# Virgin Islands

Virgin Islands National Park
Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument
U.S. Virgin Islands

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

### North Shore Moorings

| Location | Number | Type |
|---|---|---|
| Leinster Bay | 20 | Overnight |
| Fungi Passage | 1 | Overnight |
| Whistling Cay | 3 | Day Use Only |
| Whistling Cay | 3 | SCUBA-Day Only |
| Francis Bay | 31 | Overnight |
| Maho Bay | 29 | Overnight |
| Cinnamon Bay | 8 | Overnight |
| Trunk Bay | 4 | Overnight |
| Hawksnest Bay | 13 | Overnight |
| Henley Cay | 2 | Day use Only |
| Caneel Bay | 22 | Overnight |
| Scott Bay | 10 | Overnight |
| Lind Point | 11 | Overnight |
| Lind Point | 1 | SCUBA-Day Only |

### South Shore Moorings

| Location | Number | Type |
|---|---|---|
| Reef Bay | 2 | Day Use Only |
| Cloverleaf | 1 | SCUBA-Day Only |
| Little Lameshur | 5 | Overnight |
| Great Lameshur | 16 | Overnight |
| Cabritte Horn | 4 | Fishing-Hardnose |
| Tektite | 2 | SCUBA-Day Only |
| Salt Pond | 6 | Overnight |
| Ram Head | 2 | Day Use Only |
| Booby Rock | 1 | SCUBA-Day Only |
| Eagle Shoal | 1 | SCUBA-Day Only |
| Princess Bay | 5 | Day Use Only |
| Otter Creek | 3 | Day Use Only |
| Water Creek | 3 | Day Use Only |

### Big Boat Moorings

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lind Point/Caneel | 4 | Leinster Bay | 2 |
| Hawksnest | 1 | Great Lameshur | 2 |
| Maho/Francis | 4 | Princess Bay | 1 |

### Anchorage at Lind Point for Vessels up to 125 feet

| ID | LAT_DMS | LONG_DMS |
|---|---|---|
| LP1 | 18 20 22 | -64 48 48 |
| LP2 | 18 20 34 | -64 47 48 |
| LP3 | 18 20 34 | -64 48 8 |
| LP4 | 18 20 22 | -64 47 51 |

### Anchorage at Francis Bay for Vessels up to 210 feet.

Vessels must anchor east of the line and further or greater than 300 feet from any mooring.

| ID | LAT_DMS | LONG_DMS |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 18 22 00 | -64 45 5 |
| LP2 | 18 21 36 | -64 45 3 |

### No Anchor Zone

- Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument
- Hurricane Hole
- Round Bay
- Virgin Islands National Park (unless noted above)

The endangered hawksbill sea turtle eats sponges growing on reefs and finds shelter under coral ledges.

## Safety Tips

**Don't Go it Alone**
Always swim, snorkel, and SCUBA dive with another person.

**Storm Swells**
Conditions may change rapidly, especially during winter months. If swells develop, you may need to alter your plans.

**Leave Only Bubbles**
To avoid injury to yourself and marine life, please do not touch anything while snorkeling and diving.

**Look Out For Snorkelers**
Watch for snorkelers and swimmers, especially when near a boat exclusion area or in an access channel. Run dinghies at a no-wake speed when travelling to and from a beach and within mooring field.

**Wear Sun Protection**
Protect yourself from overexposure to tropical sunlight; use sunscreen and wear a hat and shirt. If you burn easily, stay indoors or in the shade between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

**Dangerous Reefs**
Boaters should be especially careful to avoid Windswept and Johnson's Reefs. Windswept Reef fringes the coastline between Trunk and Cinnamon Bays.

## Fishing

In the monument cast netting for bait fish is permitted. Fishing for hardnose is also permitted while attached to yellow fishing moorings (see chart for location).

With the exception of boat exclusion zones, while on moorings, at the NPS finger pier, and NPS Cruz Bay Dock, fishing is permitted with hand-held rod and line.

Possession or use of any type of spearfishing equipment within park or monument boundaries is prohibited, unless under NPS permit.

### Seasons & Limits for Conch, Whelk & Lobster

All dates are subject to change. Please check with the Virgin Islands Department of Planning & Natural Resources or a ranger for the most up to date information.

**Conch Season**
Open from November 1 to May 31.

Conch must be nine inches (9") (22.5 cm) long and landed in the shell. Within the boundaries for Virgin Islands National Park the limit for conch is two (2) per person per day. You may not have more than two (2) days limit in your possession.

**Whelk Season**
Open from October 1 to March 31.

Whelk must be larger than 2 7/16" (6.19 cm) in diameter.

