



Ogier

Jurisdictions
British Virgin Islands

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Who we are

We get straight to the point, managing complexity to get to the essentials.

What do we do?

We're lawyers to the world's leading financial institutions, professional advisers, regulatory bodies and high net worth individuals.

Ogier is based in nine international locations offering advice on five laws: BVI, Cayman, Guernsey, Jersey and Luxembourg. Our network of offices also includes London, Hong Kong, Shanghai and Tokyo.

We're known for our strength in banking and finance, corporate and commercial, investment funds, dispute resolution and private wealth. Regulatory, restructuring and corporate recovery and tax are also key services.

Local businesses look for local knowledge. We bring together an international outlook and on the ground understanding to advise businesses on local matters, including property, employment, immigration, data protection and competition law.

Our approach is to keep it simple. Resource work at the right level. Don't over-lawyer, don't overengineer.

In a rapidly evolving marketplace legal advice needs a flexible approach. Smooth, efficient, quiet service for the daily running of businesses, with serious power and finesse at times when activities deviate from the norm. Our business model is structured to meet individual needs. Complex transactions need great insight. Working through this complexity to provide sound judgment on what really matters, we never lose sight of the need for effective project management and superb client service to bring each transaction to life.

We respond to client views – gained through personal interviews to measure levels of client service – acting on feedback and, where we need to, developing our services to maintain the high satisfaction levels our clients report.



Very responsive group and always well-coordinated among the practice and the firm, including across the various jurisdictions in which they work.

Legal 500 Caribbean, BVI, Banking and Finance, 2021



One of the best in the BVI in terms of legal ability, quality of service and plain old fashioned client care.

Legal 500 Caribbean, BVI, Dispute Resolution, 2020



The team is very responsive and thoughtful, and has a "get it done" mind set.

Legal 500 Caribbean, BVI, Investment Funds, 2020

Ogier in the BVI

We act for leading global financial institutions, investment managers and corporate entities from start ups to global household names.



The selling point for us for the BVI Ogier team was their warm and user-friendly manner, teamed with an immaculate knowledge of their practice areas.

Legal 500 Caribbean, BVI, Dispute Resolution, 2021



Ogier has some very impressive team members at all levels and it comes up with novel approaches and solutions.

Legal 500 Caribbean, BVI, Dispute Resolution, 2020

We are also instructed by many leading law firms and other intermediaries on many of the noteworthy and complex transactions and cases that involve the BVI across sectors including financial services, investment funds, energy and infrastructure, consumer goods and retail, life sciences, leisure and entertainment, manufacturing and real estate.

We provide BVI advice from our BVI office, in Europe from our Guernsey and Jersey offices and in Asia from our Hong Kong office.

BVI advice from the Caribbean, Asia and the Channel Islands

The BVI is often the jurisdiction of choice for investors based all over the world, from BRIC and other emerging markets to mature markets including the US and Europe. In fact, BVI companies have become so popular as investment vehicles that the BVI is now China's second largest inward investor of any country worldwide.

To best serve clients needs we have structured our business to include BVI qualified lawyers stationed not only in our BVI office but also in our Jersey, Guernsey and Hong Kong offices which enable us to provide BVI and local law advice directly from Asia and Europe, across time zones.

Our track record in the BVI

Our BVI team have advised on many firsts including;

- the IPO of the largest listed BVI company to date (Lenta Limited's US\$ 1 billion listing on the Main Board of the London Stock Exchange and the Moscow Stock Exchange) the largest acquisition/disposal of a BVI company (Rosneft's US\$ 55 billion acquisition of TNK-BP)
- the largest listed note issuance by a BVI issuer (Cemex's US\$ 3 billion note issuance)
- the creation of the BVI's largest joint venture company (TNK-BP)
- the largest debt restructuring involving multiple BVI companies (UCR's US\$ 18 billion global debt restructure)
- the first takeover of a BVI company by way of a Court approved plan of arrangement
- the largest receivership sale involving BVI companies (42 BVI property companies in a hotel chain receivership disposal)

Our team has a long-standing commitment to the jurisdiction and is independently sought out by Governmental and public sector authorities to support and steer industry and regulatory best practice.

Why the BVI?

The BVI is a British overseas territory with a legal system based on English common law.

Politically stable, the islands have established a thriving international business industry, recognised and ranked among the world's top offshore jurisdictions.

As an international finance centre, BVI offers:

- an independent and robust Financial Services Commission acknowledged as a strong and sophisticated Regulator
- an international platform with a global footprint where Government has created strong international trade and diplomatic relationships

The BVI is committed to the growth of international financial services offered for healthy competition and options in the global marketplace.

Recent developments include:

- New regulations usher in two new funds products, the Incubator Fund and the Approved Fund
- Growth in the numbers of clients opting to utilise BVI as the domicile of their investment managers:

- the FSC licensed 29 investment managers under the Regulations during 2014, bringing an aggregate total of 55 investment managers licensed under the Regulations since it was first introduced at the end of 2012

- extension of the scope of the BVI Investment Approved Managers Regulations regime enabling Approved Managers to manage non-BVI fund structures

- increased willingness of the FSC to exercise its discretion to permit applicants for Approved Managers status to manage managed accounts

- Full online FATCA compliance reporting capability
- The BVI is seeing benefits from the recent return to popularity of SPACs and becoming a favoured jurisdiction for US listed SPACs



Ogier is very knowledgeable, efficient, professional and courteous and reasonably priced, and fields a terrific team.

