

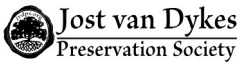
QUICK FACTS ABOUT JOST VAN DYKE

(and its surrounding Cays)

Conserving Biodiversity— Faunal Heritage (Terrestrial)

Summarised from the Environmental Profile for Jost van Dyke

1. There are at least 60 species of birds recorded for Jost van Dyke and the nearby cays.
2. The rare Bridles Quail Dove or Turtle Dove may be found in the last remaining tracks of forest on the northern slopes of Jost Van Dyke.
3. The Red-billed Tropicbird spends most of its adult life out at sea, but during the breeding season it nests on the northern inaccessible cliffs of both Jost Van Dyke and Sandy Cay, in small cavities and overhangs.
4. On the eastern end of Jost van Dyke and on the nearby cays, the uncommon to rare Northern Mockingbird can occasionally be seen flitting from the tops of trees, especially along the coast, in search of insects.
5. Bats are the only native animals remaining in all of the British and U.S. Virgin Islands .
6. There at lease four bat species on Jost van Dyke. They are the small Roof Bat or Pallas Mastiff (*Molossus molossus*), the common Jamaican Fruit Bat (*Artibeus jamaicensis*), the Antillean Cave Bat (*Brachylla cavernum*) and the Fishing Bat (*Noctillio leporinus*).
7. The fishing bat fishes for small fish near the shores of Great Harbour
8. Bats help to control insect pests keeping numbers much lower than if they were not present.
9. Fruit bats such as *Artibeus* and *Brachyphylla* help spread the seeds of many forest plants, keeping the forest alive and healthy.
10. Bats help the pollination of certain plants that flower at night, such as the Pipe Organ Cactus (*Pilosocseus royenii*).
11. There are at least five species of frogs on Jost Van Dyke. They are the Virgin Islands Coqui; the Antillean Frog (or Churi Coqui), the Mute Frog, the Whistling Frog and the White-lipped Frog.
12. The Virgin Islands Coqui is a Virgin Islands endemic and is believed to be extinct from the U.S. Virgin Islands.
13. The Virgin Islands Coqui and the Mute Frog are classified as endangered (E) on the IUCN Species List.



Jost van Dykes Preservation Society

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The Jost Van Dykes Preservation Society, a BVI non-profit organisation, is dedicated to the preservation of the island of Jost van Dyke—its land, the surrounding sea, its living creatures and its culture through conservation, cultivation, education and research. The Society endeavours to protect key elements of the islands culture and environment for the future generations of all peoples to see, feel, and to understand. In addition to this OTEP-funded project, the Society works to implement other environmental, historical and cultural projects. The Society's largest and most well-recognised project is a maritime heritage programme that involves the building of Endeavour II, a 'tradition-inspired' island sloop (constructed primarily by local high school students.) Once launched, she will be used for sail training, marine sciences education and cultural demonstrations.

14. The Virgin Island Worm Lizard is believed to be native on Jost.
15. Several species of Lizards may be found on Jost van Dyke. They are the Crested Anole, the Grass Anole, the Barred or Bark Anole, the Common Woodslave, the Dwarf Gecko and the Ground Lizard.
16. The rare endemic Tree Boa may be found on Jost Van Dyke. This snake is harmless to humans.
17. The Blind Snake is found on Jost Van Dyke and nearby islands. This small worm like snake lives primarily below ground and is entirely blind.
18. The rare Puerto Rican Racer may be found on Green Cay.
19. The invertebrates of Jost van Dyke include a wide range of organisms such as scorpions, centipedes, orb weaving spiders, millipedes, soldier crab, land crab, fiddler crab, beetles, termites cockroaches and jewel bugs.
20. As the hermit crab grows, it discards its shell for a larger one. Its preferred replacement shell is usually that of the West Indian Top Shell.
21. When they mature hermit crabs make the long and difficult trek from high slopes down to the coast to deposit their eggs in the ocean, and afterwards make their way back up to the hinterlands.
22. The Red Rim, Gulf Fritillary and Zebra butterflies are found on Jost van Dyke.