



# Road Town

Photo: Dietmar Lichota/unsplash



Richard Todd/Pixabay

A paradise-like archipelago in the Caribbean consisting of over 50 islands, the British Virgin Islands are one of the most renowned sailing strongholds in the world. For those not chasing the wind, Road Town is rich in stories of the eventful past, while coral reefs and national parks beckon with their rich biodiversity.



Dietmar Lichota/unsplash



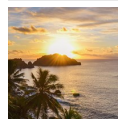
bvi4092/CC BY 2.0/Flickr

## Featured



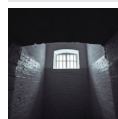
### Cooper Island

Tourists tend to flock to Virgin Gorda for its beauty, Anegada for the lobster...



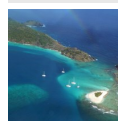
### Smuggler's Cove

This secluded beach is the best option for a quick dip outside Road Town. Look...



### Her Majesty's Prison Museum

A unique landmark in the centre of Road Town, whose history has been enriched...



### Diamond Cay National Park

There are a dozen of national parks in the British Virgin Islands, and since...

## Top 5



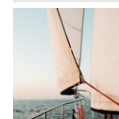
### The Baths of Virgin Gorda

Named after the island's shape resembling a curvy woman, Virgin Gorda is home...



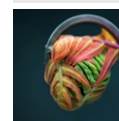
### Callwood Rum Distillery

With over two hundred years in operation, the Callwood Rum Distillery is one...



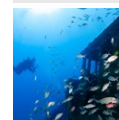
### Spring Regatta & Sailing F...

A popular time to visit the British Virgin Islands is during the annual Spring...



### J.R. O'Neal Botanical Gardens

J.R. O'Neal Botanical Gardens is a small, serene oasis away from the hustle...



### Rhone Marine Park

Extending between Dead Chest Island and Salt Island southeast of Road Town, ...



## ROAD TOWN



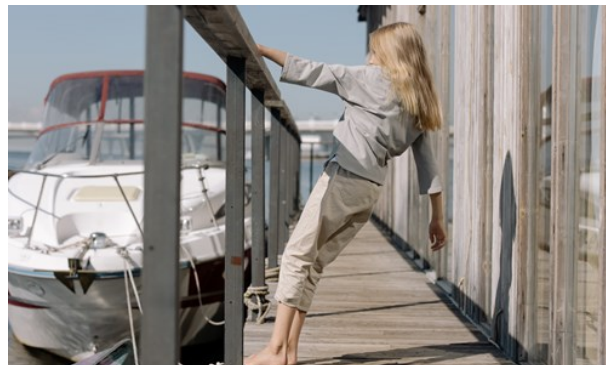
*Lee Render/CC BY-SA 2.0/Flickr (image cropped)*

Caressed by steady breezes and turquoise waters, Road Town is often referred to as the sailing capital of the Caribbean. The British Virgin Islands, with the major isles being Tortola, Virgin Gorda, Jost Van Dyke and Anegada, make for some spectacular island hopping even if you are not here to set your sail.

Initially settled by the Arawak, the islands were re-explored and given their modern name by Christopher Columbus. What we call British and U.S. Virgin Islands today were then the subject of numerous claims by different European powers including the English, the Danish and the Dutch. By the 17th century, the English had taken control of islands like Tortola, Anegada and Virgin Gorda, and introduced sugar cane and with it slavery in the area.

In the 1960s, the British Virgin Islands became an autonomous British Overseas Territory and began turning their head away from agriculture and towards tourism, with busy Road Town in Tortola as the centre of it all. After its recovery from Hurricane Irma in 2017, Road Town continues to be not only a haven for charter boats but also a stepping stone to exploring the plenty of cays and coves of the archipelago.

## DO & SEE



*cottonbro studio/Pexels*

Rich in cultural and natural treasures, the British Virgin Islands offer over 50 islands' worth of entertainment, sport and recreation, with the omnipresence of seafaring and unique marine life.

### The Baths of Virgin Gorda



Named after the island's shape resembling a curvy woman, Virgin Gorda is home to one of the most popular tourist attractions in the British

Virgin Islands. The large granite boulders scattered on the beach are not only spectacular, but also form pools and grottoes for the enjoyment of visitors of all ages.

Photo: Joann/Pixabay

### Callwood Rum Distillery



With over two hundred years in operation, the Callwood Rum Distillery is one of the oldest establishments in the British Virgin Islands, located in the stunning — and aptly named — Cane Garden Bay. Visitors are offered the chance to get an insight into rum production, and to buy

a bottle of the widely renowned Arundel.