Legal 500 Caribbean, BVI, Investment Funds, 2020



The Ogier team is pragmatic, responsive and highly-skilled at dealing with multi-jurisdictional “bet-the-company” disputes. It is a pleasure to work with them.

Legal 500 Caribbean, BVI,
Dispute Resolution, 2020



Practice Areas

Banking and Finance

Our Banking and Finance team provides legal advice relating to corporate finance transactions, securitisations and other financing matters including syndicated and bi-lateral loan facilities, banking regulation, documentation, security, redomiciliation and the establishment and operation of institutions in the British Virgin Islands. The team is supported by global litigation and insolvency practice teams.

Corporate

The BVI is the leading IFC corporate domicile in the world and as such, our Corporate law team has extensive experience in advising on the establishment of many forms of domestic and cross border corporate vehicles, investment trusts and partnerships as well as advising on private placements, initial and other public offerings, mergers and acquisitions, reorganisations, joint ventures and disposals.

Investment Funds

Our Investment Funds team provides legal advice on fund formation, structures, regulation, de-registration, liquidation and on going advice to investment funds and managers.

Dispute Resolution

Our Dispute Resolution team advises on the technical, strategic and procedural aspects across a spectrum of disputes. Frequently multi-jurisdictional in nature, this includes advice in relation to trusts, companies, shareholder issues, distressed funds, director's duties, investment performance, banking and other financial transactions, as well as fraud and asset tracing claims, and all aspects of the regulatory framework within which our clients must operate.

Restructuring and Corporate Recovery

Our Restructuring and Corporate Recovery team has extensive cross-border and international experience advising on contentious and noncontentious restructuring and insolvency matters, often advising in conjunction with onshore counsel, insolvency practitioners and other professional services providers.

Private Wealth

Our Private Wealth team has extensive experience in advising on the structuring, establishment and administration of private trusts, purpose trusts and other vehicles typically used by private clients as well as establishing and administrating such entities.

Taxation

Our Taxation team advises on all forms of BVI Taxation and structuring.



Best Offshore Law Firm
US Hedgeweek Awards
2020



Offshore Law Firm of the
Year
The Legal 500 UK Awards
2020



Offshore Law Firm of the
Year
Asian Legal Business Hong
Kong Awards 2019



Offshore Law Firm of the
Year
The Lawyer Awards 2019



Best Offshore Law Firm
Wealthbriefing European
Awards 2019



Offshore Law Firm of the
Year
Legal Business Awards
2019

Contact us

BVI team



Ray Wearmouth
Partner
+1 284 852 7364
ray.wearmouth@ogier.com



Grant Carroll
Partner
+1 284 852 7323
grant.carroll@ogier.com



Nicholas Brookes
Partner
+1 284 852 7366
nicholas.brookes@ogier.com



Nicholas Burkill
Partner
+1 284 852 7372
nicholas.burkill@ogier.com



Michael Killourhy
Partner
+1 284 852 7309
michael.killourhy@ogier.com



Brian Lacy
Partner
1 284 852 73 58
brian.lacy@ogier.com



Alexander Muksinov
Counsel
+44 1534 514301
alexander.muksinov@ogier.com



Ewelina Clyde-Smith
Managing Associate
+44 1534 514187
ewelina.clyde-smith@ogier.com



David Mathews
Managing Associate
+1 284 852 7313
david.mathews@ogier.com



Daniel Mitchell
Managing Associate
+1 284 852 7344
daniel.mitchell@ogier.com



Paul Heath
Senior Associate
+44 1534 514223
paul.heath@ogier.com



Sarah Latham
Senior Associate
+1 284 852 7348
sarah.latham@ogier.com



James McDermott
Senior Associate
+1 284 852 7347
james.mcdermott@ogier.com



Tiffany Tolliss
Senior Associate
+1284 852 7343
tiffany.tolliss@ogier.com

BVI team in other jurisdictions



Christian Burns-Di Lauro
Partner
+44 1534 514246
Christian.Burns-DiLauro@ogier.com



Marie-Claire Fudge
Partner
+44 1534 514307
marie-claire.fudge@ogier.com



Kate Hodson
Partner
+852 3656 6049
kate.hodson@ogier.com



Marcus Leese
Partner
+44 1481 737152
marcus.leese@ogier.com



David Nelson
Partner
+852 3656 6018
david.nelson@ogier.com



Anthony Oakes
Partner
+852 3656 6065
anthony.oakes@ogier.com



Oliver Richardson
Partner
+44 1534 514209
oliver.richardson@ogier.com



Simon Schilder
Partner, Ogier Legal L.P.
+44 1534 514298
simon.schilder@ogier.com



David Welford
Partner
+44 1534 514046
david.welford@ogier.com

Legal Services

Beijing
British Virgin Islands
Cayman Islands
Guernsey
Hong Kong
Ireland
Jersey
London
Luxembourg
Shanghai
Singapore
Tokyo

Ogier provides practical advice on BVI, Cayman Islands, Guernsey, Jersey and Luxembourg law through our global network of offices across the Asian, Caribbean and European timezones. With a growing team of more than 700 people around the world, we regularly win awards for innovation, client service and quality. Regulatory information can be found at ogier.com