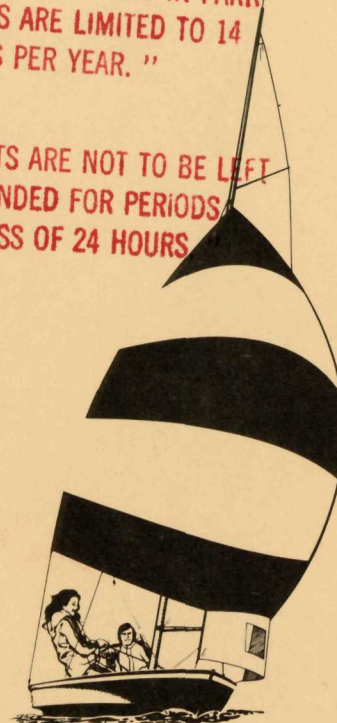


# SAFE BOATING

**" OVERNIGHT STAYS IN PARK WATERS ARE LIMITED TO 14 NIGHTS PER YEAR. "**

**" BOATS ARE NOT TO BE LEFT UNATTENDED FOR PERIODS IN EXCESS OF 24 HOURS "**



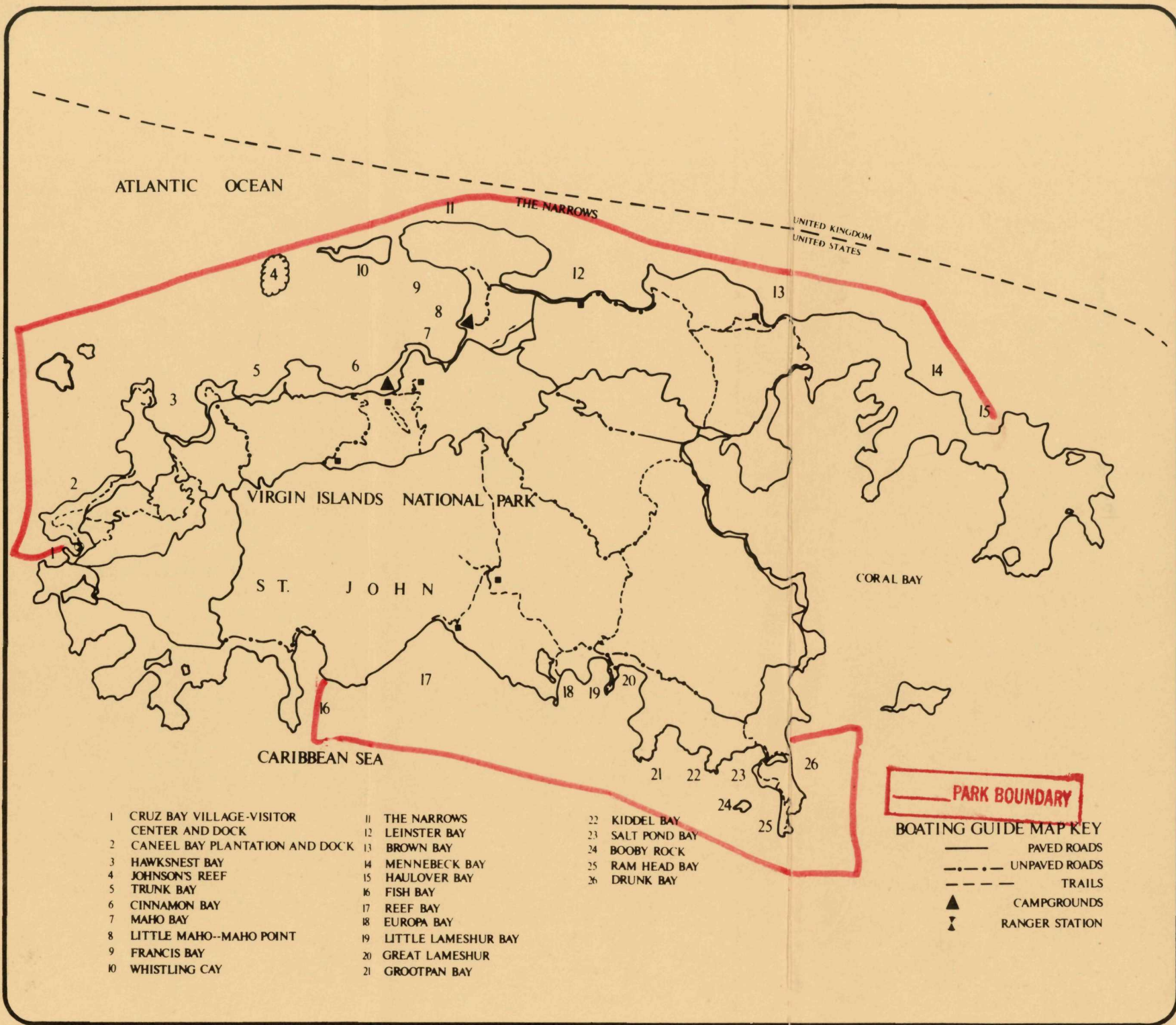
# VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

To enable all visitors, including those of future generations, to enjoy the scenic beauty and natural conditions of Virgin Islands National Park, everyone's help is needed. Boaters in particular can assist in preserving the natural beauty of the offshore park waters.

