



## SeaNotes

- We have just released our new price list for 2012. We have added new courses and great deals on our private charters. Visit our website for more information.
- The holidays are here and with the joyful season we welcome our loyal friends that visit us year after year! We get very busy around this time of the year, so we recommend to book your activities with us sooner than later!

## Credits

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For information, suggestions and any comments, please email [casey@divebvi.com](mailto:casey@divebvi.com)

Thank you for reading!

**Dive BVI**  
[www.divebvi.com](http://www.divebvi.com)

## Welcome to an amazing new season!



We all came back from our relaxing holidays to beautiful weather and no hurricanes. It is a great reminder of why we live in this little paradise.

The remodeling of our main shop in Yacht Harbour, Spanish Town, Virgin Gorda, is finished and it looks stunning. Described as "spacious

and bright" by our friends and guests, we invite you to visit us and browse the cool merchandise we have in stock this season.

During the first week of November we attended the 2011 DEMA (Diving Equipment & Marketing Association) trade show. We shared a beautiful booth with the BVI Department of Tourism and other local operators. Our goal was to promote dive group packages to dive shops around the world and establish contacts with SSI dive shops from the USA as a referral partner and travel

destination in the Caribbean. It truly was a successful event giving us the chance to see many old friends in the industry and meet a lot of great people.

With a new season comes a new troop. Yes, you'll find a few faces from last year around, plus our illustrious leaders Jeff and Casey, but also 9 new vibrant stars to give you a memorable top notch diving adventure. Visit our Facebook page <http://www.facebook.com/divebvi> for daily updates, news and promotions!

## Newbies

A successful company is defined by the successful staff that represents it, so for that reason I've decided to dedicate this section to our "newbies". I asked them to explain in one sentence what makes them a unique part of our team. Ernst Van der Poll from South Africa said: "I am passionate about teaching and the environment". Laura, from the UK, and her husband Lance, from Canada remarked that they are "always eager to go above and beyond; service with a smile and a keen eye for underwater critters!" Connilia Williams, from Virgin Gorda is "eager to

swim with nature's true beauty with a smile" Thomas Choblet shared that he has a great French accent underwater, loved equally by fish and women. Kory, the only American "newbie", wants us to know that he is passionate about photographing the beauty of the sea. Our Austrian representative, Kony, has an infectious outgoing personality and filming underwater adventures. Maja, from Denmark: even after teaching scuba for 12 years, the enjoyment and love for what she does only keeps growing.



Training day trip in Anegada

With all this love and passion, you can expect to be absolutely spoiled on your next diving vacation!

To learn more about our new staff, please read their full bios on our website: <http://www.divebvi.com/about/staff/>

## ScubaBrain

During the month of September some of our instructors participated in an SSI Freediving clinic, and earned certifications to move forward and become SSI Freediving Instructors. Keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for SSI Freediving courses that we will put together during 2012.

We have also set up a schedule during the Winter/Spring season for SSI Open Water classes and SSI Enriched Air Nitrox at our Yacht Harbour location:

\*SSI Enriched Air Nitrox: Mondays 6:00PM-8:00PM-Pre-requisites: self study of student manual. Price starts at \$149; includes manual and certification card.

\*SSI Open Water Diver: Starts every Tuesday at 9:30AM, and ends on Thursday. Pre-requisites: SSI online academics completion or student manual self study. The price starts at \$495; includes dives, diving gear and books.

We also offer privately scheduled Open Water classes starting at \$720 including all the dives, diving equipment and materials.



### Silly Scuba Talk:

*"See that white paint on Black Rock Point? That's some of the bottom paint of the RMS Rhone when it crashed into it" (...and right on cue, the birds fly away from the rock, leaving their "white paint" behind)*



## Travel Plans

Part of what makes the British Virgin Islands such an exclusive Caribbean destination is the fact that even during high season you can still find a deserted beach on one of our islands, specially if you are on a boat. The BVI are known as the sailing capital of the world, and it makes sense to combine sailing with scuba to create an amazing diving vacation. Dive BVI has partnered with these private sailboats to bring you exclusive Dive and Sail packages, merging the best of both worlds together.

**\*S/V Viking Dream:** Your one-week private charter starting at \$2900 per diver. It is all inclusive of beverages and meals, and three days of two tank AM diving. For more information about this vessel visit:

[www.vikingdream.net](http://www.vikingdream.net)

### \*S/V Dreaming On:

Starting at \$2595, this seven-day charter has meals and beverages included, and a three day two tank diving package. Visit [www.chaterdreamingon.com](http://www.chaterdreamingon.com) to learn more about this sailboat.

**\*S/V Serendipity:** A one-week charter on a captain only sailboat. A unique experience that allows your group to self cater, have a more flexible schedule and learn a bit or two about sailing and the local eco system from the captain. Prices start at \$1478 and include our three-day diving package.

Check out this vessel at [www.sailserendipity.com](http://www.sailserendipity.com).

These rates are only offered by Dive BVI and are based on a full charter of six passengers. Rates are available for groups of five or less, and for non-divers. If you are interested in

obtaining more information about our Dive and Sail vacations, or to make a reservation, please email: [info@divebvi.com](mailto:info@divebvi.com).

Dive BVI offers rendezvous service in most of the BVI. Doesn't matter if you are on a crewed charter or bare-boating with your friends and family, Dive BVI can pick you up at your boat. Let us know where your boat is located and what equipment do you need and we'll come and whisk you away to your diving adventure! (Some distance restrictions apply).

## SeaTalk

It is very common to see turtles as we cruise in and out of Little Dix Bay. Everyday snorkelers walk into our shop at the hotel and exclaim with glee: "Guess what, I was snorkeling just there, in the bay, and saw a turtle!"

Earlier this year, members of the BVI Conservation and Fisheries Department working together with the Wider Caribbean Sea Turtle Conservation Network (WIDECAST) were doing turtle tagging at Little Dix Bay to monitor the population, growth and habits. The tourists were clearly fascinated by the process. The volunteers were working primarily with Green Sea Turtles, as those are the ones often

found feeding on the turtle grass that you commonly find covering a large portion of the sandy beach at Little Dix Bay, and other shallow beaches in the area.

Another type of turtle frequently seen around is Hawksbill Turtle; named for the hawk's like resemblance of its beak. They typically feed on sponges, urchins, sargassum, mollusks, barnacles (hence the need of that strong beak) and small fish. That's the turtle you find eating the sponges on the ceiling inside the bow of the wreck of the RMS Rhone.

Most turtles are quite used to swimmers, snorkelers

and divers and they make for outstanding photography subjects, especially if their attention is focused on the meal at "mouth". But remember, that although they may appear extremely friendly, for their safety and ours, we should not touch them or try to hold on to them.

By the way, talking about friendly turtles, has anyone seen Cheese lately?

For more information about turtles in the BVI visit:

[www.b-v-i.com/Nature/marine.htm](http://www.b-v-i.com/Nature/marine.htm)  
and  
[www.widecast.org/What/Country/BVI/bvi.html](http://www.widecast.org/What/Country/BVI/bvi.html)



Green Turtle at Little Dix Bay

## Holiday Card from our Managers

Thank you to all of our guests and friends who visited us in 2011! We are thankful to have such wonderful friends all over the world who come and experience this beautiful place with us. We are looking forward to 2012 - we have changed our stores, some scheduling, and have some amazing things to offer in this New Year! From all of us at Dive BVI, Have a wonderful Holiday Season!

Casey and Jeff McNutt

GMs & Partners



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