



Virgin Gorda

Reclining to the east of the **British Virgin Island** archipelago, Virgin Gorda is among the larger islands of the chain. Managing director at Rosewood Little Dix Bay **Edward Linsley** gives the inside track on the island



Anegada





Do

From **The Baths** on the southwest coast to the natural anchorage at **North Sound**, Virgin Gorda has beautiful white beaches, gentle shallow reefs and world famous resorts, making for plenty to do on the island. Early morning take a hike up to the **Savannah Bay Trail** situated to the north of **Little Dix Bay** in time to catch the sun rise over the tropical turquoise water of **Savannah Bay**. Known for its tranquility (10 people is 'crowded'), Savannah Bay is an amazing

Above

Lying to the south of the island, **The Baths** are volcanic boulder formations that provide great snorkelling and swimming opportunities

Sample Virgin Gorda during a charter through the British Virgin Islands. Contact your nearest Camper & Nicholsons charter broker, page 6, for a selection of yachts cruising the area and a detailed itinerary. For further information on Rosewood Little Dix Bay, go to www.rosewoodhotels.com/littledixbay

white sand beach and a favourite with locals. Spend a morning discovering the network of grottos, caves and warm saltwater pools created by the strange volcanic boulder formations known as **The Baths**. With their colourful fish and coral, they are a delight to discover by snorkelling, kayaking, or just simply swimming around. Sail up to **Anegada** for fresh Caribbean lobster straight off the reef. If your superyacht is just too super to navigate Anegada's horseshoe reef - the largest barrier coral reef

in the Caribbean - then come by **Rosewood Little Dix Bay** where we have fresh Anegada lobster every day.

Sleep

When you're not sailing around the Virgin Islands or berthed in the Yacht Club Costa Smeralda, the island has a number of upscale resorts. Founded by **Laurance S. Rockefeller** as an eco-chic retreat and frequented by the international jet set, Rosewood Little Dix Bay has just celebrated its 50th anniversary. It retains its utterly

relaxing atmosphere surrounded by lush rolling hills, a pristine beach and crystal clear waters. Request one of the newly renovated original Laurence S. Rockefeller **Treehouse Suites** at Rosewood Little Dix Bay. The five stunning beachfront suites on stilts all have panoramic views of the bay and are just steps from the beach. Families are set up perfectly in our luxury villas with a private pool, fully equipped kitchen (private chef available) and magnificent 180-degree panoramic views of the Sir Francis

Drake channel and neighbouring islands.

Eat & drink

— The British Virgin Islands are a magnet for international food lovers for one major reason - the archipelago has the best lobster in the Caribbean and they live in abundance in the waters surrounding the island of Anegada.

On Sunday afternoons you will find me hanging out at **Saba Rock** on North Sound where there is no shortage of Veuve Clicquot Champagne and amazing late afternoon views. Lobster tacos are not to be missed. Other places I highly recommend are the **Rock Café** for pasta and pizza, and **CocoMaya**, with its Asian inspired menu and fabulous beachside setting, the restaurant is one of the best on the island. **The Bitter End Yacht Club** maintains its seafaring tradition, but has managed to sneak in a spot of glamour, too. Only accessible by boat, it has two restaurants and bars, an English style pub, boutiques and spa facilities. Rendezvous with fellow seafarers at the clubhouse for fresh fish, lobster, steak and

West Indian cuisine.

Of course, you must dine at our famous **Sugar Mill** fine dining restaurant situated right on the beach, or for al fresco dining try the iconic Pavilion restaurant, which, built in Rockefeller's day, is the striking pyramid structure that can be seen from the water as you arrive at the resort. Be sure to get your famous **Painkiller** cocktail at Rosewood Little Dix Bay Beach Grill from the man who was Rockefeller's personal barman, Clinton Creque ('Bill' for those in the know).

Set on one of the highest points of Virgin Gorda **Hog Heaven** has amazing views out over the North Sound as well as the smaller islands, including Richard Branson's Necker Island, and Larry Page's Estatia Island. It also offers some of the best rum punch in the area. Cap the day off with sunset cocktails at the aptly named **Top Of The Baths** restaurant.

Shop & bop

— The boutique at the **Fat Virgin Café** is great for colourful trinkets and souvenirs and the store at **Rosewood Little Dix Bay** has a great selection of local artisan pieces and international brands,

— TRY THE ICONIC PAVILION RESTAURANT (BELOW) WHICH, BUILT IN ROCKEFELLER'S DAY, IS THE STRIKING PYRAMID STRUCTURE THAT CAN BE SEEN FROM THE WATER AS YOU ARRIVE AT THE RESORT





including an exclusive new collection by designer **Heidi Klein**.

Make a date to see local musician **Morris Mark** playing at any of the fine venues including **Mine Shaft Café** and **Rosewood Little Dix Bay**. A composer as well as performer, Morris' pieces are characterful celebrations of Virgin Gorda, the most famous of which is 'Beautiful Day in Paradise' as well as his pieces for **Bregado Flax Educational Centre** and a dedicated piece for Rosewood Little Dix Bay's 50th anniversary.

Spa

— Dramatically located on a cliff edge, **Sense**, a Rosewood Spa welcomes guests with an open air pavilion and a two-tiered infinity pool, which overlooks the glistening Sir Francis Drake channel. Spa treatments use locally sourced botanicals and indigenous plants to create a unique sensory experience that enhances the Spa's natural and dramatic setting. The favourite Virgin Gorda **Goats' Milk** and **Honey Wrap** uses local honey, goats' milk, and bananas while the special salt scrub uses salt sourced from the BVI's natural salt mines.