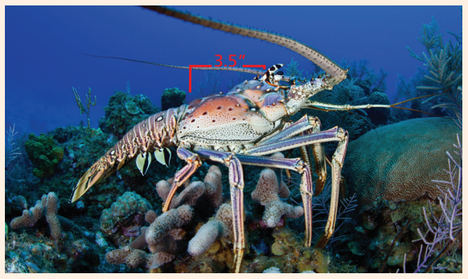
Within the boundaries for Virgin Islands National Park the limit for whelk is one (1) gallon (in the shell) per person per day. You may not have more than two (2) days limit in your possession.

**Caribbean Spiny Lobster**
May be taken at any time.

Lobster must have a carapace length of at least three and a half inches (3.5") (8.75 cm).

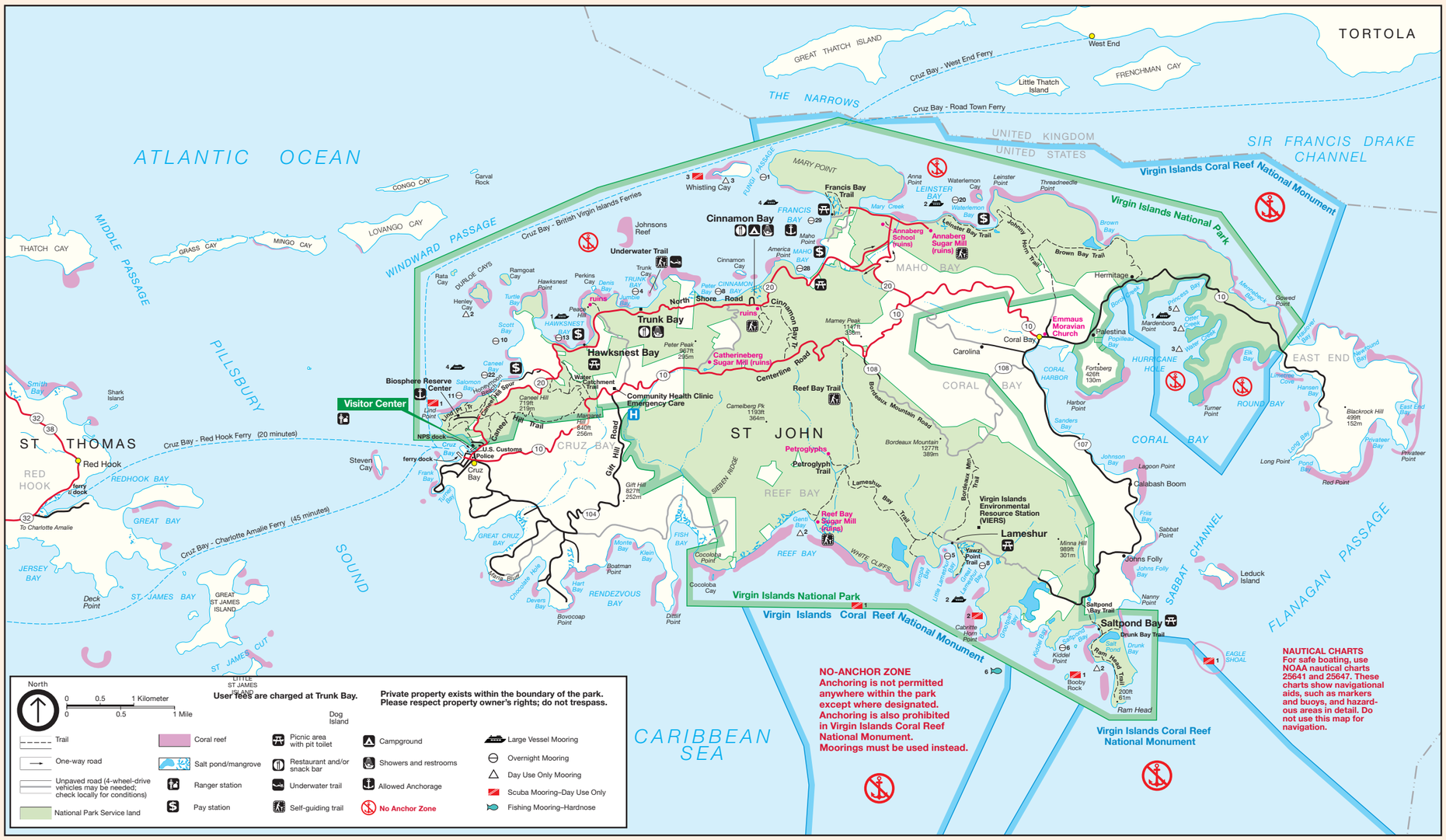
Females with eggs must be returned to the water.

Within the boundaries for Virgin Islands National Park the limit for lobster is two (2) per person per day. You may not have more than two (2) days limit in your possession.




**CAUTION! Conch, Whelk, Lobster and fish may not be harvested from Coral Reef National Monument waters!**

For more information contact Virgin Islands National Park at 340-776-6201 or the Department of Planning and Natural Resources, Division of Fish and Wildlife, at 340-775-6762.