Photo: Ray Shrewsbury/Unsplash

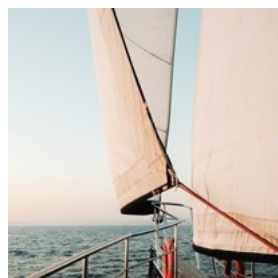
Address: Cane Garden Bay, Tortola

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8am-5pm, Sat 10am-3pm, Sun closed

Phone: +1 284 495 9383

Internet: [www.callwood-cane-rum.myshopify.com](http://www.callwood-cane-rum.myshopify.com)

### Spring Regatta & Sailing Festival



A popular time to visit the British Virgin Islands is during the annual Spring Regatta & Sailing Festival, which has been attracting vast crowds of sailing enthusiasts since 1972. Set your own sail or explore the offerings of many a charter company, and get to know the Caribbean from a whole new perspective.

Photo: Airam Dato-on/Pexels

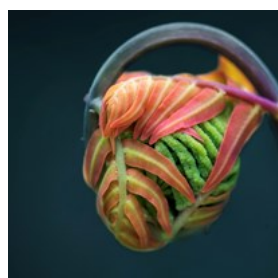
Opening hours: Organised around March and April every year

Phone: +1 284 541 6732

Internet: [www.bvispringregatta.org](http://www.bvispringregatta.org)

Email: [info@bvispringregatta.org](mailto:info@bvispringregatta.org)

### J.R. O'Neal Botanical Gardens



J.R. O'Neal Botanical Gardens is a small, serene oasis away from the hustle and bustle of Road Town, located about 2 km from the cruise terminal. Despite the damage caused by Hurricane Irma, the gardens are still a delightful and well-maintained attraction filled with lush tropical vegetation. The collection of tropical plants represents different habitats of the BVI, such as the rainforest and coastal environments, in addition to exotic species and an extensive collection of palms.

Visitors can enjoy a greenhouse for orchids, a lily pond, a gazebo of orchids, and a scenic pergola. The nursery at the gardens plays a crucial role in preserving endangered species of flora found within the BVI.

Photo: Skyler Ewing/pexels

Address: Botanical Garden Road, Road Town

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

Phone: +1 284 442 4313

Internet: [www.bvinpt.org/jr-o-neal-botanical](http://www.bvinpt.org/jr-o-neal-botanical)

### Rhone Marine Park

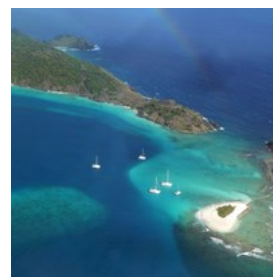


Extending between Dead Chest Island and Salt Island southeast of Road Town, Rhone Marine Park is an 800-acre treasure trove of marine species where corals, fish, turtles, lobsters and many other marine species drift around the famous wreck of the Royal Mail Steamer Rhone. Sunk by a hurricane in 1867, the steamship has over time become the most popular dive site in the British Virgin Islands.

Photo: Leonardo Lamas/Pexels

Internet: [www.bvinpt.org/dead-chest-rms-rhone](http://www.bvinpt.org/dead-chest-rms-rhone)

### Diamond Cay National Park



There are a dozen of national parks in the British Virgin Islands, and since every major island has one, it is easy to incorporate a hike into your itinerary. Diamond Cay is Jost Van Dyke's treasure box located on the east side of the island, and is in fact a 1.25-acre bird sanctuary that's also home to turtles and lizards. Bubbly Pool, formed by waves crashing against the

rocks, is only a short walk away to the north.

Photo: giggel/CC BY 3.0/Wikimedia Commons(image cropped)  
Address: Jost Van Dyke  
Internet: [www.bvinpt.org/diamond-cay](http://www.bvinpt.org/diamond-cay)

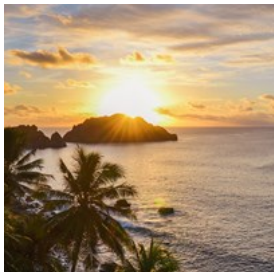
### Her Majesty's Prison Museum



A unique landmark in the centre of Road Town, whose history has been enriched by numerous events since the era of plantation society in the 18th century. The site is easy to explore on your own, but it's worth joining a guided tour for some insider facts on this unsettling place.

Photo: Jimmy Chan/Pexels  
Address: Main Street, Road Town  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-2:30pm

### Smuggler's Cove



This secluded beach is the best option for a quick dip outside Road Town. Located only a half an hour's drive from the city across Sage

Mountain National Park, Smuggler's Cove guarantees not only a peaceful time but also excellent conditions for snorkelling.

