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St. John Off The Beaten Track





Synopsis

This unique, captivating guide takes you where no other guide book can - to the little known, hard to reach, out of the way and easy to miss parts of this special island in the U.S. Virgins. Other guidebooks can tell you where to stay, eat, shop, or rent a car. But Off the Beaten Track takes you off the road and on to the islands many hiking trails, telling insider stories as you go. Then it takes you off the trails, scrambling up rocks, walking the shoreline, and wandering up and down lush green guts. It will also lead you to the best snorkeling, the lesser-known beaches old plantation ruins and much more. Mr. Singer is an enthusiastic storyteller and much history and culture is shared along the way. A 30-year resident, he lets you in on many places that other locals wish he wouldn't mention, preferring to keep these spots to themselves. Indeed his guide brings these places to life and takes the reader back in time to the action, adventure, history, struggle, strife, work, and play that spawned the colorful personality St. John is known for even today. The book has everything you need to keep you busy, enthralled, and moving about. Enjoy the full color photos by St. John photographer Dean Hulse and illustrations by Natasha Singer. Read it before you go. Pick your adventures. Bring the book with you. And, once on the island, use it both to decipher the hints left behind by a culture now vanished as well as to enjoy the beauty of this pristine paradise, nearly impossible to find elsewhere today.

Book Information

Paperback: 288 pages Publisher: Sombrero Publishing Co.; 2 edition (September 1, 2000) Language: English ISBN-10: 0964122014 ISBN-13: 978-0964122017 Product Dimensions: 9 × 6 × 0.7 inches Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 69 customer reviews Best Sellers Rank: #1,626,716 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 inà Â Books > Travel > Caribbean > Virgin Islands #845 inà Â Books > Travel > Caribbean > General

Customer Reviews

At the turn of nearly every page of Gerald Singer's new book, St. John Off The Beaten Track", you'll say to yourself, "I didn't know that."...For example, did you know that men once dueled (yes, dueled) at Waterlemon (that's right lemon) Cay in Leinster Bay? Before 1800, men from St. Thomas and St.

John would sail off to Tortola to avenge their honor, but when British authorities outlawed dueling, they switched their locale to Waterlemon Cay. This book isn't just about history. You'll find a map of Leinster Bay, complete with X's to mark the ruins, arrows pointing out good snorkeling spots, and dotted lines indicating trails. Singer gives readers a potpourri of facts about the lesser-known spots on St. John...There are sections on the 1733 St. John Slave Rebellion, sea grass, and nude bathing at Salomon Bay. Did you know that...Henley Cay was the sight of the first airplane crash on St. John? (Lynda Lohr, The Daily News March 25, 1997) Treasures come in all sizes, shapes and colors. Mr. Gerald Singer has given us a fitting treasure in St. John Off The Beaten Track, with history, folk tales, beauties of nature, the best places to relax and wonder and the scenic vistas that make St. John the pearl of places. Whether you swim, snorkel, dream, interact with nature, love solitude, love people or just want to be you, take St. John, Off The Beaten Track along with you. Read it at your leisure. Meet the liar from Johnny Horn or the swimmers from Leinster Bay to "Freedom" in Tortola. Go to Rams Head or the Peace Hill. You have a treat in store. Enjoy! -- Guy H. Benjamin from the Foreword of St. John Off The Beaten Track

"St. John Off the Beaten Track" is, more than anything else, an expression of my love for St. John, its people and its culture. St. John is one of the greatest places on Earth. So come and visit, and let "St. John Off the Beaten Track" provide you with information that will greatly enhance your tropical island experience.

We bought these books and map to research our family vacation and they were perfect! We also used all of them the whole week we were in St. John and continue to use them because we now want to plan another trip! They were great to have and we saw the books all over the island for higher prices and the map was superior to the map we saw available on the island!

This book is decent, but honestly there weren't any huge earth-shattering secrets or suggestions in it. We found a lot of the same information locally or online before we went. I wish it included restaurant reviews. St John is so extraordinary that you really don't need a book or guide to make your experience any worthwhile.

You know the typical travel guide - airports, hotels and restaurants. This one has everything else you want to know about St John - the missing guide, as it were. I'm planning a trip and want to know what there is to do, and where. This one gives me everything I need to know. Which beaches are

sand and which are shingle? This tells you. Where are the hidden coves and how to you get there (trailheads, etc.)? Which snorkeling beaches are best for beginners, and which have challenges for free-diving snorkelers? The book is organized into sections - the national park (hikes and trails), beaches, snorkeling, places of interest. Geology and history too. If you are looking for a reason to settle in a particular area (renting a villa, for instance), this is your book. It describes each bay and beach, letting you know whether an area is tropical forest or dry scrubland. It describes the severity of trails and tells you about alternatives. It explains 'guts' and other local features that are ignored by traditional guide books. If you are going to St John you need this book. 'Nuff said.

Must have if you are visiting St. John.A must if you are wishing to explore St. John and make the most of your time on this beautiful and special island. This book is packed with tons of useful information that include beaches, trails and history. We had been to the island a couple times before, but on our 3rd trip we really read this book and we explored and saw so many cool places that most websites do not tell you about. Highly recommend for the visitors wishing to truly see and experience St. John.

dream on.... so much great information

When we went to St John's we used this book and it was quite useful.

I believe that reading this book contributed to our most wonderful stay on St. John's. I recommend to anyone on the way to this wonderful place.

Pictures are great. Information mostly on hiking with some beach information. I got more information from Internet than this book. I rate this book ok

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