Accommodations

About 80 percent of accommodations across the Territory are open and accepting guests; other properties continue to repair or rebuild. In terms of traditional overnight accommodations (hotels, bed and breakfasts, resorts, timeshares, etc.) there are approximately 1,050 rooms available on St. Thomas, nearly 150 rooms on St. John, and around 600 units available on St. Croix. There are approximately 600 villa units and 200 charter yachts available on St. Thomas/St. John. On St. Croix, there are about 300 villa units. Conservatively, there are 830 Airbnb listings in St. Thomas, 250 in St. John, and 350 in St. Croix.

Hotels open for leisure guests include:

**St. Croix**
- Arawak Bay The Inn at Salt River
- The Buccaneer
- Chenay Bay Beach Resort
- Club Comanche Hotel St. Croix
- Club St. Croix Beach & Tennis Resort
- Colony Cove Beach Resort
- Company House Hotel
- Cottages by The Sea
- The Fred
- Holger Danske Hotel
- Hotel Caravelle
- Hotel on the Cay
- King Christian Hotel
- Kings Alley Hotel
- The Inn on Strand Street (formerly The Frederiksted Hotel)
- Mount Victory Camp Eco-Lounge
- The Palms at Pelican Cove
- Sand Castle on the Beach
- Sugar Beach Condo Resort
- Tamarind Reef Resort, Spa and Marina

**St. Thomas**
- At Home in the Tropics Bed & Breakfast Inn
- Bellavista Bed & Breakfast
- Bellavista Scott Hotel
- Blue Sandcastle Villas
- Bolongo Bay Beach Resort
- Bunker Hill Hotel
- Emerald Beach Resort
- Flamboyan on the Bay Resort & Villas at Magens Point
- Galleon House
- The Green Iguana
- Lindbergh Bay Hotel and Villas
- Mafolie Hotel & Restaurant
- Marriott Frenchman’s Cove
- Olga’s Fancy
- Pavilions and Pools Villa Hotel
- Point Pleasant Resort
- Sapphire Beach Resort Condominiums

**St. John**
- Cruz Bay Hotel
- Estate Lindholm
- Gallows Point Resort
- Garden by the Sea
- Grande Bay Resort
- Sea Shore Allure
- St. John Inn
- Stone Post Estate
- The Westin St. John Resort Villas

For hotel updates, visit: www.usviupdate.com

The Ritz-Carlton, St. Thomas is set to reopen in December 2019 following a period of extensive enhancements. The all-encompassing $100 million project includes fully reimagined and redesigned public spaces, 180 rooms and suites, an event and meeting space, and dining venues inclusive of a new culinary concept.

Managed by Aimbridge Hospitality, the flagship Marriott Frenchman’s Reef on St. Thomas is expected to reopen in Spring 2020 as two distinct brands. In addition to the Marriott brand, the Morning Star section of the development will be branded as an Autograph Collection.

This winter, Carambola on St. Croix is expected to make guest rooms available for booking, before an extensive upgrade and refurbishment beginning in the Spring.

Divi Carina Bay Resort & Casino will reopen in Summer 2020, with 197 brand-new reconstructed accommodations.
**Airlift**

Air capacity to St. Croix is ahead of pre-storm levels, while seat capacity to St. Thomas is approximately 80 percent of the pre-storm level. As additional accommodations inventory comes back online in 2019, St. Thomas should reach its full complement of pre-storm capacity later this year. Into St. Croix, there is nonstop service from Atlanta, Charlotte, Fort Lauderdale, Miami and San Juan. Into St. Thomas, there are nonstop flights from Atlanta, Boston, Charlotte, Fort Lauderdale, Miami, Newark, New York, Orlando, Philadelphia, San Juan and Washington Dulles.

Options for intra-regional air service into the Territory include Seaborne Airlines, Cape Air, Air Sunshine, Seaflight and LIAT.

Spirit Airlines will continue four flights a week from Fort Lauderdale to St. Croix through November.

American Airlines has announced weekly year-round Saturday service to St. Thomas from Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW), and seasonal Saturday service from Chicago (ORD), beginning December 21, 2019. The Dallas-based carrier will also add a third daily flight between Miami and St. Thomas from December 19, 2019, and has extended the Charlotte-St. Croix flights from Saturday-only to daily during the peak Christmas period: December 18, 2019 to January 4, 2020.

United Airlines will serve the Chicago-St. Thomas market with weekly Saturday flights, beginning November 2, 2019.

**Virgin Islands Port Authority**

The Cyril E. King Airport (CEKA) terminal roof replacement is all but completed. Other terminal renovations currently in process include an overhaul of the lobby area restrooms; drywall, painting and other aesthetic repairs throughout the terminal; and improvements to the external lighting system. The flooring replacement is ongoing and two brand new 400-ton air conditioning chillers have been installed.

