



INTERNATIONAL ROLEX REGATTA 2010

NOTICE OF RACE
ST. THOMAS, U.S. Virgin Islands
26 - 28 March 2010





STYC – Home of the International Rolex Regatta

Cover: Jim Mitchell's RP52 VINCITORE – 1st Place IRC 1

Welcome Sailors,

It is with great pleasure that we invite you to the 37th annual **International Rolex Regatta**, part of the **Virgin Islands Race Week**.

On behalf of the St. Thomas Yacht Club and our principal regatta sponsors, Rolex and A. H. Riise, we are honored to offer sailors from around the world three days of unparalleled competition and shore side fun.

The fourth weekend of March is now etched into every racer's calendar as the time when the "Crown Jewel" of Caribbean racing takes place—where sailors can experience our reliable breezes, warm azure waters and world-renowned Island hospitality. If you've joined us in the past, you know that the competition and the camaraderie are unsurpassed. If you are contemplating making the trip for the very first time, please know that we will do our utmost to make it a special regatta just for you.

We pride ourselves on running a regatta that is easy to participate in, but a challenge to win. From registration to scoring, from complimentary breakfast & coffee to post-race island style BBQ and rum, the regatta operates out of our Yacht Club. From your mooring in Cowpet Bay, it's mere minutes to and from the race course each day, allowing you to take full advantage of all the Club and islands have to offer.

Our courses are a high caliber mix of round the island distance races and windward-leewards designed to test your skills and showcase the stunning shoreline. Reliable tradewinds ensure the excellent conditions you've come to expect year after year. We are delighted to welcome back Principal Race Officer Dave Brennan, along with a team of top-tier international judges. As always, the dedicated and hard working volunteers from St. Thomas Yacht Club will provide the "people power" for the events on land and at sea.

This year's day one morning course offers a downwind start and stretches to Charlotte Amalie Harbor, giving the racers an opportunity to see St. Thomas' beautiful and historic capital. The afternoon race starts in town and finishes back at the Club. Day two's round-the-buoy racing will be held in the Caribbean Ocean, south of Cowpet Bay. The final day's racing takes place on scenic Pillsbury Sound, in and around our beautiful Cays. The Rolex Awards Ceremony, which takes place on the beach Sunday evening, will again be of epic memory-making proportions, highlighted by the presentation of an abundance of prizes and video by t2p.tv.

The International Rolex Regatta is the first leg of the Virgin Islands Race Week. The second half of the series continues as the BVI Spring Regatta & Sailing Festival. We welcome you to take full advantage of everything that our Yacht Club and Islands have to offer as you enjoy nine days of unsurpassed sailing pleasure.

Cordially,
John Sweeney and **Bill Canfield**, Regatta Directors

Dear Friends Of The St. Thomas International Rolex Regatta

On behalf of the Flag Officers, Governors, and members of the St. Thomas Yacht Club, it is my distinct honor to welcome you to the 37th St. Thomas International Rolex Regatta. Since 1974, we have proudly hosted this prestigious sailing event. Over three days, the finest yachtsmen and yachswomen from around the Caribbean, United States, and Europe join in world-class racing in the spectacular environment and on the warm, clear waters surrounding our Club. The culmination of this lively competition is presentation of coveted Rolex timepieces to winners of select classes.

The 2009 Regatta was a resounding success on which the dedicated Rolex Committee will surely build. Competitors can rely on another regatta with hotly contested one-design and grand prix racing, along with spirited sailing in cruising classes. The picturesque distance races from the East End of St. Thomas to Charlotte Amalie harbor and back have established themselves as an Island tradition. The beautiful and yet tactically demanding Pillsbury Sound Race in and among the cays of St. Thomas and St. John, is a highlight of the Regatta. This 'Sunday drive' has decided final standings in most classes each of the last five years.

On the beaches of beautiful Cowpet Bay, the volunteers and staff of the St. Thomas Yacht Club will again demonstrate the personal touch and generous hospitality for which our Club is famous. You will find the very best in entertainment when our Club transforms itself into a bustling place for sailors and their families and locals to re-establish old friendships and forge new rivalries. And most of all to have a great time!

I look forward to seeing you at the 2010 International Rolex Regatta. Please enjoy our Yacht Club, our hospitality, and our Island home.

