



Cruise Port Guide: St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Charlotte Amalie – Havensight & Crown Bay



St. Thomas is one of the Caribbean’s most iconic cruise destinations—famous for its stunning beaches, world-class snorkeling, duty-free shopping, and postcard-perfect views. Cruisers typically dock at **Havensight** or **Crown Bay**, both close to the capital, Charlotte Amalie.



At the Port: What to Expect

Havensight Cruise Port



The main cruise terminal with:

- Large shopping mall (Havensight Mall)
 - Jewelry, liquor, perfume & local craft shops
 - Restaurants, coffee shops & bars
 - **Direct access to the Paradise Point Skyride**
 - Taxis always available for beach & tour transfers
- Perfect for shoppers and beachgoers.

Crown Bay Cruise Port



A quieter port area featuring:

- Boutique shops & craft kiosks
 - Outdoor bars and eateries
 - Easy taxi access to beaches & downtown
- Great for a relaxed port experience.

Best Things to Do Near the Port

1. Paradise Point Skyride (From Havensight)



Ride a gondola up to overlook the harbor—one of the most famous views in the Caribbean.

2. Duty-Free Shopping in Charlotte Amalie

Well-known for jewelry, watches, liquor, and electronics at excellent prices.

3. Walk the Waterfront

From Havensight or downtown, enjoy pretty harbor views, local shops, and small cafes.

4. Explore Historic Sites

- 99 Steps
- Fort Christian
- Blackbeard's Castle (when open)
- Downtown Danish colonial architecture

🌴 Top Excursions & Activities

★ 1. Magens Bay Beach



One of the world's most beautiful beaches—calm water, soft sand, and breathtaking views.

Tip: Arrive early to beat crowds.

★ 2. Coki Beach & Coral World Ocean Park



Great snorkeling close to shore; Coral World offers marine exhibits, sea lions, and underwater observatories.

★ 3. Sapphire Beach

Crystal-clear water with excellent snorkeling and beautiful views of St. John.

★ 4. A Day Trip to St. John



Take a ferry for a quick escape to a quieter island. Top spots:

- **Trunk Bay** (underwater snorkeling trail)
- **Cinnamon Bay**
- **Honeymoon Beach**

★ 5. Catamaran Snorkel & Sail

Every cruise line offers versions of this—visit Turtle Cove at Buck Island to swim with sea turtles.

★ 6. Kayak, Hike, & Snorkel Adventures

Options include:

- Mangrove kayaking
- Eco-hikes
- Reef snorkeling tours

Great mix of active and scenic.

★ 7. Mountain Top Overlook

Famous for banana daiquiris and panoramic views of **Magens Bay**.



Food & Drink Favorites

- **Gladys' Café** – authentic Caribbean dishes
- **Degrazia's** – waterfront dining
- **Duffy's Love Shack** – fun cocktails in Red Hook
- **Margaritaville Resort** – bars & beach access



Weather Tips — Year-Round in St. Thomas

St. Thomas enjoys warm, sunny weather year-round.

Temperatures

- **Daytime:** 82–90°F (28–32°C)
- **Nights:** 75–78°F (24–26°C)

Best Months

- **December–April:** Dry season, lower humidity, peak season.
- **May–November:** Hotter, more humid, with occasional afternoon showers.

Hurricane Season

- **June–November**, especially **September–October**
Cruise lines adjust routes for safety.

What to Pack

- Reef-safe sunscreen
- Lightweight clothing & swimwear
- Water shoes for rocky snorkeling areas
- Hat, sunglasses, and plenty of sun protection
- A light rain jacket in summer/fall



Transportation Tips

- **Taxis** are the easiest way to get around. Prices are posted and per-person.
- **Open-air safari taxis** are common for beach runs.

- **Ferries** run from Red Hook or Charlotte Amalie to St. John.
- **Walking** from Havensight to downtown is possible (~20–25 minutes).
- Renting a car is available but not usually recommended for short port days.



Final Tips for Your Day in St. Thomas

- Beach chairs and snorkel gear are available for rent at most beaches.
- Bring cash—some smaller vendors don't accept cards.
- If going to **St. John**, allow buffer time to get back.
- Magens Bay can get crowded—early morning or late afternoon is best.
- Use reef-safe sunscreen to protect local coral reefs.