



GUIDE TO SEA TURTLES IN THE VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

ST. JOHN USVI

SWIMMING WITH SEA TURTLES

Show respect

- Maintain a distance of 6 to 10 feet
- Do not overcrowd or block its path to the surface of the water. This can disrupt breathing, resting, and feeding habits
- Never touch--not only is it a federal violation of the Endangered Species act, but it can stress the turtle and increase vulnerability to disease
- Be aware of your flippers

ONLAND

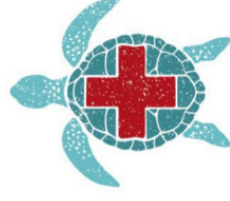
Sea turtles lay their nests on the beaches. Respect nesting females and hatchlings by refraining from photography and using only red lights at night. Never interfere with a nesting turtle or hatchling on its way to the water.

BOATING

Slow down for those below

Sea turtles come to the surface to breathe air, making them more susceptible to boat collisions.

- Maintain idle speeds in sea turtle habitats
- Keep a diligent eye out
- Report sick, injured, or distressed turtles to the STAR Network



STAR
SEA TURTLE ASSISTANCE AND RESCUE
340.690.0474

VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK
SEA TURTLE PROGRAM