## Regulations and Resource Protection

**Do Not Touch or Feed Wildlife**
Feeding, touching, harassing or removing any wildlife in the park (other than fishing–see fishing regulations), either on land or in water, is prohibited.

**Balloons**
Balloons are prohibited, because when floating in the water they are eaten by sea turtles and may cause their injury or death.

**Waste & Trash**
Do not dump human waste or refuse in park waters. Waste must be treated and discharged at least three miles from the nearest land. Trash may be placed in receptacles located at Cruz Bay near the Customs Office, Maho, Francis, Saltpond and Little Lameshur Bays. It may not exceed two 10-gallon bags, and must be placed inside NPS trash containers.

**Leave Only Footprints**
Help us preserve the historic treasures of these islands. If you find something old please leave it right where you found it and if you see someone collecting artifacts be sure to contact a park ranger—removing artifacts from a national park is a federal crime and can result in fines and or prison.

Metal detectors, magnetometers, side scan sonar, and sub bottom profilers are prohibited.

Use of bright deck lights or underwater lights of any kind, from boats to attract fish or other purposes (other than hand held dive lights) is prohibited.

Commercial vessels with an LOA greater than 125 feet are prohibited from anchoring or mooring within park waters.

**Water skiing, towing of any recreational device and use of motorized personal watercraft (jet skis, wave runners, etc.) are prohibited.**

SCUBA and snorkeling is permitted in areas adjacent to beaches and inside boat exclusion areas. SCUBA and snorkeling is prohibited in designated boat channels, shipping lanes, and dock areas. SCUBA diving is prohibited in Trunk Bay.

Use of stationary positioning systems is prohibited in the monument. Use of stationary positioning systems is allowed within the Lind Point and Francis Bay anchorages by vessels that meet the vessel length restrictions for those areas.

Use of underwater diver's scooter or dive propulsion vehicles is prohibited.

**Dinghies**
Dinghies are permitted on beaches with designated channels, including beaches with dinghy tethers. Anchoring OR tying to natural features is prohibited.

**Dinghy Tethers**
Dinghy Tethers are provided at Trunk, Little Cinnamon, Little Maho, Maho, Hawksnest Bays, and Honeymoon Beach and Waterlemon Cay for vessels up to 16 feet in length; overnight use is NOT permitted.

**NPS Cruz Bay Creek Dinghy Area**
The NPS Cruz Bay Creek dinghy area at the finger pier: South side – vessels 16 feet or less may tie up for up to three hours, North side – CUA vessels only.

**NPS Cruz Bay Creek Finger Pier**
Vessels docking at the NPS Cruz Bay finger pier are limited to 15 minutes to load and unload passengers.

**NPS Dock in Red Hook**
Commercial and recreational use of the NPS dock facility at Red Hook is by special use permit only. Only vessels 60 feet or less may be considered for a permit.

**NPS Pier in Great Lameshur Bay**
Commercial and scientific use of the NPS dock facility at Great Lameshur Bay is by special use permit only.

**NPS Bulkhead at Hassel Island**
Commercial use of the NPS Bulkhead at the historic Creque Marine Slipway is by special use permit only.

**Beach Access (Dinghy) Channels**
Vessels less than 26 feet LOA may access beaches inside boat exclusion areas via beach access channels, designated by red and green buoys. Vessels must stay inside these channels. Channels are primarily for pick-up and drop-off. Vessels that can be pulled completely out of the water may be kept on the beach; other vessels must immediately leave the boat exclusion area after picking up or dropping off passengers. Beached vessels may not be anchored or tied to any feature including rocks; overnight use is not permitted.

**Boats may not anchor in channels.**

**Boat Exclusion Areas**
A row of white cylindrical buoys with an orange 'X' within a diamond shape delineates boat exclusion areas. The following are prohibited in these areas:

- Motorized vessels
- Operating a vessel under sail, including windsurfers
- Surfing or skim boarding
- Fishing with hook and line

NOTE: A motorized vessel, being rowed or paddled, is allowed in a boat exclusion area while being used for cast netting for bait fish.

Operating a vessel in excess of 5 mph or creating a wake in mooring fields or within 500 feet of a mooring field is prohibited.

**Rafting or second vessel on a Mooring**

- Vessels on moorings and utilizing a second vessel greater than 16 feet LOA as a registered tender, the combined LOA of the two vessels must be less than the rated vessel length for the mooring, either <61 feet or <101 feet.
- Rafting with other boats while on moorings is permitted if the combined lengths of both vessels are less than the length rating of the mooring.

**Abandoned Vessels**
No abandoned dinghies or vessels are allowed in the park under any circumstances. Any equipment left in the park for over a 24 hour period is considered abandoned and will be removed.

**Beach Definition & Use**
NPS beaches are defined as the area between the water's edge and 50 feet landward and seaward of the water's edge.

Glass bottles and containers, pets, and smoking are prohibited on all NPS beaches.

Smoking is also prohibited within 50 feet of pavilions, picnic tables or restrooms.

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