

CARIBBEAN SOUL VACATIONS · ST. JOHN, USVI

THE PLANNING GUIDE

St. John, done right.

How to get here, which beach to hit on which day, where to eat, what to pack, and how to skip the rental car entirely. From a team that lives on the island.

CHAPTER 1

Getting here

There is no airport on St. John. You fly into St. Thomas (STT), take a short taxi to the ferry, ride 20 minutes across Pillsbury Sound, and step off in Cruz Bay. The whole trip from plane door to villa is usually under two hours.

STEP 1

Fly to St. Thomas (STT)

Nonstop flights run from Atlanta, Charlotte, Miami, Fort Lauderdale, Orlando, New York, Newark, Boston, Philadelphia, Washington, Chicago, Dallas, Houston and Denver (some seasonal). No passport needed for U.S. citizens.

STEP 2

Airport to the ferry

Red Hook is 30 to 40 minutes from the airport and has the hourly passenger ferry. Charlotte Amalie downtown is closer but runs fewer boats. Any St. Thomas taxi will run you to the dock. Villa Man picks up on the St. John side.

STEP 3

Ferry to Cruz Bay

Red Hook ferries leave on the hour, roughly 6am to midnight, about 20 minutes crossing. Car barges also run from Red Hook if you are bringing a rental.

STEP 4

Cruz Bay to your door

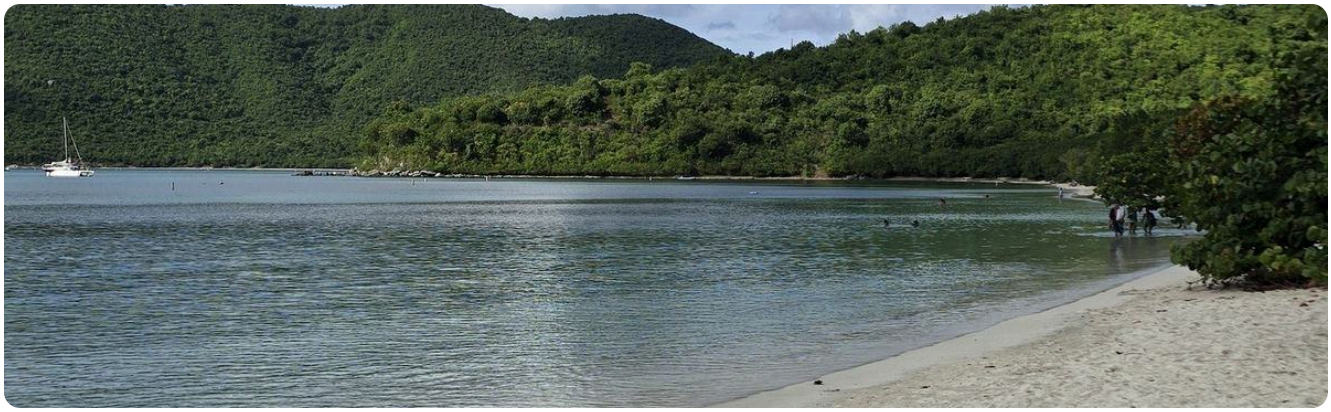
Taxis wait at the dock. Most Caribbean Soul villas are 5 to 15 minutes from town. Book a Villa Man pickup and we will be at the dock when your ferry lands, with your groceries already thought about.

Stay & Ride

Getting from the ferry dock to your villa, the beaches and dinner just got a whole lot easier. Add a Villa Man driver to any Caribbean Soul stay: Cruz Bay ferry pickup, beach drop-offs, dinner runs, island tours, all on St. John. No rental car, no parking hunt, no driving after dinner. Instant fares at villamantaxiandtours.com.

CHAPTER 2

Beaches, by day



Two-thirds of St. John is Virgin Islands National Park, and the North Shore beaches sit one after another along Route 20. Go early (before 10am) for parking and calm water, or let us drop you and skip parking entirely.

BEACH	BEST FOR	KNOW BEFORE YOU GO
Trunk Bay	The postcard, underwater snorkel trail	$5 park fee, busiest 10 to 2, showers and snack bar
Maho Bay	Sea turtles, calm shallow water, kids	Roadside parking fills by 9:30, food trucks across the road
Cinnamon Bay	Long walks, water sports rentals	Campground and restaurant on site
Hawksnest	Quick swim close to town	Small lot, shady pavilions
Francis Bay	Quiet, birdwatching boardwalk	Good late-day light, rarely crowded
Honeymoon & Salomon	Hike-in or boat-in seclusion	Lind Point trail from Cruz Bay, about 25 minutes
Salt Pond Bay	East End, Ram Head hike	10-minute walk from the lot, bring water

CHAPTER 3

A sample week

Day 1 · Arrive
Ferry in, settle into the villa, sunset on the deck, easy dinner in Cruz Bay.

Day 2 · Trunk & Hawksnest
Early start at Trunk Bay, snorkel the trail, lunch at the snack bar, afternoon at Hawksnest.

Day 3 · Maho & Annaberg
Turtles at Maho in the morning, food trucks for lunch, the Annaberg sugar mill ruins on the way home.

Day 4 · Boat day
Half or full-day charter to the BVI or around the island. We can arrange it.

Day 5 · East End
Coral Bay, Salt Pond, the Ram Head hike, Skinny Legs for a burger. Let a driver take this one.

Day 6 · Slow day
Pool morning, Honeymoon Beach hike-in, a long dinner in town.

Day 7 · Depart
Villa Man to the Cruz Bay dock, ferry to Red Hook, St. Thomas taxi to the airport. Allow 2.5 hours from villa door to gate.

Pack this
Reef-safe sunscreen, water shoes, a dry bag, a light rain layer, cash for food trucks and park fees, your own snorkel mask if you are picky.

CHAPTER 4

Where to eat



FINE DINING, RESERVE AHEAD

- **1864** at Estate Lindholm, hillside, book early
- **La Tapa**, Cruz Bay classic, essential reservation
- **Ocean 362**, waterfront sunset tables
- **Extra Virgin Bistro**, Italian done well
- **Morgan's Mango**, Caribbean flavors across from the park

CASUAL, WALK IN

- **Longboard**, poke and cocktails
- **Lime Inn**, local institution
- **Beach Bar**, feet in the sand
- **Skinny Legs**, Coral Bay burgers
- **Windmill Bar**, sunset and live music above Cruz Bay

Nobody wants to drive the hill roads after dinner. A Villa Man dinner run picks you up at the villa and brings you home when you are ready.

CHAPTER 5

Where to stay

Caribbean Soul Vacations manages a hand-picked collection of villas and suites around Cruz Bay, from a remodeled studio in town to a six-bedroom house that sleeps fourteen. Many have whole-house backup power so an island outage never touches your vacation. Book direct and you get the best rate, a real person on the phone, and rides arranged before you land.

Big groups

Villa Rotunda (6BR, sleeps 14), Villa SeaGate (5BR waterfront, Chocolate Hole)

Couples and small groups

Little Cay (2BR), Mango Breeze (3BR condo), Beautiful Morning at Grande Bay (3BR, walk to everything)

Families

Hale Lani, Villa Royce, Villa Sol Mate, Mystic Ridge, Tropical Seabreeze, Cay Syrah, Alondra's (beachfront)

Walk to town

Blue View at Mango Terrace, Cayo Sereno studio, Seagrape Vista suites

Ready to pick dates?

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