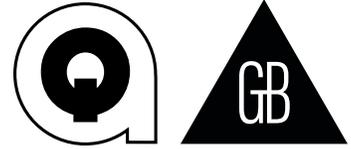


## Getting to Tortola: An important read for all parents of students headed to the BVI



One reason the BVI has remained one of 'Nature's Little Secrets' is that there are no direct flights from the USA, Canada, Europe or South America to the main BVI airport. All travel to the BVI connects through another Caribbean island, typically St. Thomas or Puerto Rico for flights originating in the USA; and Antigua, Barbados or St. Martin for those travelling from Europe.

Students joining us in the BVI may select from one of these two travel options:

### 1. Fly via St. Thomas (airport code STT):

**98% of students select this route. It is the best option and is the method that we recommend.** Flights direct to St. Thomas in the US Virgin Islands are typically less expensive, and once arrived, students make their way to Tortola under staff supervision, which is about 25 miles away by ferry.

On scheduled travel days we station two or three staff members in the St. Thomas airport to meet and greet the students. We also organize a couple of private ferries to carry our students to and from St. Thomas directly to where our yachts are based in West End, Tortola.

On arrival days this private ferry will **depart** from St. Thomas no later than 4:45pm.  
On departure days the earliest this ferry is able to **arrive** in St. Thomas is 10:30am.

**For this reason, flights to St. Thomas will only be possible if they meet the following criteria:**

- **On arrival days, inbound flights MUST arrive in St. Thomas no earlier than 12 noon and no later than 4:00pm**
- **On departure days, flights MUST depart St. Thomas no earlier than 11:00am and no later than 4:00pm**

In order to calculate the entire cost of travel, parents need to consider an additional \$145 in travel costs (approximate):

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| a. Round trip taxi from the STT airport to the ferry (\$25)  | d. BVI Environmental Tax (\$10)      |
| b. Round trip ferry from St. Thomas to Tortola (\$70 - \$80) | e. Departure tax from the BVI (\$20) |
| c. USVI Government Port Fee (\$10)                           |                                      |

### 2. Fly to Tortola (via Puerto Rico for US students, Antigua or St. Martin for European students)

Typically a more expensive route from the USA, an alternative way to arrive in the BVI is to fly directly to the island of Tortola (airport code EIS). Please note, **WE DO NOT have staff support in Puerto Rico or Antigua and rarely in St. Martin.** For this reason, these routes are not usually appropriate for younger students designated as Unaccompanied Minors by the airlines. Please call us for more information.

In order to calculate the entire cost of travel, parents need to consider an additional \$130 in travel costs:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| a. Taxi from airport to dock in West End, Tortola (\$30 - \$50 depending on the number of students travelling) | c. Taxi from dock in West End to airport (\$30 - \$50) |
| b. BVI Environmental Tax (\$10)  | d. Departure tax from the BVI (\$20)                   |

We have forwarded your information to our Travel Coordinator, Leah Hernandez of TRC Travel Center and have asked that she send you a sample flight itinerary for one of the above options. You will receive this itinerary by email from a sender's address of "TRC Travel Center" Don't delete this email; it is not junk mail! Many of the links in the email will prompt you to download an application called TripCase, you do not need to do this if you simply click the link that says "Print Itinerary". **Be aware that this is NOT a reservation, just an itinerary.** You must complete the booking process with Leah if you wish to purchase the suggested flight.

You can call Leah at 1.800.329.9000 (Texas +1.281.528.7727) or email her at leahctn68@hotmail.com if you would like to see the itineraries presented both ways. As always, booking through Leah is not required but **highly** recommended.

Please call our office if you have any additional questions regarding travel to Tortola on +1.941.924.6789