William Newbold
Commodore
St. Thomas Yacht Club



LOST HORIZON, winner in the CSA Spinnaker Racing/
Cruising Class



The International Rolex Regatta three-day weekend in the U.S. Virgin Islands is a high point for many yachtsmen and yachtswomen from around the world. Known as the “Crown Jewel of the Caribbean” it represents an opportunity to shake off the winter dust in preparation for a hard summer’s racing. For others, it is a chance to mix sailing and racing with a family vacation in one of the Caribbean’s favorite locations. Whatever the reason, once experienced, the International Rolex Regatta becomes an annual mark on the calendar. The warm clear waters, beautiful surroundings and excellent competition draws sailors back year after year.

1 MANAGEMENT

The St Thomas Yacht Club (STYC) International Rolex Regatta Committee is the Organizing Authority for this event.

2 RULES

2.1 The regatta will be governed by the rules as defined in The Racing Rules of Sailing 2009-2012.

2.2 Caribbean Sailing Association (CSA) Rating Rule. Crew limitations for CSA classes will be in accordance with the CSA Rating Rule. CSA rating information can be found at www.caribbean-sailing.com.

2.3 IRC Rule Part 1,2 and 3. Crew limitations for IRC Classes will be the number of crew listed on the IRC Certificate, plus one. IRC Rating information can be found at www.rorcrating.com.

2.4 Minimum safety requirements found in Appendix A of this Notice of Race.

2.5 Multihull Advisory Committee, for multihull classes.

2.6 Portsmouth yardstick, for Beach Cats.

2.7 The minimum number of crew aboard each boat shall be four, except for Beach Cats which shall have a minimum of two crew aboard.

3 ADVERTISING

3.1 The 37th International Rolex Regatta 2010 is designated Category C, Advertising is allowed in accordance with ISAF Regulation 20. Competitors are required to respect the brand exclusivity of the Official Sponsor of this event. Rolex’s participation enhances the event for all competitors.

3.2 All boats shall display the event bow stickers on their bow and Rolex flags as prescribed in the Sailing Instructions, for the duration of the Regatta.

4 ELIGIBILITY AND ENTRY

4.1 International Rolex Regatta 2010 is extending an invitation to CSA, IRC, Multihulls, Beach Cats and One-Design classes with a minimum length of 24’ with current rating certificates. One-design classes and groups of boats wishing to race level will have a separate class or will be scored as a separate sub-class within their class at the discretion of the STYC Rolex Regatta Committee based on the number of entries and the event classes that are established.

4.2 You are encouraged to enter on-line at www.rolexcupregatta.com.

4.4 The entry fee for the regatta is as follows: **\$400.00** (US) for all boats except Beach Cats and **\$225.00** (US) for Beach Cats for all entries received before March 12, 2010; **\$500.00** (US) for all late entries.



David Aisher's YEOMAN XXXII blasts downwind

4.5 The completed entry form, and appropriate fees must be received at STYC no later than 17.00 Tuesday, March 24, 2010.

4.6 Registration will take place at St. Thomas Yacht Club from 10.00 – 15.00 Thursday, March 25, 2010.

4.7 As part of the registration process, each boat shall complete a crew list form and each individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a disclaimer of liability and media release.

4.8 Requests for crew substitutions shall be made in writing to the Chief Judge or O.A.

4.9 Email regatta questions to: stycisv@gmail.com or directors@rolexcupregatta.com

5 SCHEDULE

Wednesday March 24

17.00 Deadline for all entries
Preliminary Class assignments

Thursday March 25

10.00-15.00 Check-in & registration deadline
17.00 Skipper's Meeting at STYC
18.00 Welcome Party at STYC

Friday March 26

07.00 Continental breakfast
08.00 Last posting of official notices
10.00 First Warning Signal for Racing
Lunch and dinner buffets, afternoon and evening festivities and regatta party at STYC.

Saturday March 27

07.00 Continental breakfast
08.00 Last posting of official notices
10.00 First Warning Signal for Racing
Lunch buffets, afternoon at STYC.
Evening festivities and regatta party at Yacht Haven Grande.

Sunday March 28

07.00 Continental breakfast
08.00 Last posting of official notices
10.00 First Warning Signal for Racing
On Sunday, March 28 there will be no warning signal after 14.00.
Lunch buffet
18.00 Final Awards Presentations hosted by Rolex and STYC, with regatta party (food, music, and dancing) continuing into the evening at the yacht club.



