

Below is the proposed itinerary for the trip. As is true on any adventure travel trip, plans for any specific day may be modified due to weather considerations, unforeseen circumstances, new opportunities, and group interests.

DAY 1

Arrive St John, orientation and Welcome dinner

Today is a busy day. After arriving at the airport in St. Thomas, you'll be taking a taxi, a ferry, and a shuttle to our lodging on St. John, the smallest of the three US Virgin Islands. Upon arrival at the villa, weâ€™™ll get a cold drink, put our feet in the pool, and feel ourselves start to relax and reset to â€œisland timeâ€, which means weâ€™™ll be intentionally spending the next week soaking up our surroundings with a relaxed pace and mindset - while still fitting in lots of action! Our daily itinerary this week may shift based on tides, weather, and wind so that our guides can expertly provide the best experience possible. Once we've had a chance to settle in, we'll introduce ourselves, have a brief orientation to this trip and our lodging for the next week, and share the first of many delicious dinners together.

Overnight: Great Expectations Villa (D)

DAY 2

Coral Reef National Monument and Hurricane Hole

Today is full of kayaking and snorkeling as we explore the Coral Reef National Monument in Hurricane Hole. Weâ€™™ll start the day with instruction on how to use our muscles most efficiently and how to get in and out of kayaks safely. If you've never received formal instruction, you'll be surprised how much a few basic tips can improve your kayaking. We'll kayak through the mangrove-lined bays of Water Creek, Otter Creek, and Princess Bay and discuss the importance of mangrove forests in protecting our shoreline and in providing habitat for juvenile fish. We'll also snorkel in the mangroves, and get to see schools of juvenile snappers, barracuda and starfish, colorful sea anemone, and more. We'll enjoy a delicious picnic lunch near Turner Point and from here we will paddle to Borck Creek and onto our final stop at a small white sand beach for a nice reef snorkel. Weâ€™™ll round out our day with delicious dinner.

Overnight: Great Expectations Villa (B, L, D)

DAY 3

Cinnamon Bay Exploration

Today we will enjoy some gorgeous overlooks where we can see not only St John shores but also the British Virgin Islands. We will make a few different stops at some of these beaches for swimming and snorkeling. Cinnamon Bay will be our longest stop as we will want time to walk the .5 loop through the sugar mill ruins. The ruins tell the story of the processing from fields to sugar then molasses and rum. The walls of the former plantation still stand and mark the site of the Great House at America Hill, as the plantation was once known. We will finish with a swim at Maho Bay, just another day in paradise.

Overnight: Great Expectations Villa (B, L, D)

DAY 4

Salt Pond, Rams Head, and Drunk Bay

Today we will return to the east end to visit an active salt pond and enjoy an easy .25 mile walk to Drunk Bay. This is a great spot to view some of the British Virgin Islands and see some interesting coral sculptures along the rocky windswept beach. We will then enjoy a swim and snorkel at yet another beautiful beach. For those interested we will offer a 2 mile round trip hike to Rams Head Point for a sweeping view. Weâ€™™ll round out our day with an early dinner at a St. John institution.

Interested we will offer a 2-mile round trip hike to Rams Head Point for a sweeping view. We'll round out our day with an early dinner at a St. John institution - Skinny Legs. You know what they say "there's nothing like a cheeseburger in paradise and this local watering hole is practically a required stop on all St. John itineraries!

Overnight: Great Expectations Villa (B, L, D)

DAY 5

Annaberg Sugar Plantation and Watermelon Cay

We'll see more of the interior today on our hike to Waterlemon Cay. We'll begin with a ride to see the ruins of the sugar plantation at Annaberg where we will gain a deeper understanding of St. John's culture, history, and the global market for sugar. After a walk through the ruins, you will have the option to take a short hike to see the Windy Hill Ruins and take in the view. We'll rest and enjoy a picnic lunch on the beach before an afternoon of snorkeling and swimming before returning to the vehicle at Annaberg.

Overnight: Great Expectations Villa (B, L, D)

DAY 6

Exploring the East Side

Today we'll be back in our kayaks, starting the day with a safety and paddling review on the beach in Cruz Bay. We'll stick together as we wind our way out of the harbor, paddle around Lind Point, stopping at one of the beautiful beaches to snorkel the seagrass bed and look for turtles and rays. Depending on conditions, we may also paddle to Henley Cay for some superb reef snorkeling. Multi-hued fish abound and if you have never snorkeled in the Caribbean, you'll be amazed at the variety and vibrancy of colors. After returning to Cruz Bay, we'll spend the afternoon visiting the beautiful beaches of the north shore and taking a short hike to Peace Hill, the site of a semi-restored ruin where a windmill once stood powered by the strong trade winds. We will end our day with a sunset picnic while we take in St. John's breathtaking landscape.

Overnight: Great Expectations Villa (B, L, D)

DAY 7

Sail into the sunset

We will cap off our week in the islands with some time spent sailing the crystal-clear Caribbean waters. We'll meet our sailing charter at the National Park Dock in Cruz Bay and enjoy the island breeze one last time via sailboat while we snorkel, explore, island hop, or sunbathe! Following our sail we'll have time to stroll around town and shop for a few mementos to remind us of our time on St. John when we return to the mainland. We will end our day with a delicious farewell dinner.

Overnight: Great Expectations Villa (B, L, D)

DAY 8

Leave St John, return to St Thomas for flight home

It's definitely going to be hard to tear ourselves away from this island paradise! You can leave anytime this morning. It takes about an hour to get from St. John back to the airport. You will also need two hours to check-in and get through security. Please book flights at noon or later. Of course, you may want to stay around and continue your Caribbean adventure.