**A WORD ABOUT VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK . . .**  
The park was created by Congress in 1956 to preserve outstanding scenic features in their natural conditions for public benefit and inspiration. In 1962 Congress added the North and South Offshore Areas to the park to preserve for public benefit significant coral gardens, marine life, and seascapes. This addition included the submerged lands and waters of the offshore areas.

Public use of the offshore park waters is subject to regulations necessary for the protection of natural conditions, the prevention of damage to marine life and formations, and the safety and enjoyment of park visitors.

**THE PROTECTION OF NATURAL CONDITIONS** on park lands and waters for your enjoyment is the prime national park purpose. We know you will help.



# PARK WATERS

## North Offshore Area

(See map numbers for locations)

1. **Cruz Bay Visitor Center and Dock:** (809-776-6201) Ranger and informational services, exhibits, Topo maps, 905 Charts and publications. Restrooms. National Park Service finger pier use limit 1 hour.

**Cruz Bay Village:** Customs & Immigration; groceries, restaurants, taxis, small boat & car rentals, SCUBA. Caneel Bay Shipyard: Boat repairs, gasoline, diesel, water. Harbor anchorage often crowded.

2. **Caneel Bay Plantation and Dock:** (809-776-6111) Resort services for day guests and overnighters. **Anchorage:** Stay clear of marked channel and buoyed swim areas. Plantation shoreline from Honeymoon beach (west) into Hawksnest Bay (east). The private hotel property includes the Durloe Cays off Turtle Point. **HAZARDS:** Swimmers, snorklers, reefs.

3. **Hawksnest Bay.** Central, or south beach is public with picnic area & grills, pit toilets. Private property east side; Caneel Bay property west side. **Anchorage:** outside line of swim buoys. Beach entry between red and black buoys by hand powered craft only. **HAZARDS:** Swimmers & snorklers, inshore patch reefs. No lifeguard services.

4. **Johnson's Reef.** Large patch reef a half mile north of Trunk Bay. Good water on south (inshore) side of UNLIGHTED, RED buoy. Deepwater passage north side of reef marked by LIGHTED, BLACK buoy. NPS water boundary passes 1,800 feet (600 meters) north of the black buoy.

5. **Trunk Bay.** Scenic, heavily visited bay and beach. Snack and picnic facilities, telephones, outside showers, toilets, dressing rooms. 200 meter loop self-guiding snorkel trail west side of Trunk Cay. Daily lifeguard services. **HAZARDS:** Swimmers & snorkelers, crowded anchorage & heavy boat traffic. Heavy ground swells. **Anchorage:** Stay outside of line of swim buoys. Beach entry between red and black buoys by hand powered craft only. **Restrictions:** Fishing or any disturbance of/or removal of marine life in Trunk Bay is prohibited.

6. **Cinnamon Bay.** (809-776-6330) National Park campground located here with bare sites. Equipped tents, cabins, group sites by reservation. Reserve 8 months ahead for holidays and period, Dec. 15 - Apr. 30. Telephones, commissary, cafeteria, showers, boat charters, dive shop, NPS programs and Ranger services. Cinnamon Cay and Peter Bay are privately owned lands. **Anchorage:** Stay outside line of swim buoys. Beach entry by handpowered craft only. Anchorage permitted west of Cinnamon Cay. **HAZARDS:** Swimmers & snorkelers full length of beach and vicinity of America Point. Reefs.

7. **Maho Bay.** Most of shoreline is privately owned. Usually calm water. Good day and night anchorage.

8. **Lille Maho--Maho Point.** Private Maho Bay Campground (809-776-6240) with 60-plus sites, commissary, telephone, beach, bus service. **Anchorage:** Stay clear of beach. **HAZARDS:** Swimmers & snorkelers, reefs.

9. **Francis Bay.** Good day and night anchorage. Fine beach, picnic tables, pit toilet, refuse containers ashore. Trail connects to paved road. **Anchorage:** Stay outside line of swim buoys. Beach entry between red and black buoys south end of

beach by hand powered craft only. **HAZARDS:** Swimmers & snorklers & congested holiday anchorage. Water skiing not permitted in Park waters.