Perfect conditions for sailing

6 SAILING INSTRUCTIONS

Sailing Instructions will be provided in each Registration Package distributed at registration. Sailing instructions will be available on the regatta web site: www.rolexcupregatta.com.

7 THE COURSES

The Regatta Committee intends to conduct a varied and challenging schedule of races including both windward-leeward and distance courses in the waters surrounding the archipelago of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

8 PENALTY SYSTEMS

8.1 Rule 44.2 is changed such that the penalty shall be one turn including one tack and one gybe that in all other respects complies with rule 44.2.

8.2 Rule 44.3, Scoring Penalty, may be available to boats that may have broken a rule of Part 2 or failed to sail the proper course.

9 PROTESTS

An International Jury will be appointed in accordance with rule 90(b) and Appendix N. Decisions of the International Jury will be final in accordance with rule 70.4.

10 SCORING

10.1 A maximum of 15 races are scheduled for the One-design classes sailing w/l course.

10.2 A maximum of 12 races are scheduled for all other classes.

10.3 A boat's series score will be the sum of her race scores without a discard.

10.4 One completed race shall constitute a series.

11 RADIO COMMUNICATION

All competing boats shall carry a VHF radio capable of receiving communications from the Race Committee on channels 71 and 72.

12 PRIZES

Prizes will be awarded following the racing on Sunday, March 28, 2010. Prizes will be given to first place, second place and third place in each class. A Rolex timepiece will be awarded to the top CSA spinnaker racer as determined by the Race Committee and to the winners of IRC 1, IRC 2, IC-24 and other classes at the discretion of the O.A.

13 DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

Competitors agree to be bound by the International Sailing Federation Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2009/2012, by the Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race. Competitors agree to take any and all responsibility for the nautical qualities of their yacht, the rigging, the crew's ability and the safety equipment. Competitors also agree to take any and all responsibility for damages caused to third persons or their belongings, to themselves or to their belongings, ashore and at sea as a consequence of their participation in the regatta, relieving of any responsibility the St. Thomas Yacht

Club and all persons involved in the organization under whatever qualification and to accept full responsibility for the behavior and dress of the yacht's crew, representatives and guests. Competitors are to be acquainted with ISAF RRS Part 1 Fundamental Rule 4: "The responsibility for a boat's decision to participate in a race or to continue racing is hers alone". In any case, competitors agree that the St. Thomas Yacht Club, the sponsors and their agents, in particular ROLEX S.A., have no responsibility for loss of life or injury to members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to any vessel or property. As part of the registration process, each individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting this disclaimer of liability.

14 PHOTOGRAPHIC AND MEDIA RIGHTS

Competitors will be asked to grant ROLEX S.A. and the Organizing Authority the unrestricted right and permission to use the name and the image for any text, photograph or video footage of either themselves or the yacht they are sailing during the event to be published or broadcast in any media whatsoever (including but not limited to Press and TV advertisements or Internet), for either editorial or advertising purposes or to be used in press information; in this respect, competitors' names and any biographical material of themselves may also be used or reproduced in any way known. As part of the registration process, each individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting this waiver of rights.



APPENDIX A MINIMUM SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 37TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL ROLEX REGATTA

In the event of a conflict between these requirements and applicable class rules, the class rules will apply.

1 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR CSA, IRC AND MULTIHULLS CLASSES

1.1 Softwood plugs, or other suitable materials, tapered to fit into all thru hull fittings.

1.2 Lifelines and bow and stern pulpits, or lifelines secured in such a way as to form a stern pulpit, of not less than 18" in height, except lifelines may be split at the bow to facilitate sheeting. Lifelines shall be taut with not more than seven feet between supports, taut being defined as no apparent sag between the supports. Lifelines shall be attached securely and in such a way that no part of the system is elastic in nature.

1.3 Fire extinguisher, charged and in date, accessible from the deck.

1.4 Two buckets, of not less than two gallons capacity, fitted with lanyards of suitable strength and length.

1.5 One anchor with chain of suitable size for boat's length and displacement with a suitable rope of at least 150 feet in length. No part of the anchor shall overhang the ends of the boat while racing.