Photo: thiago japyassu/Pexels  
Address: Tortola

### Cooper Island



Tourists tend to flock to Virgin Gorda for its beauty, Anegada for the lobster and Jost Van Dyke for the vibrant bar scene — crowds will be thinner

in Cooper Island, but it does not mean it is any

less worthy of dropping anchor. Boasting pristine beaches, excellent diving conditions with a 'wreck alley' to explore, a solar-powered brewery, and many more, Cooper Island is the perfect place for a quiet recharge away from the hustle of Road Town.

Photo: Erika Lombardo/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

## RESTAURANTS



*kansasphoto/CC BY 2.0/Flickr*

In the British Virgin Islands, fish and chips are replaced by fish and fungi, the latter being a polenta-like dish — and also the name given to local music. It's also worth sailing past Road Town to the island of Anegada, where the region's best lobster is fished.

### Dove Restaurant & Dragonfly Lounge



A classy yet modern restaurant opposite the cruise port, where meals are artfully presented on plates and inspired by Asian, British and French

cuisines. The menu is extensive — from quinoa salad to tostadas to house ribs — and the cocktails made from house ingredients are no less worthy of attention.

Photo: Edward Howell/Unsplash  
Address: 67 Main Street, Road Town  
Opening hours: Tue-Sat noon-10pm, Sun & Mon closed

Phone: +1 284 494 0313  
Internet: [www.thedovebvi.com](http://www.thedovebvi.com)

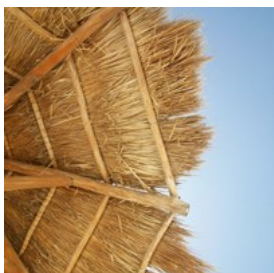
### Pusser's Pub



Pusser's Road Town Pub offers a selection of strong, delicious Painkiller cocktails made with Pusser's Rum, pineapple juice, cream of coconut and orange juice, topped with a grating of nutmeg. The historic Victorian-era interiors feature wood-paneled walls adorned with knick-knacks, creating a welcoming atmosphere. In addition to their cocktails, the pub also serves great fish and chips. The bar is decorated with pictures and furniture from British and USCG ships, and there is a gift shop on-site selling Pusser's merchandise.

Photo: YesMore Content/unsplash  
Address: WaterFront Drive, Road Town  
Opening hours: The pub: daily 11am-9:30pm. Company store: daily 10am-8pm  
Phone: +1 284 494 3897  
Internet: [www.pussers.com](http://www.pussers.com)  
More Info: The location is conveniently situated within walking distance from the cruise pier and nearby shops.

### Anegada Beach Club



One of the island's favourite lodging and dining spots, where the atmosphere is elevated by palapas, hammocks and a refreshing swimming pool. Lobster is omnipresent from breakfast to dinner; other seafood standouts include mahi mahi and conch. There is also pizza, tacos, steak and more to meet any needs that may arise.

Photo: CC0/PxHere  
Address: Keel Point, Anegada

Opening hours: Daily 8am-10:30am / 11am-5pm/ 6pm-8pm  
Phone: +1 284 346 4005  
Internet: [www.anegadabeachclub.com/dining](http://www.anegadabeachclub.com/dining)  
Email: [reservations@anegadabeachclub.com](mailto:reservations@anegadabeachclub.com)

### Soggy Dollar Bar



Cradle of the famous, rum-infused Painkiller, Soggy Dollar Bar offers appetising breakfast for your morning swim and filling platters to pair with your afternoon imbibing. Enjoy the splendid views of White Bay and browse the unique merchandise promoting this postcard-worthy location.

Photo: David Stanley/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)  
Address: White Bay, Jost Van Dyke  
Opening hours: Daily 9am-6pm  
Phone: +1 284 495 9888  
Internet: [www.soggydollar.com](http://www.soggydollar.com)

### Big Bamboo Beach Bar & Restaurant



A no-frills beachside restaurant and bar on Anegada's eastern shore, serving sizeable seafood dishes made from the island's famous lobster. The menu also features conch, chicken, steak and ribs, to be had after snorkelling or while enjoying the turquoise views.

Photo: Kathleen Tyler Conklin/CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)  
Address: Loblolly Bay, Anegada  
Opening hours: Daily 10am-6pm  
Phone: +1 284 346 5850  
Internet: [www.bigbambooanegada.com/restaurant.html](http://www.bigbambooanegada.com/restaurant.html)  
Email: [bigbamboovillas@gmail.com](mailto:bigbamboovillas@gmail.com)

### Island Roots Cafe



Beloved by locals and visitors alike, the Island Roots Cafe is a well-frequented hangout place with a cosy interior and painting-adorned walls, coffee and snacks, daily soup offers and outdoor seating.

