



Colorful colonial architecture meets a bustling harbor in historic Christiansted.

**MOST WANTED**

**FLAT-OUT FABULOUS**

High heels rock—but not when you’re running through an airport. Enter stylish, 100 percent leather flats that fold to fit in the palm of your hand (and most handbags), and are supportive and comfortable thanks to a cushioned instep. With more than 50 fun colors and patterns to choose from, Tiefs are pretty chic.

**Tiefs by Gavrieli**, from \$175; [tiefs.com](http://tiefs.com)



**CROWD SOURCE**

Are PDAs more acceptable at a beach resort than on a city street?

**55% YES**  
**45% NO**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: MATT MAY PHOTOGRAPHY/PHOTOSHELTER, STEVE SIMONSEN/PHOTOSHELTER, COURTESY OF TIEKS BY GAVRIELI

**WATERFRONT WEEKEND**

**Christiansted, St. Croix**



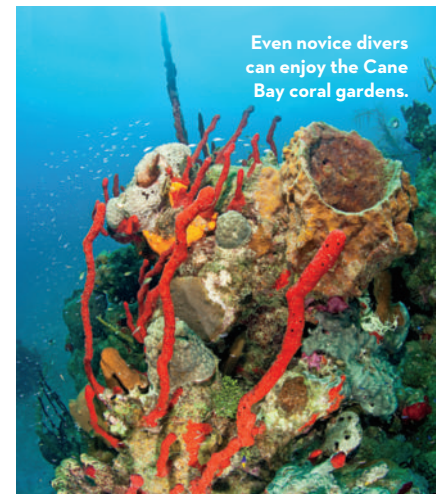
For Caribbean travelers who prefer their ocean views served with a side of history, Christiansted, the largest outpost on St. Croix, does not disappoint. Ornate neo-classic architecture recalls the town’s past as capital of the Danish West Indies and a hub for the sugar and rum trade. Today, elaborate yellow facades and signs written in Danish still line the streets; around each corner, expansive courtyards are revealed through soaring archways. Christiansted is both beautiful and slightly weathered, with historic gems including a steepled church and cannon-topped fort as well as mom-and-pop shops and cafés. The one-square-mile town meanders downhill to a harbor boardwalk that remains a popular gathering place for rum drinks and bay views.

**STAY** Like Christiansted itself, the 20-room Hotel St. Croix encourages history buffs to step back a few centuries for a taste of old-world Caribbean style. Guests can spend an afternoon with a good book in the open-air lobby, then cross a covered bridge to a town house built in 1756. Its 10 authentically restored rooms feature red pine floors, plank-and-beam ceilings, and colonial-style furniture.

**PLAY** Divers from around the world flock to St. Croix to explore one of the largest reefs in the Caribbean. But if you’re not an expert diver, no worries. Cane Bay Dive Shop caters to first-timers with a Discover Scuba package that includes a 40-minute, instructor-led shore dive. Forget learning in a pool; this invigorating intro offers the perfect taste for beginners, who encounter tropical fish and sea turtles while swimming through a living coral garden—all within 100 yards of the shore.

**SIP** The only microbrewery on the island, Fort Christian Brew Pub serves up five

handcrafted beers (the Coral Reef Red Ale is a standout), along with tasty pub fare and live bands in the evening. Locals come for the brew, but stay for the view: The covered deck and bar are steps from the water, offering the perfect spot for people- and boat-watching along the Christiansted harbor boardwalk. —Victor Maze



Even novice divers can enjoy the Cane Bay coral gardens.