1.6 A First Aid kit suitable for rendering First Aid treatment in minor emergencies.

1.7 Charts covering the area to be raced.

1.8 Lifejackets constructed to an accepted standard, for each person on board, with a whistle attached. Lifejackets shall be of a suitable size for the intended wearer and readily accessible.

1.9 One life ring capable of supporting the largest member of the crew in the water and positioned above deck such that it is immediately available for use in an emergency.

1.10 Heaving line at least 50 feet in length, capable of floating, positioned above deck

such that it is immediately available for use in an emergency.

1.11 Four red hand flares and two orange smoke flares.

1.12 VHF radio capable of transmitting and receiving on emergency and race committee channels.

1.13 A compass suitable for navigation.

1.14 A shutoff valve, in working order, shall be fitted to each fuel tank.

1.15 Hatches, companionways and ports shall be capable of being made watertight while racing.

1.16 Cockpits to be self-bailing and fitted with adequate drains.

1.17 Sufficient water shall be carried on board so that at the finish of a race there remains at least one pint per person.

2 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR BEACH CATS

2.1 Life jacket to be worn by each crew member.

2.2 Independent righting line. (Not the jib sheet.)

2.3 Distress flag, 2' x 2', International orange.

2.4 One quart drinking water for each crew member. (This water must be present at the start of the race.)

2.5 50 foot towing line.

2.6 USCG approved emergency strobe light.

2.7 Three (3) USCG approved emergency aerial signal flares.

2.8 A VHF radio is required.

3 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR IC-24 CLASS

The safety requirements for the IC-24 Class are as specified in the IC-24 Class Rules.



Trunk Bay, St. John



Martha Gets it!
 ARETHUSA, Wendy & Phil Lotz' Swan 42 pushes
 PRIVATEER at the start.



Please also complete the reverse side of this Entry Form | For on-line entry, please visit www.yachtscoring.com

EVENT REGISTRATION

37th INTERNATIONAL ROLEX REGATTA | MARCH 26 - 28, 2010 | ST. THOMAS USV

OWNER/SKIPPER'S INFORMATION

First Name: Last Name:

Address: City:

State: Zip Code:

Country: Home Phone:

Mobile Phone: Office Phone:

Fax Number: Email:

Yacht Club: USSA Membership:

YACHT'S INFORMATION

Boat Name: Sail Prefix:

Year Built: Sail Number:

Boat Type: Length (LOA) ft:

Beam: Draft:

Hull Color: Spin Color:

Registration: Radio Call:

Notes or comments:

RATING INFORMATION

One Design
 Cert. Number: CSA: IRC: ToT (any):

Portsmouth Rating
 Base 0-1 2-3 4 5-9

Select Desired Racing
 One Design IRC CSA Spinnaker CSA Non-Spin Racing Large Multi Hull Beach Cats Bar Stool

ENTRY FEE

Entries received and paid before March 12, 2010: **\$400 US (Beach Cats \$225)** Late entries: **\$500 US**
Deadline for entries: Tuesday March 24, 2010, 17.00
Final Registration will be held at St. Thomas Yacht Club Thursday, March 25, 2010, 10.00-15.00



DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY

As part of the registration process, each owner, skipper, and individual participating crewmember will be required to sign a declaration accepting the following disclaimer of liability: I agree to be bound by International Sailing Federation Racing Rules of Sailing (RRS) 2009/2012, by the Sailing Instructions and the Notice of Race. I agree that the sole and inescapable responsibility for the nautical qualities of any yacht participating in the International Rolex Regatta 2009, her rigging, the safety equipment on board and the competence, behavior and dress of her crew is that of the Owner/Charterer of the yacht. I also agree to take any and all responsibility for all damages whatsoever caused to third persons or their belongings, to myself or to my belongings, ashore and at sea as a consequence of my participation in the regatta, and hereby relieve from any responsibility, and agree to indemnify on a full indemnity basis and hold harmless, the St. Thomas Yacht Club, its servants, agents and sponsors (in particular but not only ROLEX SA, ROLEX WATCH USA, and affiliated companies) and their representatives in respect of any claim arising there from.

