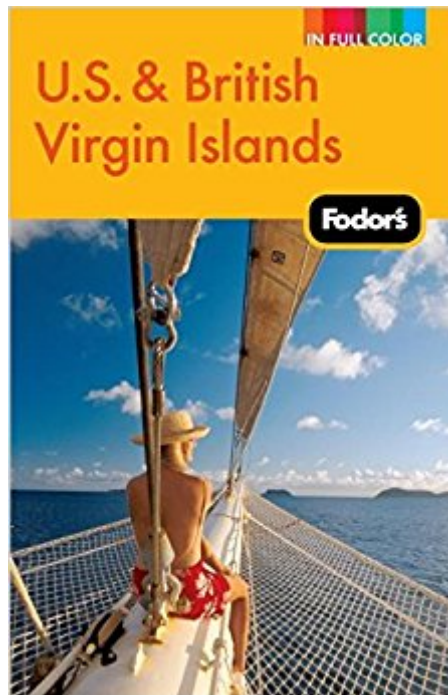




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# Fodor's U.S. & British Virgin Islands, 22nd Edition (Full-color Travel Guide)



## Synopsis

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## Book Information

Series: Full-color Travel Guide (Book 22)

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Fodor's; 22 edition (December 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1400008654

ISBN-13: 978-1400008650

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.5 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 8.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 34 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,214,104 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in Books > Travel >

Caribbean > Virgin Islands #736 in Books > Travel > Central America > General #1210

in Books > Travel > Caribbean > General

## Customer Reviews

"In terms of comprehensiveness of coverage, the very accessible format, and the enthusiastic tone,

this series remains one of the best on the market." â "Booklist" â "Fodor's super-informative guidebooks are known for accuracy and attention to detail" â "The Sacramento Bee" â "The Fodor's guides are notable for their ratings of sights, restaurants, shops, accommodations and attractions." â "Chicago Tribune" â "The great detail, infectious spirit, and attractive format are distinguishing traits of these guides, which are entries in one of the top series in the business." â "Booklist" â "Fodor's can help you plan the perfect adventure" â "The Arizona Republic" â "Always thoughtfully written and easily readable, Fodor's travel guides have become a must-have when traveling to unfamiliar destinations" â "Mid South Magazine" â "Widely recognized as the gold standard of mainstream travel" â "Honolulu Advertiser"

Me and my wife were moving to St. Thomas for 3 months so we wanted to make the most of the time. I purchased this guide (22nd ed. 2010) 2 weeks prior to leaving. I've been here for a week now... after studying this guide, I'm more familiar with some places and procedures that people who have lived here for 6 months. The book is complete, well illustrated, and fun. There are sections on Chartering Yachts, we took the advice and put together some day trips (they were right, they're much more affordable than you think). I could go on and on, but let me save you some time. If you're going to the Virgin Islands and you need to get up to speed asap, get this guide, PERIOD!

Good travel books are important when I am going somewhere I have never been. I highly recommend this book if you are planning a trip to the Virgin Islands.

Plan to use the book this June when we spend two weeks in St. Thomas. So far it has helped us decide on places we definitely want to see.

I hoped this would be useful as I prepared to travel to St. John in the US Virgin Islands. Because I hoped to take a boat trip through the British Virgin Islands, I wanted to know more about them as well. I did not feel that I really got much useful information from this book, since it covers so many sites that each one gets only a cursory review. I wish I had just gotten a guide to St. John.

I got this on sort of a lark. I'd been watching some House Hunters International episodes and saw one on the US Virgin Islands, and then this book popped up. I'd never read a travel book before and was very surprised how much I liked it. First, I've traveled quite a bit for my job. I've been to twenty or so countries and never had advanced knowledge of what to expect in any of them. True, most of

the time I went from airport (or train station) to hotel to server room and back, so I didn't really need too much info on the country I was visiting, but still, it would have been nice. Containing great heaps of info on sites, costs, how-to's and other need-to-know items, this book could prove indispensable in planning and then taking your trip. Just the information on customs and passport needs and differences between the BVI and the USVI could save you a lot of worry and time. Even the info on where smoking is allowed (or not allowed) might make a non-smokers dinner plans easier. Before I go to Europe next year, and I've been there a bunch, I'll be getting one of these for each country we plan to visit.

The guide was very positive (a bit too positive) about every destination and didn't necessarily offer a constructive view. If you have a limited amount of time and budget and don't specifically know where you want to go in the Caribbean this guide won't help you narrow it down quickly. I offer the National Geographic website "Island Destinations Rated: Caribbean" as a much better introduction to the islands not written by the local tourism development head that can quickly give you some of the pro's and con's. Besides this I used this book to try and plan a trip to the Virgin Islands, specifically St. John - however while many things were adequate I felt the book fell short. At a mere 35 pages on St. John (less if you take away full sized pictures) this guide was far too brief for my tastes and I found myself going to the internet to research more. I think if you printed all of this out on your own with 8X11 paper you would get about 10 sheets. If you plan on staying on St. John for a week (not an altogether unexpected plan) you would definitely want more than that right? More detailed driving maps, hiking maps, better beach reviews & pictures, more food recommendations including menu highlights and more detailed points of interest. Fodor's targets the upscale tourist and tends to highlight very touristy areas and businesses - the same things you would get from a tourist brochure for free.

If you buy this before you go to the U.S. & British Virgin Islands, you will be prepared for everything. The author goes there so much herself that she has thought of everything interesting to put in it. For instance if you want to go there to get married, can you get your license ahead of time? You can, but you have to go there and pick them up in person. The best time and the cheapest rates are in the off season which is still a really nice time to go. She even goes into where smoking is allowed, the best and the off beat restaurants and ferry service and times, places to see, things to do, etc. She also gives the names and addresses of rental agencies in case you want to rent a villa or condo. A great book and full of information!

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