



## Caribbean Cruising / Sailing Vacation in the British Virgin Islands!



Block Island Community Sailing is pleased to offer a one-week sailing, family cruise, on board a chartered 46' luxury monohull sloop sailing from Tortola to Virgin Gorda and back, stopping at some of the most spectacular cruising harbors in the British Virgin Islands.

- Onboard accommodations include three private staterooms, each with a double berth, private head, and hot shower. The vessel also features a full galley and main cabin with table seating for 8. Our guests can bring spouses or friends who will not only enjoy the perfect sailing conditions between the scenic islands of the BVIs but also partake in the snorkeling, fishing, beaching, Island exploring, and the lively night life at BVI's famous Marina / Beach Resorts with their tropical food, drinks, and calypso music.
- The charter yacht is fun to sail with dual helms, advanced chart plotter, roller reefing jib, anchor windlass, fold down transom / swimming platform, 12' foot dinghy with 15 hp motor, ice box with additional refrigeration, WIFI, phone charge plugs, and an additional hot shower on the enormous swim platform. Our guests all get turns sailing the yacht.



- The yacht comes fully provisioned with food and beverages as requested by our guests. Do you have a favorite tropical drink? You got it! Our Itinerary includes stops at Norman Island, Cooper's Island, Brandywine Bay, Trellis Bay, and Leverick Bay in Virgin Gorda, all scenic harbors which offer casual or fine dining along the cruise route.
- Charter / Sailing Cruise cost is all inclusive for all activities on the yacht. Travel, lodging, and meals ashore are not included. Cost is approximately \$2,500-\$2,700 per person, based on six participants, depending on the date of the booking and vessels available.
- Charter / Sailing Cruise departs "The Moorings" our Bareboat Charter base in Road Town, Tortola on Sunday at noon and returns there on the next Sun. at 11 AM.
- The Charter / Sailing Cruise is hosted by BICS as part of our regular sailing program with US Sailing Certified Cruising Instructor Henry duPont, as your Skipper / Cruise Director. Henry, who has a US Coast Guard Master Captain's License with Sailing Endorsement is very familiar with these waters and is on file as an "Expert Skipper" with the Charter Company.
- All the above comes with a special BICS guide to cruising which tells you what to bring, what to expect onboard, and how to enjoy one of the most memorable sailing vacations available anywhere. This offer is inexpensive because BICS is a nonprofit organization. Comparable live-aboard sailing cruises in the BVIs are considerably more expensive.

### **How to get to the British Virgin Islands**

There are direct flights from Providence, Boston, Hartford, or the NYC airports to San Juan Puerto Rico (SJU) on Jet Blue, and then fly InterCaribbean Airlines to Beef Island Tortola, (EIS). R/T flights cost Between \$600 and \$900.

### **Prospective Itinerary:**

**Saturday:** Depart PVD, BOS, or BDL airports to San Juan, Take a flight from San Juan to Beef Island Airport on Tortola. Spend Saturday Night in Road Town Tortola. We suggest staying at the Village Cay Marina Hotel, which is a mile from the Moorings, for \$205 a night.

**Sunday:** Morning: Explore Road Town, and shop to get last minute personal items. Lunch at the Moorings Bar and Restaurant in Wickham's Cay II while we provision the yacht. Afternoon: Sail to The Bight, Norman Island. Mooring Ball or Anchor. Explore "the Caves" a spectacular snorkeling site on Norman Island, relax on the boat, or visit Willie T's floating Bar / Restaurant.

**Monday:** Set sail to Peter, Salt, and Cooper's Island stopping for snorkeling at "The Indians" a world-renowned snorkel site. Stop and moor at Manchioneel Bay on Cooper's Island for the night. Cooper's Island has a lovely anchorage and the Cooper's Island Beach Club which has one of the island's nicest restaurant bars, well known for spectacular sunsets.

**Tuesday:** Morning: set sail to Virgin Gorda stopping at the magnificent "Baths" famous for its enormous house sized boulders, caves, tidal pools, and a beautiful beach. Afternoon: Set sail to North Sound on Virgin Gorda spending the night at our base, the Leverick Bay Resort

and Marina which has a nice beach bar, with live entertainment, a yacht provisioning market, showers, and fine dining.

**Wednesday:** Spend the day sailing in Virgin Gorda's North Sound. which has dozens of lovely anchorages and terrific attractions such as the Bitter End Yacht Club and Saba Rock Restaurant and Bar which has been completely rebuilt since Hurricane Irma. Spend the night in Leverick Bay at our Virgin Gorda base at the Leverick Bay Resort and Marina.

**Thursday:** Spend the day sailing in Virgin Gorda's North Sound. There are fabulous islands like Mosquito, Prickly Pear, and Eustacia, with lovely beaches, scenic hiking, and beautiful reefs to snorkel on. Stop for a cocktail at Saba Rock, a famous restaurant in North Sound. Spend the night back at our base at the Leverick Bay Resort and Marina.

**Friday:** Set sail for Trellis Bay, on Beef Island for shore attractions like an artist community.

**Saturday:** Sail to scenic Brandywine Bay on Tortola featuring a 1st class French Restaurant

**Sunday:** Return our yacht to "The Moorings" in Road Town by 11AM. Take an afternoon flight to Puerto Rico to transition back to the Northeast. Or spend a night in Condado, a beach resort near the San Juan airport or in historic Old San Juan to connect with an earlier Monday flight back to the NE.

