

International Sailing Guide



U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI) 10-17 June 2023



FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.FollowThatDreamSailing.com

(904) 468-3758

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YACHT LOCATION

Your sailing adventure begins about the yacht located at:

Compass Point Marina
St. Thomas, USVI

This location has electricity, Water, Toilets, Restaurant, Bar, Grocery Store and a Post Office
Facilities accept Visa, Mastercard, and AmEx

Embarkation time is 5:00 pm on Saturday, 10 June 2023

Cast off time is on Sunday, 11 June 2023

*the time will be assigned to us upon check in

Docking Time is prior to 8:00 am, Saturday, 17 June 2023

Disembarkation is 10:00 am, Saturday, 17 June 2023.

Baggage

Please only bring soft bags and not hard suitcases as they are hard to stow.

YOUR CREW

Your crew will consist of two individuals; both are USCG licensed captains, but one will serve as the charter captain and one as First Mate and Chef. If space is available, a 3rd Crew Member may be added to split the Chef and First Mate duties.

Charter Captain: Richard "Bud" Brasier

Captain Bud is our Chief Captain. He is a US Coast Guard licensed 100-ton captain with certifications from the American Sailing Association (ASA) in ASA101 - Basic Keelboat Sailing, ASA-103 Basic Coastal Cruising, ASA-104 Bareboat Cruising, ASA-105 Coastal Navigation, and ASA-114 Cruising Catamaran. Bud was the chief dive boat captain and Master Instructor for the scuba diving company that he and his wife owned in Hawaii where he would often captain 2 to 3 dive charters each day. Bud is a PADI Master SCUBA Instructor (if you want to learn how to dive or refresh your skills; ask him!), he holds a 5th degree black belt in Combat Hapkido, and is a proud Vietnam era US Air Force Veteran.



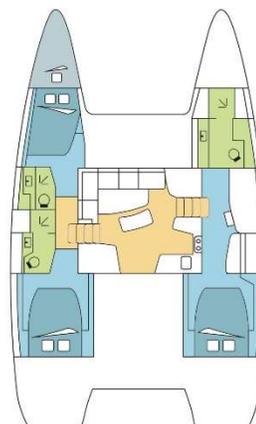
First Mate/Chef: Miriam “Mir” Zoole

Captain Mir is a US Coast Guard licensed 25-ton Captain with several ASA certifications. She is also a PADI Master Scuba Diving Instructor, and 5th degree black belt. Mir has worked for the Federal government on and off since 1984 and is currently counting down the final months until her retirement. Passionate about the ocean and the creatures that thrive on it, Mir enjoys being First Mate more than Captain as this gives her time to interact with the guests and discuss local history and the impact we have on our water environment. Her goal is to ensure you walk away with positive memories of your experience on Follow That Dream.



YOUR YACHT

We will set sail on a luxury catamaran, a Lagoon 42 – Owner’s Version, with 3 cabins and 3 heads. This yacht has a full galley (kitchen) and spacious room to relax and enjoy the sights of the USVI. The starboard hull comprises the “owner’s suite” and one couple will have the entire starboard hull to themselves (cabin, sitting area, full-sized shower, etc.).



HOW TO GET THERE

Plane

Cyril E. King Airport (STT) is located on St. Thomas and approximately 30 minutes from the marina. There are many direct flights daily from several US cities; most connecting through Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, Atlanta and San Juan.

Transfers From the Airport to the Marina

There is cab service available from the airport. Some companies will charge a per person rate and a luggage rate. We recommend arranging your transfer a few days before your arrival.

You might want to consider renting a car if you are coming several days ahead of time – remember to DRIVE ON THE LEFT!

EXPENSES

The cost for the cruise is \$1,975 -\$2125 per person based on double occupancy (those in the owner's suite will pay more due to double amount of sleeping space). If you are single and would like your own cabin, that can be arranged; please note there is a premium for a private single room.

What is included with the cruise:

- The cost to charter the boat
- Your crew – Captain and First Mate are both US Coast Guard licensed Captains
- Marina Fee on first night
- Shared accommodations aboard the boat 5:00 pm, Saturday, 10 June – 9:00 am, Saturday, 17 June 2023
 - 2 persons per bed unless otherwise arranged
 - Unless otherwise noted, each cabin will have its own bathroom
 - No more than 6 people total including the crew
- Common Living Areas (cockpit, saloon, galley and deck space)

Expenses that will be shared equally by all members on board, including the crew:

- Docking Fees
- Water/Electric fees if not included in docking fees
- Fueling fees (both for the catamaran and the dinghy)
- Internet fees for the Catamaran
- Provisioning fees for shared meals on board
 - This includes food, drinks, delivery fee, service fee and gratuity
 - See section on provisioning for more detail

Expenses not included with the cruise:

- Transportation to/from St. Thomas
- Ground Transportation (taxis, buses)
- Hotel prior to or after the cruise
 - we recommend planning on arriving in St. Thomas prior to 2:00 pm on Saturday, June 10, 2023 – your crew will be there at least one day prior
- Sightseeing tours, activities, or rentals
- Rentals from the Marina of items to be used on the boat such as kayak, paddleboards, snorkeling gear
- Gratuities for your crew, dock hands, and other service individuals
- Scuba tanks/gear/lessons
- Trip insurance
- Medical expenses

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- Items purchased for your own use/comfort (souvenirs, toiletries, etc)
- Restaurant/Bar charges

PROVISIONING

Provisioning consists of food, beverages and shared supplies on board the boat; such as paper towels, toilet paper, saran wrap, trash bags, etc.

