

VIRGIN ISLANDS

yacht charter

MONCADA 1963

Yachts

ITINERARY



MONCADA BROKERS' TIPS



The most beautiful sea I have experienced

Many years have passed since, while on board the Esmeralda, I discovered the British Virgin Islands together with a group of extraordinary friends. I was just a girl then, and the amazing colours and bountiful natural scenery weren't yet on postcards and seen everywhere on smartphones. The primordial and very sweet vision of these islands was love at first sight. I was still a beginner broker in our family company, but my genuine enthusiasm for the BVI itinerary helped me close quite a few charter trips for customers who, even today, still take our boats around the world.

The islands, dozens in all and only about fifteen of them inhabited, are one wonderful surprise after another. In Tortola, visit the restaurants facing the sea in Wickhams Cay, where you can eat fresh local fish such as mahi mahi or wahoo. Personally, I also recommend the J.R. O'Neal Botanic Gardens. The next most well-known island is Virgin Gorda, with the ruins of its old copper mine. Anegada has bright white beaches, and Jost Van Dyke is among the smallest but very well known for its drinks. You must try the famous Painkiller cocktail at the Soggy Dollar, where it was invented.

Every day in the British Virgin Islands is different because each island has its own personality, and that keeps your holiday always varied.

Important tip: *Always keep some ginger ale with you between islands. If the sea comes up, just drink a little bit and you'll feel better immediately.*

Isabella Moncada

The Virgin Islands are a scatter of dozens of islands and cays, from the green hills of St John to the flat coral of Anegada.

Short sails between them leave room for quiet anchorages, lively harbours and long days in the water. What follows is a suggested route for a week aboard, and a starting point. We shape the week around the islands and the pace you prefer.





St Thomas is the usual starting point for the Virgin Islands, with an international airport and the deep, sheltered harbour of Charlotte Amalie.

Your charter begins at St Thomas, where you board before the first evening. If you arrive early, Charlotte Amalie is worth a morning, with its Danish colonial buildings and craft markets. Magens Bay, on the north coast, is a calm place for a first swim, and the skyride to Paradise Point looks over the harbour at sunset.

DAY 1 (1963) ST THOMAS



St John is the smallest of the three main US Virgin Islands, and one of the quietest. Hurricane Hole, on its east side, is known for its mangroves.

Much of St John is national park, which is why its bays stay so green and unbuilt. Take the tender through the mangroves of Hurricane Hole, then snorkel the underwater trail at Trunk Bay, where reef fish and the occasional turtle stay close to the shore. Every cove has its own character, and the day can be as active or as slow as you like.

DAY 2 1963 ST JOHN



Yachts usually clear customs into the British Virgin Islands at the West End of Tortola. The Indians, four rock pinnacles just off Norman Island, are a protected underwater site.

Tortola is the main harbour of the British Virgin Islands and the usual place to clear in. From there it is a short sail to Norman Island, said to have inspired Treasure Island, where the sea caves known as The Caves are good for snorkelling and swimming.

DAY 3 (1963) TORTOLA AND NORMAN ISLAND



Peter Island and Cooper Island lie across the Sir Francis Drake Channel from Tortola. Nearby, the wreck of the RMS Rhone, which sank in a hurricane in 1867, is a celebrated dive site.

Peter Island has quiet beaches and sheltered anchorages, and Deadman's Bay is the best known, where Blackbeard is said to have marooned fifteen pirates with a bottle of rum. Sail on to Cooper Island, an eco-minded island with solar-powered accommodation, and spend the afternoon on its quiet beach.

DAY 4 1963 PETER ISLAND AND COOPER ISLAND

The Baths are a national park of giant granite boulders, sand and sheltered rock pools, and a popular daytime anchorage. Gorda Sound, on the northeast end of the island, is the usual overnight stop.

Virgin Gorda is known for The Baths, where giant granite boulders form pools and grottoes you can swim and scramble through. Go early, before the day boats arrive. The walk up Gorda Peak looks across the islands, and Little Dix Bay is a calm curve of white sand to end the day.



