

Sailing to the USVI as a Non-US Citizen on your Charter Yacht

If you plan to explore the US Virgin Islands during your sailing holiday with Horizon Yacht Charters in the British Virgin Islands, please be advised that you will need to clear in and out of both BVI and US Customs and Immigration Departments. To enter US waters you will need either a:

- (i) **Current US Visa** (Visitor's Visa) stamped in your passport (please contact your nearest US embassy for further details) OR
- (ii) **US Visa Waiver Form** - this is a green form that is completed by all persons who are traveling to the US or US territories on a commercial or registered carrier without a Visitor's Visa **and** who are approved for the Visa Waiver Programme (please seek advice from your nearest US embassy to confirm that you qualify). Upon entering the US, a US Immigration Official will return the bottom of the green form to you and this will remain in your passport until you exit the US. You may be asked to hand in this green exit form when you exit the US, but if you mention that you would like to retain the form as you plan to sail from the BVI to the USVI on a private yacht, then you may be allowed to retain this form for further use. You will then be required to produce it at the US Customs and Immigration in St John/St Thomas when checking in on your private vessel.
- (iii) **If you are NOT traveling through the US to get to the BVI** (and you qualify for the US Visa Waiver Programme), you may consider obtaining a green Visa Waiver Form by traveling on the ferry to St John on a day return trip. You will then have the necessary form to enter the USVI on your private charter yacht.

Please note that all non-US citizens in your party must observe the advice outlined above. If you do not have a US Visa or US Visa Waiver Form you will not be allowed to enter the USVI under any circumstances on a private yacht and you will be sent back to the BVI. These rules MUST be adhered to as US authorities strictly observe them and the fines are heavy if broken.

While Horizon Yacht Charters has made every effort to ensure the information given above is correct, we are not responsible for any errors or omissions. Please confirm the details by visiting the US Embassy website for your country. For UK citizens you may visit:

http://www.usembassy.org.uk/cons_web/visa/visaindex.htm