Photo: Pixabay/Pixabay

Address: 15 Main Street, Road Town

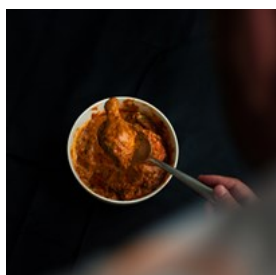
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 7:30am-3pm, Sat 7:30am-1pm, Sun closed

Phone: +1 284 494 8985

Internet: [www.islandrootsbvi.com](http://www.islandrootsbvi.com)

More Info: Two additional locations: Nanny Cay Marina and The Moorings Marina

### Omar's Fusion



This waterfront restaurant in West End is essentially specialised in Caribbean and Indian cuisines, but besides the mandatory curry meals, lobster and jerk chicken, the menu also contains quesadillas, burgers and pizza. Omar's Coffee House is the little sister only a 4-minute walk from the restaurant, with foamy cappuccinos and hearty breakfasts as day-starters.

Photo: Yassir Abbas/Pexels

Address: Soper's Hole, Frenchman's Cay, Tortola

Opening hours: Daily 7am-9pm, but closed for most of September & October

Phone: +1 284 345 4771

Internet: [www.omarfusion.com](http://www.omarfusion.com)

## SHOPPING



RODNAE Productions/Pexels (cropped)

Especially on the streets of Road Town, souvenir vendors in the British Virgin Islands really go all out for those in search of keepsakes evoking this Caribbean paradise.

### Tortola Pier Park



A multi-building shopping centre with a variety of shops, restaurants and other services right next to the cruise port. Clothing, gourmet market, souvenirs, car rental, cosmetics — this colourful, palm tree-dotted complex has something for everyone.

Photo: Günter Hentschel/CC BY-ND 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

Address: Wickhams Cay, Road Town

Phone: +1 284 494 8775

Internet: [www.tortolapier.com](http://www.tortolapier.com)

More Info: Officially known as the Cyril B. Romney Tortola Pier Park

### Good Moon Farm

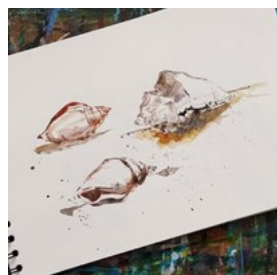


An organic farm only a 10-minute drive away from Road Town, known all over the islands for their services to provide boat trips — both charter and private — with locally produced meat and

fresh fruits and vegetables. They also offer garden walks regularly, where delicious bites as well as farmers' knowledge are shared.

Photo: Any Lane/Pexels  
Address: Turnbull Estate, Tortola  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5pm, Sat 9am-2pm, Sun closed  
Phone: +1 284 542 0586

### Nutmeg & Co.

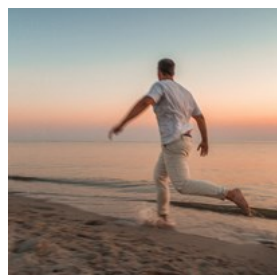


Nutmeg & Co. is an unmissable stop on your souvenir hunt in Road Town. It has an excellent selection of locally designed and crafted

products, from clothing to beauty products to edibles. An artistic as well as eco-friendly store that also houses paintings and other artworks capturing the lights and colours of the West Indies.

Photo: WP Chun/Pixabay  
Address: 164 Waterfront Drive, Road Town  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 9am-5.30pm, Sat 9am-1pm, Sun closed  
Phone: +1 284 494 1426  
Internet: nutmeg-and-co.shoplightspeed.com

### Foxy's Giftshop



Sitting on the shore of White Bay next to the namesake bar — which belongs to the same owner and is likewise worth a visit — Foxy's

offers a wide range of men's and women's clothing and other souvenirs, so you can keep that famous Jost Van Dyke sunset with you for a long time.

Photo: Iurii Laimin/Pexels  
Address: Great Harbor, Jost van Dyke  
Phone: +1 284 442 0086

Internet: [www.shopfoxysbvi.com](http://www.shopfoxysbvi.com)

## TOURIST INFORMATION



*bvi4092/CC BY 2.0/Flickr*

### Best Time to Visit



The British Virgin Islands enjoy a tropical climate with steady temperatures all year round. The hurricane season usually runs from June to

November, the wettest months being September and October. The best months to visit are from late spring to early summer, when weather is the most enjoyable and crowds are not as large as during the winter months.

Photo: Just a man from Brazil./CC BY 2.0/Flickr(image cropped)

### Passport & Visa



Nationals of most countries do not require a visa to enter the British Virgin Islands if their planned time of stay does not exceed 3 months.

