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Paris Hilton Spends New Year's Weekend in USVI, Highlighting Benefits of Balancing Covid-19 Restrictions With Economic Activity

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Paris Hilton in St. Thomas, USVI on Sunday, Jan. 3rd, 2021 By. INSTAGRAM

ST. THOMAS — Affluent tourists with yachts searching for exotic destinations to ring in 2021 packed the territory's waters over the weekend, as many destinations remain closed or have implemented onerous Covid-19 restrictions on yachts.

The U.S. Virgin Islands has been benefiting from these closures while receiving free publicity. Paris Hilton, an American media personality, businesswoman, socialite and model [spent the weekend](#) in St. Thomas and St. John with her lover, [Carter Reum](#), an American author and businessman.

"Beautiful day in Paradise celebrating 2021 with the love of my life!" Ms. Hilton [wrote on Instagram](#) Sunday to her more than 13 million followers.



Paris Hilton in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands during the New Year's weekend. (Via [Instagram](#))

Governor Albert Bryan has spoken about the benefits of balancing Covid-19 restrictions with the importance of economic activity, and he has highlighted the influx of yachts arriving to the USVI as one of the benefits.

On Sunday, Mr. Bryan shared a picture of the Cyril E. King Airport, whose apron was filled with jets. "Stt airport looking like a jet sales lot! Balancing Covid and tourism has been a challenge but our community awareness and diligence is paying off," the governor [wrote on Facebook Saturday](#). "We are open for business and the nation is paying attention."

As of Saturday, the territory had 99 active Covid-19 cases: 49 on St. Croix, 37 on St. Thomas, and 13 on St. John. On Sunday, the V.I. Dept. of Health [reported the territory's 24th Covid-19-related fatality](#): a 78-year-old woman from St. Croix, bringing the island's total Coronavirus deaths to 8, which is behind St. Thomas's 15, and ahead of St. John's 1.