

VIRGIN ISLANDS

We visited St. John National Park, our 43rd park, in November 2021. Two-thirds of the island of St. John is national park, making it a unique destination for visitors. Stunning white sand beaches are the highlight of this national park but the park features stories of native Taino people, enslaved and free Africans, and an incredibly unique culture.

St. John was ravaged by the one-two punch of hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017, and is still making a gradual comeback. The famous palm trees that lean out over the water were almost entirely destroyed. The Caneel Bay Resort remains uninhabitable but the surrounding beaches are still enjoyed by tourists! The white sand beaches, crystal clear waters provide perfect snorkeling conditions. Just remember to look - don't touch!

When visiting, remember to "Look But Don't Touch!" and enjoy the beautiful waters. Always wear your sunscreen and rash guards for extra UV protection and don't forget to bring an underwater camera! The Tradewinds (the Easterlies) dominate the weather in the Virgin Islands, blowing east to west across the tropical Atlantic. The winter tends to bring stronger winds and less rain, and the summer tends to bring more rain and lighter winds.



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OUR FAVORITE THINGS TO SEE AND DO

Getting around

The first day we took the car ferry from St. Thomas to St. John and were able to explore the park with our Jeep. The second day we chartered a sail boat with Max Charters to explore from the Sea.

Junior Ranger Badges

Acquire from Cruz Bay Visitors Center

Swim with turtles

in their natural habitat at Maho Beach

Smoothies and sandwiches at North Shore Deli to eat on the road!

Cruz Bay shopping

Many wonderful shops along the wharf and surrounding streets.

Suggested Hikes

Caneel Hill Trail, Reef Bay Trail, Cinnamon Bay Nature Loop And Accessible Trail

Tour the Catherineberg Ruins

Trunk Bay Sunset

WHERE TO STAY

We stayed at The Ritz Carlton St. Thomas which was fantastic!

HOW MANY DAYS WILL YOU NEED

I recommend a minimum of 2 days in order to explore the Virgin Islands National Park.

Lauren
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