I am acquainted with ISAF Part I Fundamental Rule 4: "A boat is solely responsible for deciding whether or not to start or to continue racing". In any case, I agree that the ST. THOMAS YACHT CLUB, its servants, agents and sponsors (in particular, but not only ROLEX SA, ROLEX WATCH USA, and affiliated companies) and their representatives have no responsibility for loss of life or injury to members or others, or for the loss of, or damage to any vessel or property.

MEDIA RELEASE

Competitors and crew members on the competing yachts grant, at no cost, the ST. THOMAS YACHT CLUB, ROLEX SA, ROLEX WATCH USA and affiliated companies the absolute right and permission to use their name, voice, image, likeness, biographical material as well as representations of the boats in any media (being television, print and internet media), including video footage, for the sole purposes of advertising, promoting, reporting and disseminating information regarding the INTERNATIONAL ROLEX REGATTA ("the regatta") and the competitors' and crew members' participation in the regatta.

Competitors and crew members on the competing yachts also grant, at no cost, ROLEX SA, ROLEX WATCH USA and affiliated companies, the absolute right and permission to use their name, image, likeness, biographical material as well as representations of the boats in the "Perpetual Spirit by ROLEX" magazine, edited by ROLEX SA.

Competitors' and crew members' name, voice, image, likeness, and biographical material shall not be used by ROLEX SA, ROLEX WATCH USA and affiliated companies in a way which constitutes an endorsement of ROLEX's products by said competitors and crew members, unless the relevant competitor or crew member is engaged by ROLEX SA or ROLEX WATCH USA or affiliated companies to endorse ROLEX's products or gives his/her prior written consent to such use.

Please fill out all information completely and return to:

THE ST. THOMAS YACHT CLUB | 6224 Estate Nazareth | St. Thomas, US Virgin Islands 00802-1104
Tel: +1 (340) 775-6320 | Fax: +1 (340) 775-4701 | registration@rolexcupregatta.com

For acceptance of the Notice of Race and the rules and the regulations quoted therein:

NAME:
(print)

SIGNATURE: **DATE:**
(Owner | Skipper)

Please Note: All crew members will be required to execute a copy of the "Media Rights" release set forth above prior to racing.

SERVICES

U.S. International Dialing Code is 1
The Islands are in the 340 Area Code

Power 120 volts | 60 Hz

OFFICIAL REGATTA HOTEL

Frenchman's Reef
& Morningstar Beach Resort

Phone: (340) 776-8500

www.marriott.com



OFFICIAL REGATTA MARINA

Yacht Haven Grande

Phone: (340) 774-9500

www.yachthavengrande.com

email: YHGST@igymarinas.com

EVENT COMMITTEE

Honorary Chairman Denis Comment
Regatta Directors

John Sweeney and Bill Canfield

Commodore William Newbold

STYC Liaison Mike Williams

Principal Race Officer David Brennan

Assistant Principal Race Officer

Dick Neville

Chief Judge Arthur Wullschleger

Co Chief Judge Tom Rinda

Scorer Luiz E. Kahl

Registration Lyn Reid

USVI TOURISM INFO

Local Tourism Offices

St. Thomas

Beverly Nicholson-Doty, Director

Allegra Kean-Moorehead, Comm. Dir.

