






US & British Virgin Islands



Hmm, which isle to choose for hammock-strewn beaches and conch fritters? Easy: any one, though each differs in personality.

The US Virgin Islands (USVI) hold the lion's share of population and development. St Thomas has more resorts and water sports than you can shake a beach towel at. St John cloaks two-thirds of its area in parkland and sublime shores, ripe for hiking and snorkeling. The largest Virgin, St Croix, pleases divers and drinkers with extraordinary scuba sites and rum factories.

The British Virgin Islands (BVI) closely resemble their US counterparts, though they're quirkier and less developed. Main island Tortola is known for its full moon parties and sailing prowess. Billionaires and yachties swoon over Virgin Gorda and its magical rocks. And who can resist little Jost Van Dyke, the 'barefoot island' where Main St is a calypso-wafting beach?