The domestic departure lounge will receive major upgrades. The restrooms in the domestic hold room will be completely revamped. VIPA is expanding the male and female restroom, adding more stalls with new fixtures, improving the lighting and replacing all the floor and wall tiles. There will also be a new family restroom to accommodate persons traveling with young children. The restroom renovations will take about three months to complete. During the remodeling, male travelers will be directed to use the restrooms in Gate 1 of the terminal.

The CEKA terminal ticketing/lobby area restroom renovations are completed.

The CEKA terminal domestic departure lounge restroom renovations should be completed by October 2019. The alternate restroom for male travelers is located in Gate 2.

At the Henry E. Rohlsen Airport (HERA) on St. Croix, the remaining interior drywall and painting at the terminal continues apace and the terminal roof repairs are expected to be completed shortly.

The new two-story parking garage at the Urman V. Fredericks Marine Terminal on St. Thomas is now open.

Repairs to the Charles F. Blair Seaplane Terminal located in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas commenced in August. The roof replacement will take two weeks to complete. The Blair Terminal houses the Seaborne seaplane operations.

Hurricane-damage repairs at Edward W. Blyden IV Marine Terminal began in August. Additional cosmetic repairs and upgrades will be installed throughout the facility, including the replacement of the metal roll-up doors and an enhanced security entry system for the marine office.
**Attractions and Activities**

New attractions and activities are being offered across the Territory, and include Pirates Treasure: A Shipwreck Museum, in St. Thomas, and Hanging with the Locals, an authentic experience on St. Croix that takes guests on a journey that includes visiting cultural and historical sites, and enjoying local food samplings. Couples, families and groups on St. Thomas and St. John can experience the Tropical Treasure Hunt Company, an attraction that customizes treasure hunts. Tree Limin’ Extreme Zipline in St. Thomas has also reopened.

On St. Croix, new and noteworthy food trucks (Bayside Kitchen, Cruzan Inclusion and Nidulari); a pretzel shop (Doughboy Pretzels); and a homemade, bean-to-bar, chocolate company (Mahogany Chocolate Company) are part of the island’s culinary offerings. Other new restaurants include Uptown Eatery, 17°/64° Kitchen + Bar, Club Comanche RAW, Smoke STX BBQ and Bottle Shop, as well as Braata and AMA at Cane Bay, which are owned and operated by Chef Digby Stridiron. Also, Leatherback Brewing Company on St. Croix offers finely crafted beer featuring local ingredients.

**Upcoming Noteworthy Events**

- October 25-27: 2019 Bush Cook, Chef Cook at Sejah Farms (St. Croix)
- November 10: Coral Reef Swim (St. Croix)
- November 10: Paddle in the Park (St. John)
- November 22-25: Paradise Jam - Men’s Tournament (St. Thomas)
- November 28-30: Paradise Jam - Women’s Tournament (St. Thomas)
- December 7: Ten Bay 10K Road Race (St. John)
- December 7 - January 4, 2020: Crucian Christmas Festival
- December 8: Beauty & The Beast Triathlon (St. Croix)
- December 14: St. Croix Christmas Boat Parade

**Carnivals/Festivals**

The U.S. Virgin Islands celebrates three major events: Crucian Christmas Festival (St. Croix), Virgin Islands Carnival (St. Thomas) and the St. John Festival. Each event features beauty pageants, music concerts, sporting events and food fairs, all displaying the rich history and cultural heritage of the Territory.

**Charlotte Amalie Revitalization**

The revitalization of St. Thomas’ historic Charlotte Amalie will soon include a new attraction - a mixed-use facility at the landmark “360 building” at Yacht Haven Grande Marina. In addition to new harbor transportation, Veterans Highway and Main Street improvement projects already underway, these developments will enhance the visitor experience, streamline movement in this important hub, and further stimulate economic activity, making the USVI even more attractive to visit, work and live.
Voluntourism
The Department of Tourism’s Purpose in Paradise program enhances the Territory’s network of community-based philanthropic activities and strengthens our ability to attract visitors in search of purpose-driven travel opportunities. The initiative pairs visitors who are interested in helping the Territory’s recovery efforts with local nonprofit organizations in need of assistance with specific projects.

In addition to the opportunity to participate in a purpose-driven project, Purpose in Paradise allows visitors who may not be able to donate time in person to contribute financially to the Territory’s recovery. Groups such as Friends of Virgin Islands National Park (St. John), the St. Croix Landmarks Society and the Family Resource Center in St. Thomas are just a few examples of the many 501(c)(3) organizations that are performing essential community-based work.

Interested volunteers can send inquiries to info@purposeinparadise.org

For more information, contact U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Tourism + 1 340 774-8784 or usvipressroom@marketplaceexcellence.com