Phone: (340) 774-8784

Fax: (340) 774-4390

TOLL FREE: 800 372-USVI

Email: akmoorehead@usvitourism.vi

St. Croix

4 Strand St., 2nd fl.

Fredrikstad, St. Croix, VI 00841

Phone: (340) 772-0357

Fax: (340) 773-5074

Email: akmoorehead@usvitourism.vi

St. John

Francilla Williams

PO Box 200

St. John, VI 00831

Phone: (340) 776-6450

Email: fwilliams@usvitourism.vi

Atlanta

USVI Dept. of Tourism

245 Peachtree Center Ave

Marquis One Tower, Suite MB-05

Atlanta, GA 30303

Phone: 404-688-0906

Fax: 404-525-1102

Director: Kim Milliner

kmilliner@usvitourism.vi

Los Angeles

USVI Dept. of Tourism

PO Box 761308

Los Angeles, CA 90076

Phone: 213-739-0138

Fax: 213-739-2005

Director: Thelma Brewster

tsbrewster@usvitourism.vi

Miami

USVI Dept. of Tourism

2655 S. Le Jeune Blvd, Suite 907

Coral Gables FL 33134

Phone: 305-442-7200

Fax: 305-445-9044

Director: Jacqueline Hodge

jhodge@usvitourism.vi

New York

USVI Dept. of Tourism

1 Penn Plaza, Suite 3525

New York, NY 10119

Phone: 212-502-5300

Gwen Rivera

grivera@usvitourism.vi

Washington, DC

USVI Dept. of Tourism

444 N. Capital St. NW, Suite 305

Washington, DC 20001

Phone: 202-624-3595

Loan Sewer

lsewer@usvitourism.vi

Italy

USVI Dept. of Tourism

Via Carlo Pasacane, 26

20129 Milano, Italy

Phone: +39 02 3310 5841

mail@themasrl.it





Freddie Mills & crew muscle KIALOA V around the Islands

2009 (TOP 3 PODIUM) RESULTS

Boat	Type	Skipper	Hometown
IC 24 (One Design - 13 Boats)			
1. Brand-New Second Hand	IC 24	Christopher Curreri	St. Thomas, VI, USVI
2. Intac	IC 24	Mark Plaxton	Road Town, VG
3. Lime	IC 24	Colin Rathbun	Tortola, BVI
Spinnaker Racing (CSA - 14 Boats)			
1. Jurakan	Melges 32	Dave West	Road Town, Tortola, BVI
2. Team Coors Light	Melges 24	Frits Bus	St. Maarten, N.A.
3. Urayo	J 24	Gilberto E. Rivera	Guayanabo, PR, USA
Spinnaker Racing/Cruising (CSA - 13 Boats)			
1. Lost Horizon	J 122	James Dobbs	ANT
2. Barra	Morris 48	Bruce MacNeil	Lincoln, MA, USA
3. Three Harkoms	Farr 44	James Hudleston	Tortola, VG
Non-Spinnaker Racing (CSA - 12 Boats)			
1. Shamrock V	J 120	Thomas Mullen	Campton, NH, USA
2. Bonne Chance	Beneteau First 35S5	Bernardo Gonzalez	Dorado, PR, USA
3. Cayennita Grande	J 36	Antonio Sanpere	Christiansted, VI, USVI
Large Multi Hulls (CSA - 1 Boats)			
1. Piglet	Newick 23	Joseph San Martin	Christiansted, VI, USVI
IRC (IRC - 5 Boats)			
1. Vincitore	RP 52	Jim Mitchell	SUI
2. Arethusa	Swan 42	Philip Lotz	New Canaan, CT, USA
3. Privateer	Farr/Cookson 50 50	Ron O'Hanley	Boston, MA, USA
Beach Cats (Portsmouth - 6 Boats)			
1. Auto-Manic	Hobie 16	Chris Schreiber	Christiansted, VI, USVI
2. Island Sol	Hobie 16	Paul Stoeken	St. Thomas, VI, USVI
3. Blame it on Rhea	Nacra Inter 20	Mark Chong	St. Thomas, VI, USVI





MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

On behalf of the people and Government of the United States Virgin Islands, I am honored to invite the world's sailing community to St. Thomas for the 37th annual International Rolex Regatta. We are proud that this well-known and international event continues to attract the best sailors to our Territory and the Caribbean's legendary sailing waters.

If you have participated in previous Virgin Islands Race Weeks, you are well aware of the wonderful hospitality of the St. Thomas Yacht Club in particular, and the community of St. Thomas in general. If you are considering attendance for the first time, let me assure you that you will not be disappointed with either the racing competition, the social activities, or the island atmosphere. Our entire community looks forward to the International Rolex Regatta and all related events. As soon as you step foot on St. Thomas, you will feel the excitement generated by the gathering of the world's best sailors and vessels for a week of unsurpassed racing and fun.

While on St. Thomas, I urge you to explore the island, visit our historical district, sample our top restaurants and luxury shops, and get to know our people. If time permits, please visit St. John, St. Croix, and Water Island. You will learn that the Territory offers a variety of experiences to visitors and that each of our islands is a unique destination waiting to be discovered.

Please mark your calendars now for March of 2010 and the International Rolex Regatta. You will never regret your decision to participate in the premiere racing event in the Caribbean! I look forward to meeting you next year.

John P. de Jongh, Jr.

