

# The Virgin Islands Consortium

## National Park Service To Launch New App Thursday

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Anyone wanting to be in the know with all the happenings at St. Croix's national parks can now do so at the touch of a screen.

The National Park Service will launch its NPS-St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands (NPS-STX) smartphone/tablet app on Thursday, Jan. 8. The new application will be available for free download on iTunes and Google Play.

NPS-STX boasts a host of features, including:

- Sites & Points of Interest
- Tours & Trails
- Maps, Regulations & Directions

- Compass Triggering
- QR Code Reader
- Cultural, Ecological & Historical Information
- Park Partners & Concessionaires
- Emergency Contact Directory
- Events, Exhibits & Educational Programming
- Local Weather
- Customizable Postcard

As an optional feature, users may also gain access to the NPS-STX app directly from their device without requiring a WiFi connection. The directions are to tap the "gears" icon to access settings and then download the complete app content. Enabling this feature does, however, initially require a strong WiFi connection.

Developers say the technology can be used virtually or when visiting St. Croix's three National Park Units, including Christiansted National Historic Site (CHRI), Buck Island Reef National Monument (BUIS) and Salt River Bay National Historical Park & Ecological Preserve (SARI).

### **Developer discussion**

On Jan. 8, Rebekka Stone, a NPS consultant who helped develop NPS-STX, will demonstrate and discuss the app's new interpretive features. The session will take place at the Danish Guinea West India Company Warehouse/Slave Market Building from 5:30-6:30 p.m. It is free and open to the public. Parking is available in the Christiansted National Historic Site parking lot until 7 p.m.

Image Credit: *James P. Millard, Christiansted National Historic Site*