10. **Whistling Cay:** Park water boundary is about 400 feet (122 meters) north of the Cay. **HAZARDS:** Shoal on SE side extending into Fungi Passage, boat traffic through the passage. (Note Danish Customhouse ruin on shore.)

11. **The Narrows.** International and Park offshore boundaries extend east-west, midway between Mary Point and the British Virgin Islands (Great Thatch Cay). Note nesting or roosting pelicans high along Mary Point.

12. **Leinster Bay.** Picnic area, pit toilet near beach. Annaberg sugar mill ruins with windmill tower, self-guiding tour and fine overlook. From picnic area, paved road leads west 7.5 miles (12 km) to Cruz Bay via Cinnamon Bay Camp. Unpaved shoreline road connects to Waterlemon Bay.

**MARY CREEK** to west is shallow reef bordered with mangroves. Lands and structures bordering Waterlemon Bay and Cay to Threadneedle Point are privately owned. **Anchorage:** Waterlemon Bay south of the Cay. **HAZARDS:** Reefs in vicinity of Mary Creek off Annaberg picnic area, shoreline reefs and reef extending east side of Waterlemon Cay.

13. **Brown Bay.** Shallow, reefy bay with small beach. No facilities. Trails connect southeast to Coral Bay and west to Waterlemon Bay.

14. **Mennebeck Bay.** Small bay and beach. No facilities. Exposed to seas from East and Northeast.

15. **Haulover Bay.** Small Bay exposed to Northeast seas. Cobble beach. Access to East End road and Round Bay. Excellent snorkeling off cobble beach. Park offshore boundary meets land boundary at beach marker. Virgin Islanders once hauled small boats across to calm waters inside.

## SOUTHSIDE OFFSHORE AREAS

16. **Fish Bay.** Sheltered anchorage bounded by private property, including small dock. Sandy beach east side is public property. Park water boundary begins on east shore behind entrance reef. Road access from here to Cruz Bay. **Anchorage:** Central portion of bay.

17. **Reef Bay.** Chimney on shore marks Reef Bay Sugar Factory site with small picnic area, pit toilet. Hiking trail from beach leads 3 miles (5 km) up valley to Centerline Road via Petroglyphs and other Danish Colonial ruins. **Anchorage:** Anchor well off the beach. **HAZARDS:** Shallow reef east side. Note breakers.

**Genti Bay.** A small cove just west is somewhat sheltered during ground seas and has a gently sloping sand beach. Trail from here leads to the Reef Bay Factory. **Anchorage:** Same as for Reef Bay. **HAZARDS:** Shoals and reefs on both sides of bay, note breakers on west side.

18. **Europa Bay.** Exposed, rocky shoreline. Good offshore snorkeling from boat.

19. **Little Lameshur Bay.** Sheltered bay with fine beach, picnic area, pit toilet. Trails connect to Reef Bay, Bordeaux Mountain, Yawzi Point. Road connection to Coral Bay. House and radio tower above bay marks Southshore NPS Ranger Station. Telephone. Structures onshore recall sugar, bay rum, cattle and lime juice production. Good anchorage, snorkeling and

swimming here. No lifeguard services. **Anchorage:** Stay well off the beach. **HAZARDS:** Exposed rocks with shallow reef in bay.

20. **Great Lameshur Bay.** Sheltered overnight anchorage. Park dock on west side restricted, except for loading or unloading passengers. College operated ecological research station (VIERS) in vicinity. **Anchorage:** Central portion of bay. **HAZARDS:** Reef off Yawzi Point between the two Lameshur Bays.

21. **Grootpan Bay.** Small exposed bay, not good anchorage. Boundary marker on inner east shore notes private lands extending to east of Kiddel Bay.

22. **Kiddel Bay.** Small bay with partially exposed reef west side of entrance. All shore property is privately owned.

23. **Salt Pond Bay.** Good, sheltered overnight anchorage Sandy beach with picnic area, pit toilet. Trail at west end connects to paved Southshore Road to Coral Bay. Trails from east end of beach lead past a salt pond to Drunk Bay, or follow the eastern shoreline of Salt Pond Bay out to scenic Ram Head Point. All arid, rocky, scrub country. Carry extra water when hiking. Good swimming and snorkeling in the bay. No lifeguard services. **Anchorage:** Stay well off the beach. **HAZARDS:** Large reef inside entrance of bay. Note exposed rocks. Also, watch for swimmers and snorkelers.