However, visitors are required to hold a passport valid for at least six months beyond their date of leaving the country, and hold proof of onward and return flights as well as other documents

required for the next destination. For complete information on entry requirements, please contact the BVI Tourism Board or the embassy or consulate in your country.

Photo: Henry Thong/ConvertKit/Unsplash  
Internet: [www.bvi.gov.vg/travel-protocols](http://www.bvi.gov.vg/travel-protocols)

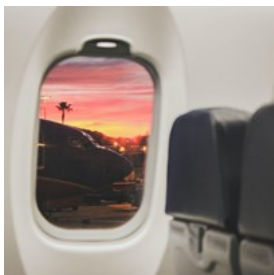
### Tortola Cruise Ship Pier



Cruise ships to the British Virgin Islands dock at the Tortola Cruise Ship Pier, not far from the heart of Road Town. The name of the cruise ship pier is practically synonymous with the adjacent Tortola Pier Park, which is a large entertainment centre with numerous shopping and dining facilities.

Photo: bvi4092/CC BY 2.0/Flickr  
Address: 49 De Castro Street, Road Town  
Phone: +1 284 494 8775  
Internet: [www.tortolapier.com](http://www.tortolapier.com)  
Email: [info@tortolapier.com](mailto:info@tortolapier.com)

### Terrance B Lettsome International Airport (EIS)



The largest airport in the British Virgin Islands is Terrance B Lettsome International Airport (EIS), which is located on Beef Island around 12 km from Road Town. Landing passengers can choose from a range of taxi companies and inter-island ferry services to reach their final destination.

Photo: Shamia Casiano/Pexels  
Address: Beef Island  
Phone: +1 284 394 8000  
Internet:  
[www.bviaacloud.com/passengers/airports/beef-island](http://www.bviaacloud.com/passengers/airports/beef-island)

### Taddy Bay International Airport (VIJ) on Virgin Gorda



Taddy Bay International Airport (VIJ) is located just outside Spanish Town on Virgin Gorda, only 3.2 km away from the island's most famed attraction, The Baths. Car rental options are available, as well as ferry services to Road Town, Beef Island, and Saint John in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Photo: Patrick Tomasso/Unsplash  
Address: Virgin Gorda  
Phone: +1 284 394 8000  
Internet:  
[www.bviaacloud.com/passengers/airports/virgin-gorda](http://www.bviaacloud.com/passengers/airports/virgin-gorda)

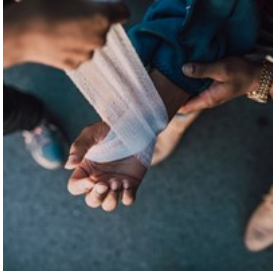
### Getting around



Unless you are exploring the islands on a private boat — or water taxi —, a popular way of island-hopping is to use the extensive network of ferry services, with offerings from multiple operators. Reservations within the BVI are not necessary but are required when travelling to and from the U.S. Virgin Islands. Road Town Ferry Terminal is a few hundred metres south of Tortola Cruise Ship Pier.

Photo: Gordon Leggett/CC BY-SA 4.0/Wikimedia Commons(image cropped)  
Address: Waterfront Drive, Road Town  
Internet: [www.bestofbvi.com/bvi-ferry-schedules](http://www.bestofbvi.com/bvi-ferry-schedules)

## Pharmacy



Medicure Pharmacy is a well-supplied pharmacy only a ten-minute walk from the Tortola Cruise Ship Pier. Their second location is on Virgin Gorda island, opposite the Yacht Harbour.

Photo: RODNAE Productions/Pexels

Address: Waterfront Drive, Road Town

Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8:30am-6pm, Sat 8:30am-5pm, Sun closed

Phone: +1 284 444 6189

### Population

31,122 (British Virgin Islands, 2021)

### Currency

US dollar \$1 = 100 cents

### Opening hours

Business hours usually start between 8 am and 9 am, and end between 5 pm and 6 pm Monday through Saturday.

### Internet

[www.bvitourism.com](http://www.bvitourism.com)

### Newspapers

The BVI Beacon — [www.bvibeacon.com](http://www.bvibeacon.com)

BVI News — [www.bvinews.com](http://www.bvinews.com)

284 Media— [www.284media.com](http://www.284media.com)

### Emergency numbers

911 or 311

### Tourist information

Tourism Board Office

3rd floor, Akara Building

Road Town, Tortola

[www.bvitourism.com](http://www.bvitourism.com)

+1 284 852 6020

[info@bvitourism.com](mailto:info@bvitourism.com)