### Some Links to Explore:

[BVI Sailing Itinerary \(bareboatsbvi.com\)](http://bareboatsbvi.com) (nice guide including dozens of links to each day's destinations)

[Moorings 46.3 - 3 Cabin Monohull | The Moorings](#) (our typical charter vessel)

[Leverick Bay Resort & Marina \(leverickbayvg.com\)](http://leverickbayvg.com) (our marina destination in North Sound, Virgin Gorda)

### How to Book Your Sailing Adventure:

Many charter weeks are still available, but they are booking up quickly. For the offered pricing, six persons are needed to sail on the Cruise but you can book with less. You can take the lead by selecting a week which fits into your schedule, and by inviting some of your friends to accompany you and if you have less than six, we can put you in touch with other BICS Members who also want to participate, so you can all realize this opportunity.

Call BICS at 401 741-5136 to get availability and definitive pricing for any given week and for the latest information on air travel to, and lodging in, Tortola.

### Comparable Virgin Island Sailing Cruises offered by others.

Blue Water Sailing school	\$4,995.00
Saint Thomas Sailing Center (resort based, not live-aboard cruising)	\$3,900.00
Offshore Sailing School at the Scrub Island Resort, BVI	\$5,430.00



## Frequently asked questions:

Q: Are the charter dates and itinerary destinations flexible?

A: Yes. The BVI cruising itinerary provided above is just an example. Any range of dates, including a 10-day sailing charter which could include Anegada, and Jost Van Dyke Islands, are possible. Check with BICS to for charter yacht availability and rates on your planned vacation schedule.

Q: Can I get sailing proficiency course certification while we are under way?

A: Yes, Block Island Community Sailing is an accredited US Sailing School, and our charter Captains are all certified sailing instructors for the US Sailing "Basic Keelboat" and "Basic Cruising" courses while underway.

Q: What are the live aboard arrangements like?

A: Our charter yacht has three private staterooms each with its own shower and head, plenty of ventilation, personal storage space, USB and DC automobile type charge outlets. The skipper bunks in the settee berth in the main cabin. If you like to sleep under the stars, comfortable cockpit cushions make that possible. On nights when we are docked in a marina slip, AC power and air conditioning is available on board. WIFI is available over the entire charter range through a dedicated hot spot on the yacht. This opportunity allows our guests to experience the "cruising lifestyle" for the first time.

Q: Who selects and prepares the food and beverages onboard?

A: Years of chartering experience guides us to provision the yacht with food and beverage selections which are local, fresh, sumptuous, and completely flexible. BICS will work with each charter party to develop menus, provision the boat accordingly, and assist with the food preparation. On some nights, when we are docked at a resort marina you may wish to sample the casual or fine dining ashore.

Q: What kind of weather can we expect on the Cruise?

A: The weather in the BVIs is remarkably consistent. Daily temperatures: High 83 / Low 75. Mostly sunny with some "puffy" fair weather clouds. Wind E 12-18 kts. Water temp: Feb 77, March 78.

Q: What are the best flights from the Northeast to Tortola?

A: Jet Blue now has direct flights from Providence and Boston to San Juan Puerto Rico, connecting to InterCaribbean Airlines from San Juan to Beef Island Airport on Tortola for about \$700 R/T. Holiday weeks, like school vacation week can be slightly more expensive.

Q: What are our skipper's qualifications?

A: Capt. Henry duPont has been sailing on cruising yachts from a young age and has logged over fifty cruising voyages sailing to local destinations in the Northeast and on blue water sailing voyages to Bermuda, Nova Scotia, and Chesapeake Bay. Henry is a founding Director of Block Island Community Sailing, holds a USCG Master Captain's License, with sailing endorsement, and is a US Sailing Certified Cruising Instructor for teaching: Basic Keelboat, Basic Cruising, Bareboat Cruising and Coastal Navigation courses. Henry has been taking our guests on these sailing cruises in the BVIs as well as to local cruising destinations like Newport, RI, Wickford RI, and Mystic CT since 2000. He has also worked professionally on clean energy projects in the British Virgin Islands and is very familiar with the charter itinerary waters. He will ensure that your charter experience is safe, educational, comfortable, and fun!



Some photos from some of our recent BICS Sailing Charter Vacations.



*March 24 Charter Party, Coopers Island Beach Club*



*Stilt Dancers at the Leverick Bay Resort & Marina*



*Bitter End Yacht Club Bar, Virgin Gorda, BVI*



*Saba Rock Bar and Restaurant Sunset*



*Trellis Bay Bar and Grill, Tortola*



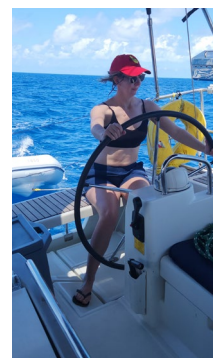
*Crudit  served onboard, Norman's Island BVI*



*Caves at "The Baths" Virgin Gorda*



*Our boat at Brandywine Bay, Tortola*



*Aspiring New Skipper*



