

## **Ensemble Experience**

### **CHARLOTTE AMALIE, ST. THOMAS**

Ship/Sailing:	Explorer of the Seas	December 12, 2008
Tour Date:	December 16, 2008	
Ship Time in Port:	8:00 am	- 5:30 pm
Tour Name:	<b><i>Views, Castles and Gardens of St. Thomas</i></b>	
Half-Day Tour:	Depart: 9:30 am	Return: 1:15 pm

Spend a delightful morning discovering the fantastic scenic panoramas, stunning gardens and fascinating castles of St. Thomas.

Your first stop will be St. Peter's Estate and Botanical Gardens. Spend an hour exploring the newly redecorated main house and its beautiful furnishings. Then climb the steps to the observation platform and take in the sweeping "down island" views of Tortola, Jost Van Dyke and St. John. Meander through the lush tropical, botanical garden and delight your senses with the fragrance of ginger, frangipani, hibiscus and bay rum, all planted along the trail. Enjoy the stunning roses, orchids, trumpeters, and hibiscus. Listen for the calls of the lorikeets and lovebirds. Bring your camera to capture a shot of the famous peacocks that roam the gardens!

Then it's on to Blackbeard's Castle where you will begin a one hour guided historic tour that includes the Skytaborge Tower, a National Historic Monument built by the Danes in 1670 to protect the bustling harbor. Your guide, from the St. Thomas Historical Trust, will take you on a fascinating tour into the past as you walk St. Thomas's famous 99 steps between Blackbeard's and Hotel 1829.

Enjoy a refreshing drink in the bar of this marvelous property, built in 1829 by a wealthy French merchant and frequented by royalty, artists and entertainers before meeting your driver at the Emancipation Garden, a short walk from the hotel, for the drive to the St. Thomas Skyride.

Savor the panorama during the seven-minute ride to Paradise Point. Here you will find a wonderful view of the harbor and the cruise dock where your ship is berthed. Take your time and enjoy the vista spread before you. Soon it will be time to return to the port and the ship.