

The Virgin Islands Consortium

Rebuilt South Tender Pier Reopens at Frederiksted Cruise Port After Hurricane Damage

The new 80-by-50-foot structure at the Ann E. Abramson Marine Facility restores full tender operations for cruise passengers, tour boats, divers and excursion vessels after the original pier was damaged during the 2017 hurricanes.

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The rebuilt south tender landing service pier at the Ann E. Abramson Marine Facility in Frederiksted. By. VIPA

The V.I. Port Authority has reopened the rebuilt south tender landing service pier at the Ann E. Abramson Marine Facility in Frederiksted, restoring full tender operations at the

St. Croix cruise port and expanding access for marine operators and visiting passengers.

The new structure replaces the previous south tender pier that was damaged during the 2017 hurricanes. Officials say the rebuilt pier is larger and stronger, measuring 80 feet long and 50 feet wide, and is designed to accommodate a variety of maritime activities, including cruise tenders, tour boats, diving and snorkeling operators, and excursion vessels serving visitors arriving in Frederiksted.

Construction on the replacement pier began in 2023 after Eleven Construction was awarded the rebuilding contract. The project was funded through a \$2.5 million appropriation from the V.I. Legislature at the request of Governor Albert Bryan Jr.

Although work started in 2023, the timeline was extended due to shipping delays involving construction materials and drilling equipment. The reconstruction was ultimately completed in February 2026.

VIPA Executive Director Carlton Dowe expressed appreciation to residents, marine operators, and other users of the facility for their patience during the rebuilding process.

With the reopening of the south tender landing pier, the Abramson Marine Facility now has both its north and south tender landing piers in operation. The north tender pier remained open to the public during the reconstruction period, with docking fees temporarily waived while the south pier was under construction.

Now that both piers are operational, the Port Authority has announced that the standard docking fee for non-commercial small craft will return. Beginning April 6, 2026, vessels using the facility will be charged \$3 per foot per day.

Operators seeking to dock at the tender landing piers are advised to contact the VIPA marine manager's office at (340) 778-3131 to request access.