

Update from the Commissioner of Tourism

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***Due to communications outages, please contact Bevan Springer of Marketplace Excellence, the Department of Tourism's public relations agency, at bevan@marketplaceexcellence.com or 917-860-0285 for additional updates. Messages are also being addressed at <https://www.facebook.com/BeverlyNicholsonDoty>.**

Island Updates as of 4:30 p.m. EST, Thursday, September 7, 2017

St. Croix

Governor Kenneth Mapp has announced that given the assessment and progress of the Water and Power Authority (WAPA) on St. Croix, he will lift the curfew on St. Croix only, effective immediately. This means that WAPA has made sufficient progress on St. Croix and that there is no need to impose the curfew at 6 p.m. this evening. A formal announcement will be made at the Governor's press conference at 5 p.m. today, Thursday, September 7. The Governor has advised that if persons on St. Croix don't need to be on the roads tonight, they should stay indoors since some feeders have not been energized and many street lights are out.

St. John

We will provide information as it becomes available.

St. Thomas

St. Thomas Update: Reports indicate that the Cyril E. King Airport on St. Thomas will not be open for commercial traffic before the next weather system passes the area this weekend. We will provide further updates once received.

Please see this video update from Governor Kenneth Mapp: <http://bit.ly/2j8HvMz>.

A Message from Beverly Nicholson-Doty, Commissioner of Tourism, on her [Facebook page](#)

Dear Friends and Family:

Thank you for your thoughts and prayers as we weathered the passage of Hurricane Irma yesterday. Into the evening, we were still experiencing tropical storm wind conditions and the district of St. Thomas and St. John is still under a curfew - until at least 6 p.m. today.

As you can imagine, communications are limited and we have received preliminary reports of damage to our infrastructure in St. Thomas and St. John.

The district of St. Croix did not receive the full brunt of the storm. The St. Croix curfew has been lifted today between 8 a.m. through 6 p.m. Our teams will be conducting assessments as soon as they can.

To ensure everyone's safety, our request to postpone scheduled visits to our islands remains in effect, and we urge you to continue to check with your travel agent, airline and accommodation providers regarding cancellation and rebooking policies.

We are receiving a number of requests about the wellbeing of guests who remained in the Territory. Please mark yourselves safe on this [page](#) in an effort to let your loved ones know how you are doing. We will be posting additional information as it becomes available on usviupdate.com.

Let's continue to support each other as we recover from this terrible weather event.

Beverly

This message was originally posted on the Commissioner's Facebook page, here: <https://www.facebook.com/BeverlyNicholsonDoty/>

For the Commissioner's message from Tuesday, September 5, click here: <http://bit.ly/2f7UREA>.