



Normal Arrival Procedures for The U.S. Virgin Islands

Note: Covid-19 arrival protocols are addressed in a separate document.

STEP 1

Vessel Entrance and Clearance Procedures from International Waters:

1. Entrance: On arrival local CBP must be notified, and an informal entry must be filed - this requires filling out a form 1300, and an I-418 crew/passenger manifest. See attached PDF forms. The USVI does not issue or require US Cruising Licenses.
2. Documents required for entry – current certificate of registry, clearance from previous port, completed 1300 and I-418.
3. Departure: If departing to BVI an outbound clearance is not required. If departing for any other foreign port, it is required that an outbound clearance be filed, along with an updated I-418. Sint Maarten and most of the rest of the Caribbean Islands require all vessels arriving to have an outbound clearance from their previous port.

STEP 2

Immigration – Crew and Guests:

1. All non-American crew and guests arriving on private vessels must have proper visas.
 - a. B1 visas for crew, B2 visas for guests, and a minimum of 6-month validity in their passports.
 - b. Guests arriving on commercial carrier may utilize the ESTA visa waiver. They should be entered as a WT (waiver for tourism). They can then travel to other islands in the Caribbean onboard the vessel and return to STT onboard the vessel.
2. Vessels arriving from mainland US or Puerto Rico do not need to clear immigration this is considered a coastwise movement – the vessel will still need to file entry paperwork, as the USVI does not require or accept the US cruising license.

STEP 3

Regulated Garbage:

All garbage must be disposed of in accordance with local and federal regulations. Any vessel arriving from a foreign port (or has been in foreign waters in the past 24 months, or Hawaii, Puerto Rico in the previous 12 months) must have their regulated garbage collected by an approved carrier and disposed of properly, until they apply and receive a domestically purged status by USCBP. The team at Yacht Haven Grande can advise.