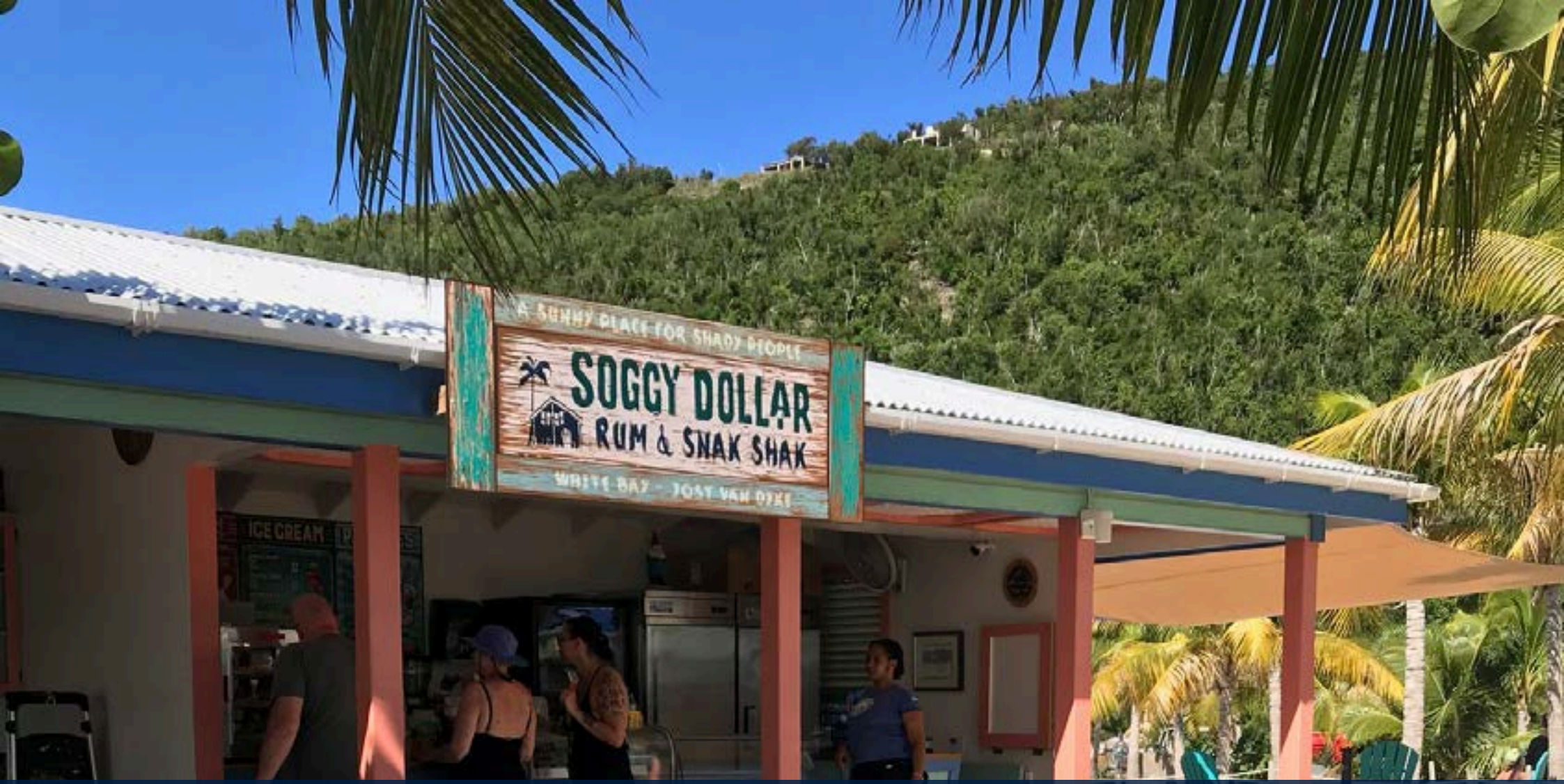
DAY 5 1963 VIRGIN GORDA



Anegada is the northernmost of the British Virgin Islands and the only coral island in the group, low, flat and surrounded by reef.

Anegada lies apart from the other islands, flat and made of coral, a sail across open water from Virgin Gorda. The reef around it is demanding, so we plan this day around the yacht's draft and the weather. It rewards the effort with long, empty beaches, a re-established flock of flamingos in the salt ponds, and lobster grilled on the beach in the evening.

