St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, U.S.  Port Review

To get the most from your shore excursion or your self-guided day on shore, ShoreFox provides you with useful information in this port review & port guide.

World Region
Caribbean / Bahamas / Florida

Time Zone
GMT -04:00

International Calling Code
+1 340

Languages
- English (official language)
- Spanish (widely spoken)

Currency
US Dollar

Police / Emergency Phone Number
911

Overview
The U.S. Virgin Islands is an unincorporated territory of the United States of America between the Caribbean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean. Together with the British Virgin Islands to the northeast, the territory forms the Virgin Islands archipelago. The islands' natural resources are sun, sand, sea, and surf.

St. Thomas is one of the world’s most heavily trafficked cruise ports. St. Thomas is known as the island with “something for everyone”. Due to its popularity, with up to 8 ships arriving on the same day, it’s best to plan your activities in advance so you can relax and enjoy this beautiful paradise.

St. John is the neighbour island. Frenchtown, with a lovely historic district, is an easy ferry ride. There is much to see and do outside of the crowded cruise terminal.

Cruise Ship Pier Location
Most cruise ships dock at Havensight Pier, the primary dock for cruise ships and some dock at Crown Bay. Both piers are about a 10 minute taxi ride to downtown Charlotte Amalie. If there are more than 6 ships in St. Thomas on the same day, additional cruise ships could be anchored in the harbour. All ships that tender drop their guests right in the heart of downtown Charlotte Amalie.

Taxi Transportation
Though they do exist, individual taxis are highly unusual. In most cases, you’ll be directed to a shared van or safari truck that’s heading in the vicinity of your destination. It’s perfectly normal for the vehicle to make multiple stops on the way as locals ask the driver to let them off. You’ll pay a set price per person. From Havensight to town is $5 per person; from Crown Bay to Charlotte Amalie is $4.
You can bargain for most things on the island, but the taxi and bus rates are regulated. Taxi rates are published by the Virgin Islands Taxicab Commission. Taxi rates are charged per person one way.

### Taxi Companies Contact Data

- **East End**, Tel.: +1 (340) 775-6974
- **Independent Taxi**, Tel.: +1 (340) 775-1006
- **Islander Taxi**, Tel.: +1 (340) 774-4077
- **Sunflower Bliss**, Tel.: +1 (340) 777-7343
- **V.I. Taxi Association**, Tel.: +1 (340) 774-4550
- **V.I. Taxi Radio Dispatch**, Tel.: +1 (340) 774-7457
- **Wheatley Taxi Service & Tours**, Tel.: +1 (340) 775-1959

### Water Taxi Transportation

Passenger ferries operate between St. Thomas (Charlotte Amalie & Red Hook) and St. John (Cruz Bay).

**St. Thomas (Charlotte Amalie) <> St. John**, Tickets cost $12 for an adult and $3.50 for a child, ages 2-11, each way. The ride is approximately 45 minutes. The ferry leaves St. Thomas at 10 am, 1 pm and 5:30 pm. The ferry returns from St. John at 8:45 am, 11:15 am and 3:45 pm. Tel.: +1 (340) 776-6282 or +1 (340) 776-6412.

**St. Thomas (Red Hook) <> St. John**, Tickets cost $6 for an adult and $1 for a child, ages 2-11, each way. The ride is approximately 20 minutes. The ferry leaves St. Thomas at 6:30 am, 7:30 am and then hourly from 8:00 am to midnight. The ferry returns from St. John at 6 am hourly until 11 pm. Tel.: +1 (340) 776-6282 or +1 (340) 776-6412.

### General Store Opening Hours

Stores on Main Street in Charlotte Amalie are open weekdays and Saturday 9 am to 5 pm. The hours of the shops in the Havensight Mall (next to the cruise ship dock) are the same, though occasionally some stay open later if there are a few cruise ships at the dock. You may also find some shops open on Sunday if a lot of cruise ships are in port.

### Service Locations

**Free wifi**

- **Bad Ass Coffee**, 5330 Yacht Haven Grande, Suite 108, Tel.: +1 (340) 775-8223
- **Hubbly Bubbly**, 5304 Royal Fortune Yacht Haven Grande, Tel.: +1 (340) 774-6652
- **Jen's Island Cafe**, 43-46 Norre Gade, Tel.: +1 (340) 777-4611
- **Senor Frog's**, 9015 Havensight Mall, Tel.: +1 (340) 777-FROG

**ATM**

St. Thomas has several banks with ATMs. There are waterfront locations for both Scotia Bank and 1st Bank.

### Tipping / Bargaining Habits

At restaurants bartenders and waiters expect a 10 to 15% tip, but always check your bill to see whether service is included. Taxi drivers expect a 15% tip, but only for private taxis.
Safety Advice

The island may seem like a paradise, but the crime rate is comparable to many large cities. Drug and other related crime can be a problem, but in general tourist areas are considered safe. As always, be aware of your surroundings and lock up your valuables.

Nice To Know

- The USVI use the same current as the U.S. mainland – 110 volts. All US appliances will work here.
- Dress is casual throughout St. Thomas, but cover up when you’re sightseeing or shopping in town; bare chests and bathing suit tops are frowned upon.
- Look to your left! Traffic in St. Thomas drives on the left side of the road, so be careful when crossing the street or renting vehicles.

Pharmacy / Hospital Contact Data

- **Medical Shoppe**, Havensight Mall, Charlotte Amalie, Tel.: +1 (340) 776-1235
- **Roy L. Schneider Hospital & Community Health Center**, 9048 Sugar Estate, Tel.: +1 (340) 776-8311
- **Sunrise Pharmacy**, Red Hook, Tel.: +1 (340) 775-6600
- **Doctor’s Choice**, Crown Bay, Tel.: +1 (340) 774-9825

Embassy / Consulate Contact Data

**British Consulate General Miami**, 1001 Brickell Bay Drive, Miami FL 33131, USA, Tel.: +1 (305) 400-6400

**Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany**, 100 N. Biscayne Blvd., Suite 2200, Miami, FL 33132-2381, USA, Tel.: +1 (305) 358-0290, Fax: +1 (305) 358-0307, email: info@miami.diplo.de

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