is too big or too small.

The *St. Croix Taxi Association* drivers are happy to drive you and your friends to and from dinner and to give you an island tour in their air-conditioned Taxi Vans. Consider having them pick you up for that early morning flight. It makes getting back to "real" life a little easier.

Riding a taxi van or public bus is a great way get from town to town and to meet locals. To hail a taxi van, hold up your index finger while standing at a bus stop or street corner. Jump on in! Just find a place to sit and have fun. The route is between Christiansted and Frederiksted along Centerline Road (a.k.a. Queen Mary Highway).

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calendar of events

30

JANUARY

1 New Years Day
 1 Crucian Christmas Festival
 Jouvert' Sunrise
 Festival Village-Latin Night
 2 Crucian Christmas Festival-
 Children's Parade 10am
 2 Festival Village- Reggae Night
 7pm-1am
 3 Crucian Christmas Festival
 Adults Parade 11am
 3 Festival Village- Last Lap Village
 Night 7pm-1am & Fireworks 9pm
 6 Three Kings Day
 8 The Simone L. Palmer Concert
 Series
 10-12 Caribbean Community Theatre
 15 Art Thursday in Christiansted
 17-19 Caribbean Community Theatre
 St. Croix Scenic 50 Mile Run
 18 Martin Luther King Jr Day

FEBRUARY

6-8 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Musical
 7 Mardi Croix Parade North Shore
 12 The Simone L. Palmer Concert
 Series
 13 Valentines Jump Up
 13-15 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Musical
 14-16 St. Croix Agricultural and Food Fair
 16 Presidents' Day
 20 Art Thursday in Christiansted
 20-22 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Musical

MARCH

12 The Simone L. Palmer Concert
 Series
 20-22 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Comedy
 14 St Patrick's Day Parade
 19 Art Thursday in Christiansted
 21 Tidy up for Turtles beach clean up
 @ Cane Bay-Mutiny Island Vodka
 27-29 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Comedy
 28 Holy Thursday
 29 Good Friday
 31 VI Transfer Day

APRIL

5 Easter
 6 Easter Monday
 10 The Simone L. Palmer Concert
 Series
 16 Art Thursday in Christiansted
 17-20 St Croix International Regatta-
 SCYC

MAY

2 Cinco de Mayo @ Blues Backyard
 BBQ-Live Music
 10 Mother's Day
 17-19 Caribbean Community Theatre
 21 Art Thursday in Christiansted
 24-26 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Play
 23 Leatherback Brewery 6th Anniver-
 sary Party
 25 Memorial Day

JUNE

1 Women Race Christiansted 5pm
 6 STX Pride- Pride Parade in
 Frederiksted
 19 Juneteenth
 12-14 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Comedy
 21 Father's Day
 20-21 Beachside Cafe Drag Show
 19-21 Caribbean Community Theatre
 Comedy

JULY

3 Emancipation Day-Frederiksted
 3 Fort to Fort- Emancipation Walk
 4 Independence Day-Fireworks in
 Frederiksted
 11 Krewe de Croix-Strand on Fire
 Hot Sauce Competition
 12 30th Annual Mango Melee at
 St George Village Botanical
 Gardens 11am-5pm
 27 Hurricane Supplication Day

AUGUST

19 Book Club at Undercover Books

SEPTEMBER

5 Beachside Cafe Drag Show
 7 Labor Day
 25 Day of Remembrance of
 Murder Victims

OCTOBER

12 Virgin Islands-Puerto Rico
 Friendship Day
 25 Hurricane Thanksgiving Day

NOVEMBER

1 Liberty Day-D.Hamilton Jackson
 Day
 8 Coral Reef Swim-Buck to Buc
 11 Veterans Day
 19 Art Thursday in Christiansted
 20 Serenade on Strand STK band
 26 Thanksgiving
 26 Thanksgiving Buffet at The Bucca-
 neer Resort Terrace Restaurant
 27 Holiday Jump Up
 27-29 Crucian Coconut Festival

DECEMBER

4 Limpricht park Tree Lighting
 5 Food & Wine Experience
 5 St George Village Botanical
 Gardens-Holiday of Lights-all
 month
 10 The Simone L. Palmer Concert
 Series
 11 Santa Claus at Undercover Books
 12 Christiansted Boat Parade
 14 Coquito Festival at Chicken Shack
 17 Art Thursday in Christiansted
 25 Christmas
 25 Christmas Buffet at The Buccaneer
 Resort Terrace Restaurant
 26 Crucian Christmas Festival -
 Princesse Pageant 5pm
 27 Crucian Christmas Festival -
 Calypso Monarch 8pm
 28 Crucian Christmas Festival -
 Miss St Croix 6pm
 29 Festival Village Open-Cultural
 Night 6pm-1am
 30 Festival Village-Soca Monarch
 7pm-1am
 31 Crucian Christmas Festival -
 Food Fair 11am
 31 Crucian Christmas Festival
 Old Years Celebration 7pm-1am
 31 New Year's Eve @ The Buccaneer
 Resort with fireworks

**All events are subject to change
 without notice. Call the business or
 event to get updates.*



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St. Croix EXPLORER

LOCAL'S GUIDE TO ST CROIX

2026 ROAD MAP