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## Frontier Airlines to Begin Weekly Flights to St. Thomas From Orlando International Airport in February

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The U.S. Virgin Islands will welcome new Frontier Airlines service from Orlando, Florida, to St. Thomas beginning early next year, the Dept. of Tourism announced Wednesday.

D.O.T. Commissioner Joseph Boschulte announced that Frontier's new seasonal service will give travelers in central Florida even more options for travel to the territory during the peak winter season.

"We are grateful for and greatly encouraged by Frontier's partnership and support of our efforts to build aerial access to the U.S. Virgin Islands. The carrier's strategic decision to inaugurate service to 'Rock City' is another critical airlift development success for the Territory, as it helps us to address the growing demand of stateside visitors – as well as Virgin Islanders living abroad – to

come to the USVI,” said Mr. Boschulte, who along with Governor Albert Bryan met with Frontier executives in Miami in March to explore airlift possibilities, according to the release.

Starting in February 2021, Frontier will serve St. Thomas (STT) with flights twice each week from Orlando International Airport (MCO), Florida’s busiest airport based on volume of passengers.

Expressing confidence that the new air service bodes well for the growth of tourism-related activity and revenues, Mr. Boschulte said, “As we welcome more stayover visitors to our shores, we expect to see a concomitant increase in visitor expenditures at restaurants, retail and grocery stores, attractions and activities,” while noting that arrivals in the Territory have risen steadily since the resumption of leisure travel in September.

“Airlift development for St. Croix and St. Thomas is a central element of the Department of Tourism’s FY 2021 marketing strategy, which will be unveiled and implemented in the coming weeks,” stated Commissioner Boschulte, who added that in response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, “we have delivered clear and consistent messages to the travel marketplace that the U.S. Virgin Islands wants travelers to ‘Reconnect with Paradise’ in a safe and healthy manner.”

Pandemic-related guidelines for traveling to the U.S. Virgin Islands include the requirement for every traveler aged five or older to submit a COVID-19 test result through the secure online USVI Travel Screening Portal. The traveling public is encouraged to stay abreast of the Territory’s COVID-19 travel protocols by visiting [www.usviupdate.com](http://www.usviupdate.com).

Frontier Airlines, which is known for its low fares as well as its customizable purchase options, has implemented stringent screening and sanitization standards to protect the health and safety of passengers and crew.