Governor of the United States Virgin Islands



Power reaching there way out of Charlotte Amalie harbor, this CSA class heads offshore



VINCITORE

HISTORY AND SHOPPING IN ST. THOMAS

The prominence of St. Thomas as one of the Caribbean's most renowned shopping meccas is, for many, perhaps the most alluring attraction. Unrivaled by any other Caribbean destination, shopping in St. Thomas – combined with fine dining and top quality accommodation – offers truly exceptional value.

Stretched along the waterfront, restored 17th and 18th century warehouses – that once held molasses, rum, spices and other trade goods awaiting export – now house a variety of unique shops containing modern-day treasures. Duty free bargains and exotic treasures can be found in Charlotte Amalie, Yacht Haven and Havensight and Port of Sale Malls.

Charlotte Amalie Harbor is the perfect place for visitors to begin their walking journey through St. Thomas history. Recently refurbished Fort Christian, built in 1672, is the oldest standing structure in the Virgin

Islands. This brick fortress was constructed to protect the town's harbor from raiding European armadas, which sailed the Caribbean centuries ago. Having served as St. Thomas' first Government House, a church and community government center, Fort Christian today is home to the Virgin Islands Museum.

To continue your journey, stroll along the island's winding roads, away from the heart of Charlotte Amalie, to Government House. Visitors interested in getting a glimpse of local political life may tour the first two floors of the building. Continue on, climbing up the 99 Steps (actually 103), which take you to the summit of Government Hill. This vantage point offers a truly breathtaking view of the harbor.

Near the top of the 99 Steps loom the remnants of the medieval-style Fort Skjtsborg. Better known as Blackbeard's Castle, it is one of the many structures erected as part of the Danish colonial government's attempt to protect the island. While there is no evidence that pirates inhabited the tower, Fort Skjtsborg continues to hold special intrigue for legend believers. Formerly used as a residence and an observatory, Blackbeard's Castle is on the National Register of Historic Places and today doubles as both a popular restaurant and hotel.

Complete your tour with a stroll through St. Thomas Market Square or Emancipation Garden – appropriately named in the commemoration of governor Peter von Scholten's emancipation of the slaves on July 3, 1848. Whether soaking up the sun on one of our many beautiful beaches, shopping along the downtown waterfront, or touring historical sites spanning nearly three centuries, St. Thomas visitors will find plenty to fill their days.

ST. CROIX: RICH IN HERITAGE

The historical treasures of St. Croix harken back to a time when the island was a prosperous commercial port and pirates looted its coastline. Colorful shops and fine restaurants, housed in old colonial structures, line St. Croix's wide streets. The distinctly 18th Century European architecture reflects a period when seven flags – Spanish, Dutch, British, French, Knights of Malta, Danish and American – flew at different times over the island.

Away from the towns of Christiansted and Frederiksted, visitors to St. Croix can discover reminders of the days when sugar cultivation was the island's main industry. Blessed with captivating natural beauty, extraordinary historic sites, lively cultural traditions and the Virgin Islands' only casino, St. Croix offers a mix of attractions that has visitors wanting to return.

ST. JOHN: UNSPOILED NATURE

St. John, the smallest of the most well-known U.S. Virgin Islands, is known for its unspoiled beaches and National Park. Established in the 1950's with land donated by American financier Laurance Rockefeller, the park now protects about two-thirds of the 19-square mile island, including more than 5,600 acres of offshore marine habitats. The white sandy beaches are shaded, in contrast, by green seagrape trees and coconut palms. The crystal clear waters are home to a dazzling array of coral reefs and tropical fish.

At Cruz Bay, the island's main town, visitors can take in an eclectic mix of boutiques, art galleries, bars and fine restaurants, while still enjoying the island's characteristically slow pace of life.



THE DIVER'S WATCH

The Oyster Perpetual Submariner is the ultimate reference chosen by professionals with a taste for style and the deep. Launched in 1953, it hailed a new era in diving tradition. With its remarkable Triplock winding crown – a feature that seals the Oyster case as tight as the hatch of a submarine – it is technically superior. The Submariner is water resistant to 300 metres. It is not only an essential part of diving equipment, but gives anyone the opportunity to taste adventure to the full. Visit [ROLEX.COM](https://www.rolex.com). And explore more.

THE SUBMARINER



ROLEX