24. **Booby Rock.** Located just south of entrance to Salt Pond Bay. Nesting site for sea birds, including terns and boobies. Excellent snorkeling and diving from boat.

25. **Ram Head Bay.** Deep water, but exposed to southeast winds and swells. No landing. Excellent snorkeling just inside Ram Head Point (west side) and along fringing reef to cobble beach. **HAZARDS:** Swells and chop.

26. **Drunk Bay.** Exposed to winds and seas with extensive fringing reefs. **Not recommended for anchorage.** Safe access to shoreline is by trail from Salt Pond Bay. Offshore Park boundary meets land boundary at North end of Drunk Bay.

## REGULATIONS

Regulations for the protection and management of the natural, historical and physical resources of National Parks, Forests, and Public Property, including Virgin Islands National Park, are contained in the **Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36**, copies of which are available for reference at Park Headquarters, Red Hook, St. Thomas, the Cruz Bay Visitor Center, St. John and aboard Park Ranger patrol boats. The most pertinent regulations concerning the protection of marine life, fishing, boat handling, and physical resource protection within the water and land boundaries of Virgin Islands National Park follow:

1. Do not damage, break, or take any underwater growth or formation. The use of anchors must not cause damage to underwater features. Do not disturb or remove wrecks, or their contents without written permission from the Park Superintendent.

2. Do not dump trash, garbage, or refuse of any kind in park waters. (All vessels in park waters must have a waste receptacle aboard.) Toilet wastes must be discharged or disposed of a mile or more from the nearest shore.

3. Fishing is permitted, except in Trunk Bay, with hand held rod and line, or by pots and traps of conventional Virgin Islands design, up to a maximum of five feet at the greatest dimension. Bait fish may be taken by nets no longer than 20 feet with one inch mesh.

4. Florida Spiny Lobsters (*Panulirus argus*) may be taken by hand, or by hand-held snare. **DO NOT** take female lobsters with eggs. Limits: Two per day, two day possession limit. Legal size limit: 3½ inch carapace or 7 inch body length. **DO NOT** take Rock Lobsters. **DO NOT** take the lobster species variously called Slipper Lobster, Buccaneer, or Locust Lobster.

5. The molluscs commonly called WHELKS and QUEEN CONCHS may be taken by hand. Limits: Two Queen Conch per day; two day possession limit. One gallon of Whelks per day; two day possession limit. Do not disturb or take any other species of molluscs in Park waters.

6. The possession or use of any type of spearfishing equipment or metal detecting equipment within Park boundaries is prohibited.

7. Do not anchor or maneuver boats inside buoyed swim areas. Do not water ski in Park waters. Do not moor boats to trees or vegetation.

8. Dogs, cats, or other pets are not permitted in campgrounds, or on beaches designated by swim buoys (Caneel, Hawksnest, Trunk, Cinnamon and Francis Bays). Elsewhere in the Park, pets must be under physical restraint at all times.

9. Do not build fires on the ground. Cooking fires are permitted only in the grills provided. Food and beverages are not permitted on beaches designated by swim buoys. Please keep the beaches clean.

10. Please maintain quiet aboard boats, especially at night.

11. National Park Rangers may at any time board any vessel in Park waters, while afloat or underway, in order to conduct official business.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION is available at Ranger Stations at Red Hook, Cruz Bay, and Lameshur and from the Superintendent, Virgin Islands National Park, P.O. Box 806, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00801. Telephone number is (809) 775-2050.

## CHARTS & MAPS

Ocean Survey charts on sale at Cruz Bay Ranger Station:

No. 905 - Virgin Islands. Includes both U.S. and British Virgin Islands on a scale of 1:100,000.

No. 938 - Pillsbury Sound. Includes eastern end of St. Thomas and western half of St. John. Scale 1:15,000.

(Above charts available prepaid @ \$3.25 each from National Ocean Survey, Distribution Division (C44), Riverdale, MD 20840, (301) 436-6990.

U.S.G.S. Topographic maps on sale at Cruz Bay Ranger Station.

Western St. John Quadrangle. (Scale 1:24,000)

Eastern St. John Quadrangle. (Scale 1:24,000)

Both quadrangles available prepaid @ \$1.25 each from U.S.G.S. Distribution Division, 1200 South Eads Street, Arlington, VA 22202, (702) 557-2751.

## If You Need Emergency Assistance:

Contact the nearest ranger station, or use VHF—Ch. 16 via station WAH to telephone for ranger assistance. When operating, patrol boats monitor Ch. 16. An alternate choice is to notify US Coast Guard Base, San Juan, on Ch. 16.



United States Department of the Interior

National Park Service