Your First Mate/Chef will provision the boat for you based on your input of what food you like, dislike, have allergies to, enjoy, and the availability. The chef will normally prepare the welcome dinner on board as well as all breakfasts. Typically, people enjoy eating out during their excursions but the chef will ensure there is food for lunches and dinners based on your input. The chef typically also will have dinner for the final night aboard and if the sail plan takes us to a location where dining out is not an option.

Your chef will contact you to make sure your preferences are on file but please note that not all items are available in all locations and substitutions will be made. Chef will also have plenty of snacks and drinks on board; alcoholic and non- alcoholic, and this will also come with your input.

Galley (kitchen) space is very limited on a boat; most boats do not come with a freezer or ice maker so be aware of some of these limitations. Meals will be shared by everyone on board; passengers and crew and these costs will be shared equally by everyone.

Toiletries should be brought by each individual; soap, shampoo, toothpaste, brush, hair products, etc. Please make sure you bring only plastic containers and small enough to fit into limited space. If you have a special snack you want; it might be best to bring that as well – but please check to make sure you can bring it with you through customs.

Provisioning fees will be charged ahead of time based on previous experience and the Chef will keep a running total of expenses not only for provisioning, but for other charges, such as docking and fueling. You may ask at any time for an accounting.

AREA GUIDE

Local Area Introduction – USVI

The marina on St. Thomas is situated perfectly for sailing the USVI. Sailing around St. Thomas and St. John is ideal for those seeking smooth, calm waters and a relaxed vacation; perfect for those who have sailed all their lives or are just getting started.

A USVI sailing cruise offers something for everyone. Experience idyllic beaches, open-air markets, secluded coves, vibrant nightlife, and delicious food. You'll also enjoy warm hospitality and equally warm waters.

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It goes without saying that the beaches, swimming, snorkeling and scuba diving in the crystal blue-green waters can't be missed on a USVI sailing charter. *Megan's Bay* on St. Thomas and *Hawksnest Beach* on St. John are just two of many spectacular spots. Your charter captain has consulted with locals who know the area and have recommended the best route to take and sights to see based on sea conditions, weather, and timing.

Top Things to Do in the USVI

We suggest you plan on spending more time in the USVI than just for the charter. This could be before or after your cruise; or both. Plan on being in St. Thomas by 2:00 pm on the first day of your cruise; you may want to come in the day before to relax and take in the sights. Your crew will plan to be there Friday to relax a bit and contact the marina for any last minute items that need attention.

While in the USVI; here are a few things to see and do:

1. Visit Charlotte Amalie on St. Thomas where you can take the Skyride to Paradise Point and see the bay below or go shopping and enjoy dozens of restaurants and bars.
2. The Islands are all about enjoying the water; enjoy the many activities these islands have to offer:
 - a. Snorkel
 - b. Scuba Dive – your crew are Scuba instructors and will be happy to help you get your diving certification – contact them at least 2-3 months prior to your charter
 - c. Jet Ski
 - d. Parasail
 - e. Or Lay out on the Beach and enjoy the scenery
3. Take the ferry or fly to St. Croix to experience the largest of the islands

There are numerous day trips to take and spectacular sights nearby if you plan to stay in USVI a bit longer. Bring your passport if you'd like to visit the British Virgin Islands.

While on your sailing experience, here are a few stops and things you might see and do:

1. Enjoy Christmas Cove; home to the famous Pizza Pi floating pizza kitchen
2. Lunch and sunbathing at Hawksnest or Trunk Beach and s top in Cinnamon Bay for some hiking or snorkeling
3. On St. John's east side, we'll stop in Coral Bay and relax at Lime Out; a floating Taco Bar
4. St. John's south side offers us quiet serenity and wonderful hiking opportunities at Lameshur Bay, Salt Pond Bay and Ram Head Trail
5. St. Thomas is home to the world renown Magen's Bay – voted the most beautiful beach in the US for many year's you can hike to the top of the surrounding hills and take photos from Drake's Seat
6. Dive for Lobster which can be added to the menu!

Basics about USVI

Currency: US \$

Voltage: 110V

Driving: On the LEFT

Internet/Cell Service

You will find free Wi-Fi in many restaurants and bars and we will have wi-fi capabilities on the boat; speeds will vary. Check with your carrier for coverage in the USVI. Most major carriers have the islands covered. Be careful about getting picked up by the British Virgin Islands which could be stronger than US signals while sailing; roaming charges may be incurred.

Regulations

Scuba diving is allowed in the USVI; both your Captain and First Mate are certified scuba instructors. If you wish to scuba dive, please make arrangements with the crew a minimum of 2 weeks prior to your cruise. If you are NOT a certified diver but would like to get your certification; please contact your crew 2 – 3 months ahead of your charter to ensure you have time to take the online instruction, do the pool instruction then go on your open water checkout dives prior to your cruise.

Fishing does NOT require a special license. If you would like to fish or catch lobster during your cruise, please contact your crew at least 2 weeks ahead of time. You will be responsible for the cost of the rental equipment as well as any special cleaning fee required by the charter company. Please make yourself familiar with protected areas around St. Thomas and St. John where fishing and lobstering are NOT allowed. Lobster can be harvested year round; no harvest of females with eggs and carapace minimum size is 3.5 inches.

Weather

During the winter (Nov-Mar) the average low temperature is 73F while the highs average at 83F. In April – Jun the temperatures rise to 75F lows and 85F highs. During the summer (Jul-Oct) temperatures are 78F lows and 88F highs.

The USVI have great weather conditions year-round with mild winters. The months with the heaviest rainfall are Sep-Nov which see an average of 6.5 inches of rainfall a month. The sea is warm enough to swim year round; averaging 79F Dec-Apr and 83F May-Nov.

Although hurricane season runs June – Nov; the greatest danger of tropical storms and hurricanes is Aug – Oct.

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