

Health Brief

Traveling to: US Virgin Islands

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US Virgin Islands

HEALTH

Immunizations: Recommended immunizations for the United States Virgin Islands.

Up-to-date routine immunizations, including tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chickenpox) and influenza, are important for all international travelers, regardless of destination. For those age 65 and older, pneumococcal vaccine is also important. (See: Routine Immunizations - Worldwide.)

Country-Specific Immunizations

Immunization	Comments
Hepatitis A	Two-dose series.
	Three-dose series. Recommended for all travelers who make frequent trips to the U.S. Virgin Islands or who will spend six months or more in the country, and short-term travelers whose activities or occupation put them at high risk. Hepatitis A /Hepatitis B also available in a combined vaccine.
	One-dose injectable vaccine or oral four-capsule sequence recommended if you will travel to areas of questionable sanitation. You may also contract typhoid in a resort setting, but the risk is relatively small.

In addition to vaccines, prescription medications can be important.

Disease	Comments
1 ' '	Travelers can carry an antibiotic to be used in case traveler's diarrhea develops, or in some cases, as prophylaxis against traveler's diarrhea. A quinolone antibiotic - such as ciprofloxacin - or azithromycin or rifaximin is generally prescribed. Check with your healthcare provider.

Related Advice: Vaccinations for infants and children traveling internationally.

Related Advice: <u>Insect Precautions.</u>

Related Advice: Vaccine Recommendations for Pregnant Women.

Health Planning: Health risks in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Disease	How Transmitted	Comments
diarrhea	Traveler's diarrhea is commonly caused by bacteria, but can also be caused by parasites and viruses.	The most common illness in travelers. Contaminated food and water pose the greatest risk.
Dengue fever		Present in coastal and urban areas. Take precautions to avoid mosquitoes.

Related Advice: <u>Insect Precautions.</u>

Related Advice: <u>Traveler's Diarrhea - Prevention And Treatment</u>

Related Advice: <u>Hepatitis A</u>
Related Advice: <u>Dengue Fever</u>

Related Advice: Sun and Heat Concerns.

Food/Water Safety: Health concerns regarding food and beverage consumption in the U.S. Virgin Islands are minimal.

Sanitation and food handling procedures are good in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Health concerns related to food and beverages are minimal, however, avoid eating reef fish. Ciguatera poisoning occurs and results from eating grouper, snapper, amberjack and barracuda. The toxin remains in the fish even after cooking. As a further safety measure and general rule, drinking bottled water is recommended.

Since 2004, the U.S. Virgin Islands tests 43 popular beaches weekly. Warning signs are posted at beaches where elevated levels of fecal bacteria are discovered.

Related Advice: Ciguatera Fish Poisoning.

Medical Facilities/Services: Medical facilities in the US Virgin Islands.

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The following information on available medical facilities is provided by the Virgin Islands Department of Health.

Juan Luis Hospital and Medical Center **Roy Lester Schneider Hospital** Department of Health 4007 Estate Diamond Ruby St. John, Virgin Islands 00831 Christiansted Phone: 340-776-8311 St. Croix, Virgin Islands 00820-4421 http://www.rlshospital.org/aboutus.htm Phone: 340-778-5500 MCH/ Family Planning Myrah Keating Smith Health Center Department of Health Department of Health Nisky Center St. John, Virgin Islands 00830 St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802 Phone: 340-693-8900 Phone: 340-774-1746 or 340-777-8804

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No Current Alerts

Weather, Currency Exchange

US VIRGIN ISLANDS WEATHER

Charlotte Amalie St. Thomas - Cyril E. King International Airport:

Mar 22	Mar 23	Mar 24	Mar 25	Mar 26
5,5,0,	<u>**</u>	*	*	*
High: 78° F	High: 78° F	High: 80° F	High: 80° F	High: 80° F
(25° C)	(25° C)	(26° C)	(26° C)	(26° C)
Low: 75° F	Low: 75° F	Low: 76° F	Low: 76° F	Low: 76° F
(23° C)	(23° C)	(24° C)	(24° C)	(24° C)

CURRENCY EXCHANGE

CURRENCY NAMES	1 Euro =	1 US Dollar =	
Euro	1.0000	0.7052	
US Dollar	1.4183	1.0000	

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