

# About Vistra BVI

## The British Virgin Islands

The British Virgin Islands ('BVI') is a British overseas territory, consisting of more than 60 islands, lying approximately 50 miles east of the island of Puerto Rico in the Caribbean Sea.

The introduction of the International Business Companies Act ('IBC Act') in 1984 established the BVI's reputation as an attractive option for clients wishing to obtain reasonably priced offshore corporate vehicles. The IBC Act was replaced in 2006 by the BVI Business Companies Act, further boosting the popularity of the Territory, as a well regulated jurisdiction with a supportive judicial system based on English Common Law. The BVI is now the most popular jurisdiction for the formation of offshore corporate vehicles, and is home to over 450,000 active corporate entities.

Over the years, the BVI has implemented several innovative pieces of legislation, much of it market-leading, in the areas of trust business, investment business, captive insurance and insolvency.

This includes the Virgin Islands Special Trust Act, 2003, ('VISTA'). VISTA is designed, primarily, to cater to the needs of owners of family businesses who require autonomy in their business operations while at the same time allowing the owners to address the issue of business succession.

## Vistra BVI

Our offices are situated in the BVI capital, Road Town, which is located on the island of Tortola. Road Town is also home to many renowned law and accountancy firms, which provide legal and other necessary support for clients who have established BVI corporate vehicles and trust structures.

The Vistra BVI team, led by Managing Director, Simon Filmer, takes great pride in delivering international calibre service with a personal touch. Vistra BVI is also able to draw on the resources of the substantial global network to ensure that our client's needs are always adequately fulfilled.

## Our Services

Vistra BVI is licensed by the British Virgin Islands Financial Services Commission to provide a full range of trust and fiduciary services to international clients, both from within the BVI and across the Group.

Our services include the establishment of a broad range of BVI trust and corporate structures; trustee, protector and full administration services; and the provision of corporate director and nominee shareholder services.

Of the services detailed above, the provision of BVI VISTA trusts is increasingly popular with our clients. In conjunction with leading counsel, we have also developed a short form revocable VISTA trust offering, branded as The BVI Succession Trust.

The BVI Succession Trust is a simple and cost-effective way to avoid probate for all those who hold shares in BVI companies in their own name or through a nominee.

Further information on BVI VISTA Trusts and the BVI Succession Trust can be found in our information sheets.

## Contact

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