

The Ultimate Bar Guide for a BVI Yacht Charter

Contributed by Shannon DeFries

What is a Caribbean Vacation without a few cocktails and some adventure? While cruising on a BVI Yacht Charter offers some of the finest luxuries any vacation can offer, it never hurts to go ashore for some mingling with locals and a little libation. Here is a list of some of the best beach bars in the British Virgin Islands. Land HO!!!

ANEGADA

If you're swimming at Loblolly Bay, base yourself close to The Big Bamboo. Great lunches and a large outdoor bar just steps from the beach. Anegada Reef Hotel, Restaurant and Bar is the closest bar to the dock. This friendly establishment is popular, has a casual atmosphere, and has the freshest lobster that is to die for! Neptune's Treasure is a serene restaurant and bar further down the beach. On weekends the bar becomes lively with music and an influx of Tortola residents looking for a weekend escape.

BEEF ISLAND

Trellis Bay

The Last Resort has been synonymous with live entertainment since the beginning of yacht chartering. Enjoy great food and live entertainment. On the south shore of the bay, there is quite an assortment of local shops, artist studios, bars and restaurants. The monthly Trellis Bay Full Moon party is anticipated all year long. Two large 'fireballs' are lit while locals dance the night away.

COOPER ISLAND

Cooper Island Beach Club is a popular restaurant and bar are on beautiful Manchioneel Beach. The island is an ideal anchorage spot to stop and have a drink while you watch the sun set over The Drake Channel.

JOST VAN DYKE

White Bay The Soggy Dollar Bar is famous for its 'Painkillers', which were actually first invented here. The original recipe is a secret family recipe. Great Harbor Foxy's Tamarind Bar has certainly changed from the early 70's. Charter vacationers used to listen to true calypso while eating lobster with all of the locals at one long table. It has grown enormously. All kinds of talented local bands and musicians play here. The music and dancing can go on late into the night. Besides the bar and restaurant, there is also a large gift shop with a wide variety of local items, including CDs and the obligatory Foxy's T-shirt. Be sure to bring something personal you can tack to the ceiling, anything from Business cards to hats and even underwear is acceptable. This place is for those who are easily offended, but most people at least stop in and have a drink.

Little Jost Van Dyke 'Foxy's Taboo' restaurant and bar is the new 'in' place. You are more likely to meet Foxy here than at his original bar. Moorings are available, but this can be a rough spot in unsettled weather.

MARINA CAY

Now owned by Pussers, this famous island resort has a bar at the very top of the island, offering great sunset views and live music some nights.

NORMAN ISLAND

The infamous Willie T is an all out party destination with plenty of drinking and wild antics. Expect the unexpected. Not recommended for children or the faint hearted! Pirates Bight offers a more relaxed way to watch the sunset, but also has music, dancing and a very popular Happy Hour with every exotic frozen drink you can imagine.

TORTOLA

At Cane Garden Bay, Quito Rhymer is an extremely popular local musician who can be found performing at his bar/restaurant, 'Quito's Gazebo'. Further down the beach, Al Henley's Big Banana Paradise Club, Rhymers Beach Bar, Stanley's Welcome Bar and Myett's Garden and Grill all offer meals, drinks and live music on selected nights that can be heard from your anchorage spot out onto the water. 'The Pub', below the Fort Burt Hotel, was the original bar in Road Town in The 60's and 70's and is a lively hot spot today. There are bars at Village Cay Marina, Mariner Inn, Pussers waterfront and many other locations in town, but these can hardly be considered beach bars, although many people visit them when embarking and disembarking from their Caribbean Yacht Charter.

VIRGIN GORDA

Spanish Town

The Bath and Turtle Pub often has live music and dancing.

The Baths

Poor Man's Bar is the ultimate watering hole to relax after snorkeling.

North Sound

Leverick Bay has a beach barbecue every Friday, with live music and entertainment. The Sand Box is a casual bar and restaurant offering lunch and dinner. The Bitter End is a large resort with shops, water sport facilities, restaurant and an English pub, but they often also have live music and entertainment. Saba Rock is an excellent restaurant and bar located on a tiny island. Enjoy the popular 2-4-1 Happy Hour, while watching a fabulous sunset over The Sound.

West End/Sopers Hole

Pussers Landing & Company Store has two restaurants and a variety of shops, but it also has a popular bar. Here's a hint, when you order your first 'Pussers Pain Killer', ask for a card. After visiting three different Pussers bars (and having a painkiller at each) you will get a Pussers Triangle Pennant you can fly from your boat - or hang at home!

While most vacationers like to enjoy the comforts of their luxury yacht charter, a true Caribbean Yacht Charter isn't complete until you stop for a cocktail at a few of the best spots in the British Virgin Islands. You never know what you'll see or who you will meet, but you'll be sure to have some tales to tell at your own watering hole back home for years to come.