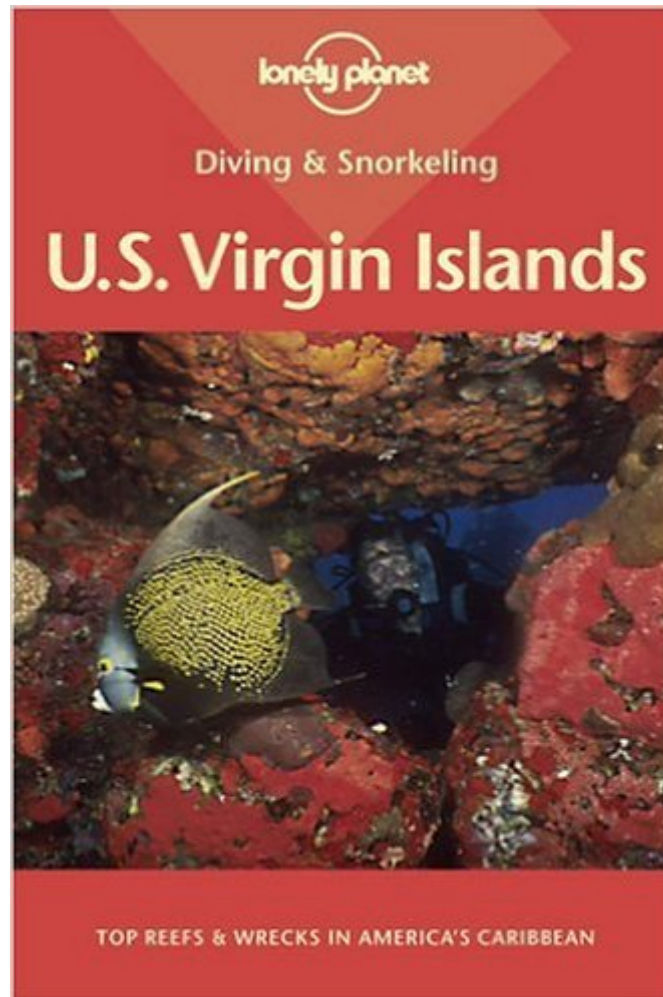


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# Lonely Planet Diving & Snorkeling US Virgin Islands



## Synopsis

Rolling green slopes, swaying palms and powdery beaches set the scene in America's little corner of the Caribbean. More than 2 million tourists a year visit the U.S. Virgin Islands, flocking here for the tropical climate, duty-free bargains and diving beneath warm, crystal-clear seas. Sites feature lush reefs, walls and intact wrecks that shelter more than 500 species of fish. Nondivers can snorkel atop coral gardens, visit an aquarium or tour the reefs on a 65ft submarine. This book describes 53 of the territory's best dive sites, with full-color photos throughout. You'll get specific information on:

- Dive site topography and access
- Topside activities and attractions
- Common and hazardous marine life
- Dive shop and cruise line listings
- 7 easy-to-read maps

## Book Information

Series: Diving & Snorkeling

Paperback: 128 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

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[Caribbean > Virgin Islands](#) #57 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Nature Travel > Adventure >](#)

[Scuba Diving](#) #154 in [Books > Sports & Outdoors > Outdoor Recreation > Scuba](#)

## Customer Reviews

Now in an updated third edition, *Diving & Snorkeling: U.S. Virgin Islands* (including sites of St. Thomas, St. John and St. Croix) is an informative and gorgeously presented travel guide which is profuse illustrated with full-color photographs detailing a wide variety of diving and snorkeling places and resources in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Along with a wealth of practical tips for getting around, what to bring, health and safety concerns, and more, *Diving & Snorkeling: U.S. Virgin Islands* is enthusiastically commended as being a brilliant and vibrant resource which packed from cover to cover with useful, accessible information for the diving and snorkeling enthusiast.

We used this book a ton on our recent trip to the USVI. We were just snorkeling, and found the tips,

sealife info and site information that helped us immensely. We fell in love with the VI and are looking forward to exploring more next summer. We just purchased the same book for the BVI and can't wait to go snorkeling next summer there! This book has great photos and information - I'm so glad I brought it with us on our trip.

Thoroughly researched and thoughtfully constructed, this book offers something for everyone interested in exploring the amazing underwater landscapes of the USVI. Beginning divers and snorkelers will appreciate the overview of practicalities about how to get there, various underwater options, and other things to do when your extremities start to get pruned from all that time in the water. More expert divers and those already familiar with the area can flip right to the heart of the book and delve into the descriptions of the many dive/snorkel sites. On our recent trip we stuck entirely with St. John, and I heartily agree with the author's assessment that Leinster Bay is one of the best snorkeling spots on the island. We can't wait to go back. My only recommendation for the 2nd edition of the book would be to include even more sites accessible from shore for those spur-of-the-moment snorkeling expeditions. We will definitely be bringing this book along on our next trip to the USVI!

I bought this book for our snorkeling trip to the US Virgin Islands and I was extremely disappointed with it. The snorkeling information in this book consists of a list of 11 of the "top snorkeling spots" that are the same common sites you see in any travel book or website.....it doesn't even describe them or give you any information on them. The dive site info consists of short descriptions of 53 sites in the USVI, which I would rate at fair to good (for diving). About a third of the book is about things like history, shopping, airlines, etc., which are much better covered by any travel guide. If you're looking for a snorkeling guide don't waste your money on this book.

Thanks to those of you who have already purchased a copy of Diving & Snorkeling U.S. Virgin Islands! I'm glad most of you are pleased with the book, and I truly appreciate your feedback. Your suggestions will help me improve the next edition of the book. Keep your comments coming! Shark Man, I am sorry the book didn't meet your expectations, but I would like to clarify something about coverage given to snorkeling sites. While the snorkeling sidebar does list just names of popular snorkeling sites (favorites of mine and many other Virgin Islanders), the 53 extended dive site descriptions include several that are also excellent snorkeling sites. These are listed in the book index under "Snorkeling Sites" and identified with a snorkeling icon in the site descriptions. As you

were on a snorkeling trip, I'll take your criticism of my dive site descriptions with a grain of sea salt.  
=8DBest!Dave Lauterborn(...)

I had a hard time finding a complete dive book for St.Croix--most of them focus on the other U.S. Virgin Islands. This is a complete map of all of the dive sites and on land ammenities.

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