DAY 6 1963 ANEGADA



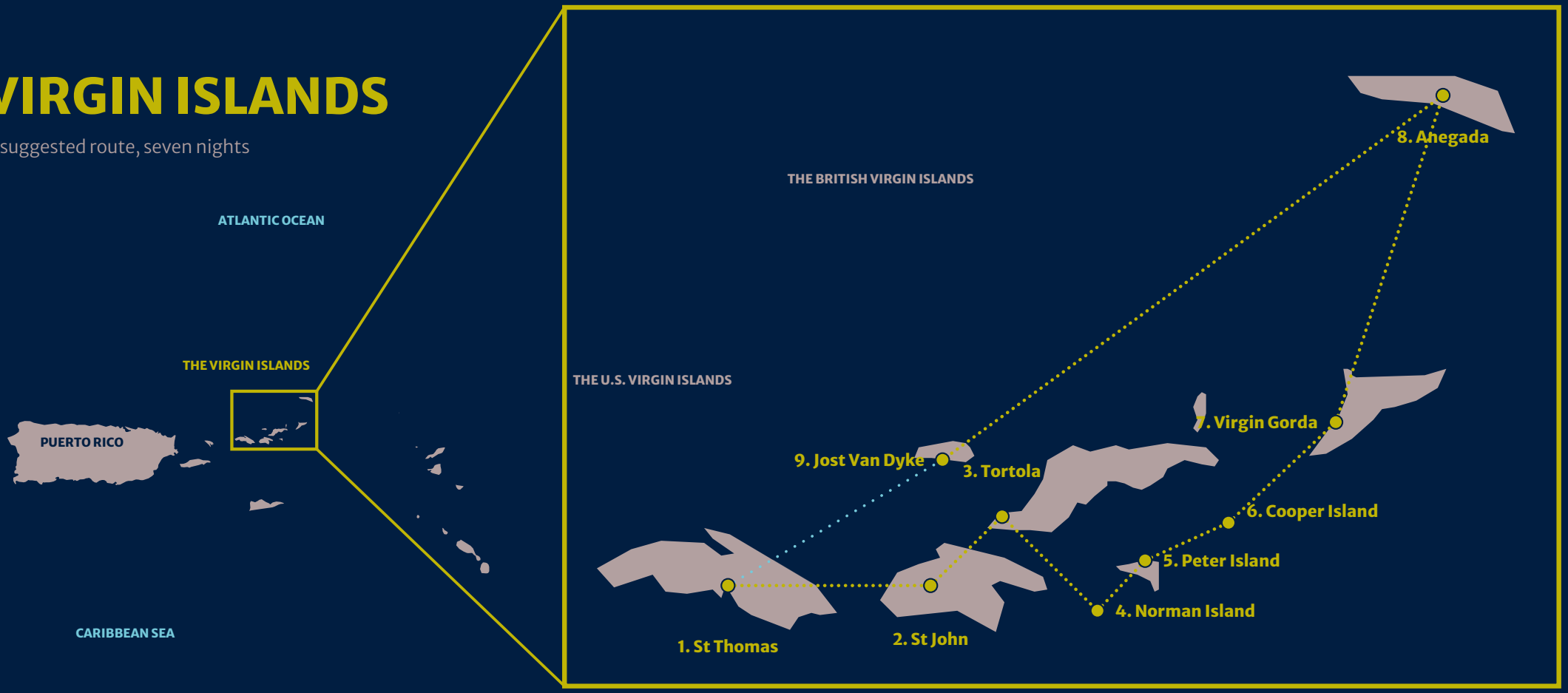
Jost Van Dyke is the smallest of the four main British Virgin Islands. White Bay is the usual day anchorage and Great Harbour the usual overnight stop.

The longest sail of the week takes you west to Jost Van Dyke, a small island with a large reputation. White Bay is home to the Soggy Dollar Bar, where the Painkiller was first made, and Bubbly Pool, a rock pool that foams when the swell is up, is a walk from Great Harbour. Dinner is ashore, with live music if the evening suits. The next morning a short sail of about 16 nautical miles returns you to St Thomas, where you disembark.

DAY 7 1963 JOST VAN DYKE AND BACK TO ST THOMAS

VIRGIN ISLANDS

A suggested route, seven nights



Day 7 ends at Jost Van Dyke; on the next morning the yacht returns to St Thomas

Schematic map, not for navigation

International airport

Cyril E. King International Airport

Language

English

Currency

US Dollar

Average air temperature

22° C to 30° C
December to June

Average water temperature

26° C to 28° C
December to June

Distances (approx.)

Day 1: embark
Day 2: 5 nm
Day 3: 9 nm
Day 4: 9 nm
Day 5: 10 nm
Day 6: 14 nm
Day 7: 27 nm
Day 8: 16 nm

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Yachts

Speak with our charter team when the time is right.

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This itinerary is a suggestion. The final route depends on the yacht, the weather and the wishes of your guests.