



British Virgin Islands Sailing Adventure

VENTURE CREW 100

July 31 - August 14, 2004

The trip

- Signup deadline
 - ~ December 1, 2003
 - ~ \$250 reservation fee required
 - ~ First 24 to sign up go!
- Find frequent flyer miles!

Some BVI facts

- A passport is required to enter the British Virgin Islands
- The average temperature is 85°
- The time zone is Atlantic Standard Time
- There are ATM machines found on the more popular islands but they rarely work. Cash and travelers' checks work everywhere
- The US dollar is accepted on all the islands. There will be no need to exchange money
- Crime is rare on Tortola and exceedingly rare on the other islands
- Long ago pirating and cannibalism was a normal way of life for the warlike Carib Indians



For more information feel free to call John Gareri at 508 366 6588 or Ellen O'Brien at 508 366 6867

The Virgin Islands is a Caribbean archipelago made up of the British Virgin Islands (BVI) and the US Virgin Islands. They are 18 degrees north of the equator and 60 miles east of Puerto Rico. One of the reasons we chose to return to the BVI is because it is very easy to sail from point to point. Most destinations are within a half-day's sail which leaves plenty of time for other leisure activities. Each day of the 14 day cruise will provide a new thrill — whether it's boat racing to the next harbor, snorkeling over magnificent coral reefs, hiking 1740' Mt. Sage on Tortola, windsurfing, swimming, or just sitting on the beach.



Our bareboat charter will begin on Tortola. The boats we will be sailing are in the 42' to 51' size range. Each boat is fully equipped with all the necessities of sailing — navigation station, VHF radio, cutlery, bed linens, repair and safety equipment, cd player, refrigeration, fuel, and water.

Bareboat chartering in the BVI

A bareboat charter is a boat that is chartered without a hired captain. This means that you and your crew are in charge of sailing the boat. This is allowed when there is an experienced sailor on board. Our Crew has experienced sailors with over 96 years of sailing experience ranging from off-shore racing to cruising the waters of Massachusetts, Block Island Sound, Florida, the Bahamas, Maine, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Australia, New Zealand, and the British Virgin Islands.

In August 2002, 24 crew members participated in our first BVI trip. The trip was extremely successful and everyone had a wonderful time. There are plenty of things we can do to make this trip unique. Some activities will be repeated from 2002 and some will change — the crew will determine our daily activities.



Costs and Fees

The charter, provisioning and activities will be approximately \$750 per person. Airfare to BVI will be approximately \$650 from Boston. We expect the total cost of the trip to be about \$1,400 per person, not including personal expenses on the Islands. A \$250 reservation fee is being collected with the commitment form. **December 1, 2003, is the deadline to sign up.** At this time a detailed budget will be created. The initial estimate has been set high in the anticipation of lowering the cost rather than setting it low and having to raise the fee later. We plan to collect \$250 per person each month — January to May.

All money paid will only be refunded if there is a person to take over the reservation. There may be some restrictions with airline tickets once they are purchased. Adults and youth crew members will pay the same fees. We will make every opportunity to keep costs down and certainly creative money saving alternatives will be discussed including using free airline tickets from frequent flyers. Everyone could substantially reduce the cost of their trip if they are able to find a free airline ticket through a frequent flyer. American Airlines flies from Boston to Beef Island, Tortola, BVI (EIS). Anyone can donate frequent flyer tickets to the entire crew and thus reduce the cost to all. In 2002, three such tickets were donated which reduced the costs for everyone.

Who can attend?

Any registered, active member of the crew may sign up. We will need to limit the size of the group to 24 which includes the three captains. Everyone who signs up for the trip must commit to being as active as possible with the crew during the year. This includes adults and crew members in college.

Learning the ropes

We are aware that not everyone is an experienced sailor. During the spring and summer we will be going sailing! Each crew member will become familiar with sailing by practicing sailtending, steering, nomenclature, man overboard drills, mooring pickup, anchoring, docking, etc. At least one crew meeting each month will concentrate on sailing and planning the trip.