



JUST A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU PLAN YOUR SAILING VACATION

HOW TO GET HERE, IN THE FIRST PLACE!!

All U.S. citizens traveling between the United States and the Caribbean will soon be required to have a machine readable passport. Please log on to http://travel.state.gov/travel/cbpmc/cbpmc_2223.html for further information. All other nationals/citizens must have valid passport for entry to the BVI. We always recommend that you check with BVI authorities as visitors from some countries also require a Visitor's Visa. All visitors to the BVI are required to fill out Customs and Immigration Cards. Luggage is subject to inspection upon arrival. Zero Tolerance for drugs and contraband.

YOU MADE IT BUT DID YOUR BAG?

Occasionally, luggage is delayed to our beautiful islands. We advise you pack a small carry-on with overnight essentials and the most important thing – your swim-suit!

REMEMBER TO TRAVEL LIGHT

Soft-sided bags work the best as they can be easily stowed away on your vessel. However, we do have limited storage at our office if needed. Deck shoes or barefoot on the decks, barefoot below decks and reef walkers or sandals for other times. Sunscreen (at least 30 SPF to start with) lotion is a must but PLEASE no sun oil as it stains linens, boat cushions and decks. After-sun soothers, beach cover-ups and non-electric appliances (if your vessel does not have a generator or inverter). We do provide insect repellent on board for use on excursions ashore. All of our vessels come fully-equipped with linens, towels, galley inventory, all safety equipment, charts and BBQ. We suggest you bring your own binoculars with you even though these are provided too. U.S. dollar traveler's cheques are recommended as some out-island establishments do not take credit cards. If you have your own masks and snorkel we highly recommend that you bring them to ensure a comfortable fit and for hygiene reasons. Snorkel gear and dive gear is readily available for purchase and rental at Blue Water Divers close by to our office.

A LITTLE GOES A LONG, LONG WAY

Sporty shorts and cool tops – you cannot have enough! T-shirts and swim-suits fit very well into the motto for the BVI “dress cool and casual”. However, please bear in mind that when in Road Town, offices, shops or other public places away from the beach, it is frowned upon to wear short shorts, bikini tops or no tops at all – so please cover up. At most places, evening wear is casual and comfortable – slacks and casual shirts for the men and casual attire for ladies in a few restaurants, but shorts and T-shirts are fine in most places. If planning to eat out at Peter Island, Little Dix or Biras Creek please bring a tie, and a jacket may be necessary in the winter season over the holidays. It does occasionally rain in the Caribbean, so please bring a light rain jacket just in case.

ISLAND TIME

No, this is not a myth – it's alive and kicking in the Caribbean (among other places!). Please remember that the culture is different and the pace of life much slower in these lovely islands. Treat people with respect and you will always be highly regarded by the friendly islanders, who are, by nature somewhat shy. Remember, you are on vacation – relax and enjoy and just ask us here at Horizon Yacht Charters if we can be of any more help to you and we will certainly do our best!

TAXIS

Most of these “transportation professionals” can be very helpful and informative. When you arrive at Beef Island Airport or the ferry dock at your scheduled arrival time, our taxi driver will collect your party and bring you to our base. If you arrive after hours, he will also show you to your vessel if you have arranged a sleepaboard for that evening. If you would like to go out to eat on your first night or go shopping for provisions (perhaps on your way from the Airport to our base on arriving), you will be able to make arrangements with him to do so, or through our Customer Services Desk.

PROVISIONING, WINDSURFERS AND KAYAKS

If you have ordered our Provisioning Package in advance of your arrival, please make sure we know your arrival details, so that we can have the refrigeration nicely cooled, and the food and beverages correctly stowed prior to your arrival on the boat. Similarly for windsurf rentals; we will organise for a representative to meet you prior to departure from the dock to familiarise you with the board and give you some tips if you are a beginner. If you would like a kayak (a great way to explore the coves and bays from your boat at anchor) we will organise to have this on board for you too.