

The Virgin Islands Consortium

DPNR Offering 200 Free Kayak, Hiking and Snorkeling Tour Vouchers in St. Thomas Beginning Jan. 1

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The Department of Planning and Natural Resources is inviting St. Thomas residents to join in the opportunity to enjoy the islands' natural resources by exploring a wildlife sanctuary and marine reserve during a free kayak adventure beginning January 1.

"As part of our mission at the Division of Fish and Wildlife to encourage Virgin Islanders to enjoy and appreciate all of our wonderful natural resources, we will be providing 200 free vouchers for a three-hour adventure of kayaking, hiking, and snorkeling with Virgin Islands EcoTours," said Nicole Angeli, director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

DPNR said vouchers will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis to current residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands beginning January 1.

Children must be at least ten years old to participate and must be accompanied by an adult. There will be a limit of eight people per reservation and each person may apply for a voucher only once.

Participants will get to kayak through mangrove water ways, hike on Cas Cay, and witness tidal pools, volcanic cliffs, and a geological blowhole before paddling back to the Mangrove Lagoon Marina. Each participant will be asked to complete a brief survey at the end of each tour as a requisite for participating in this program, DPNR said.

To make a reservation, call Virgin Islands EcoTours at 340-779-2155 or toll-free 1-877-684-2441 and mention the phrase DPNR-DFW2023 or visit <https://viecotours.com>. For more information, call the Division of Fish and Wildlife at 340-775-6762 ext. 5201.