

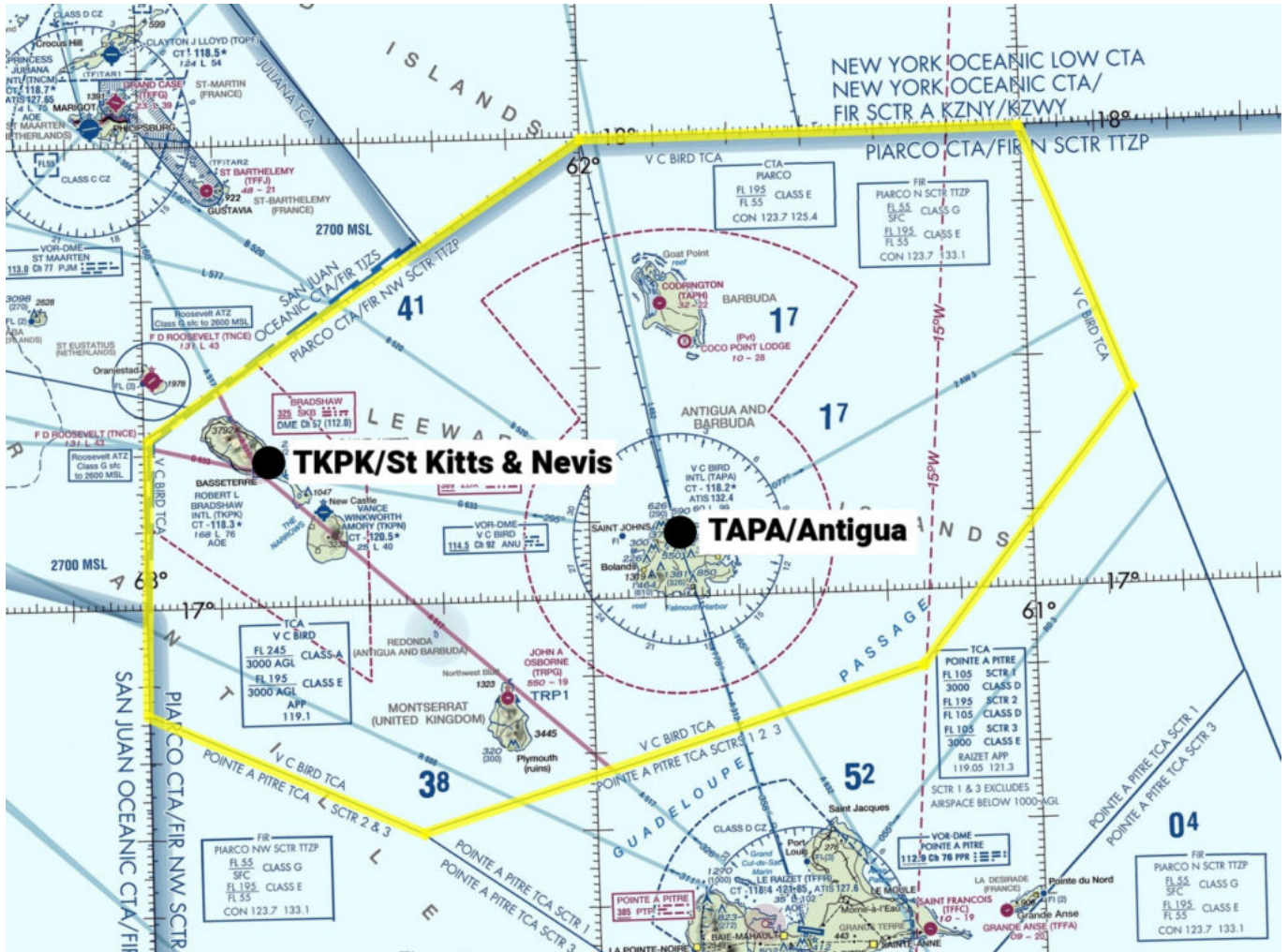
Secret Overflight Requirements in Antigua

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16 January, 2024



There's a secret Antigua overflight requirement that's been going on for a while but is still catching some people out.

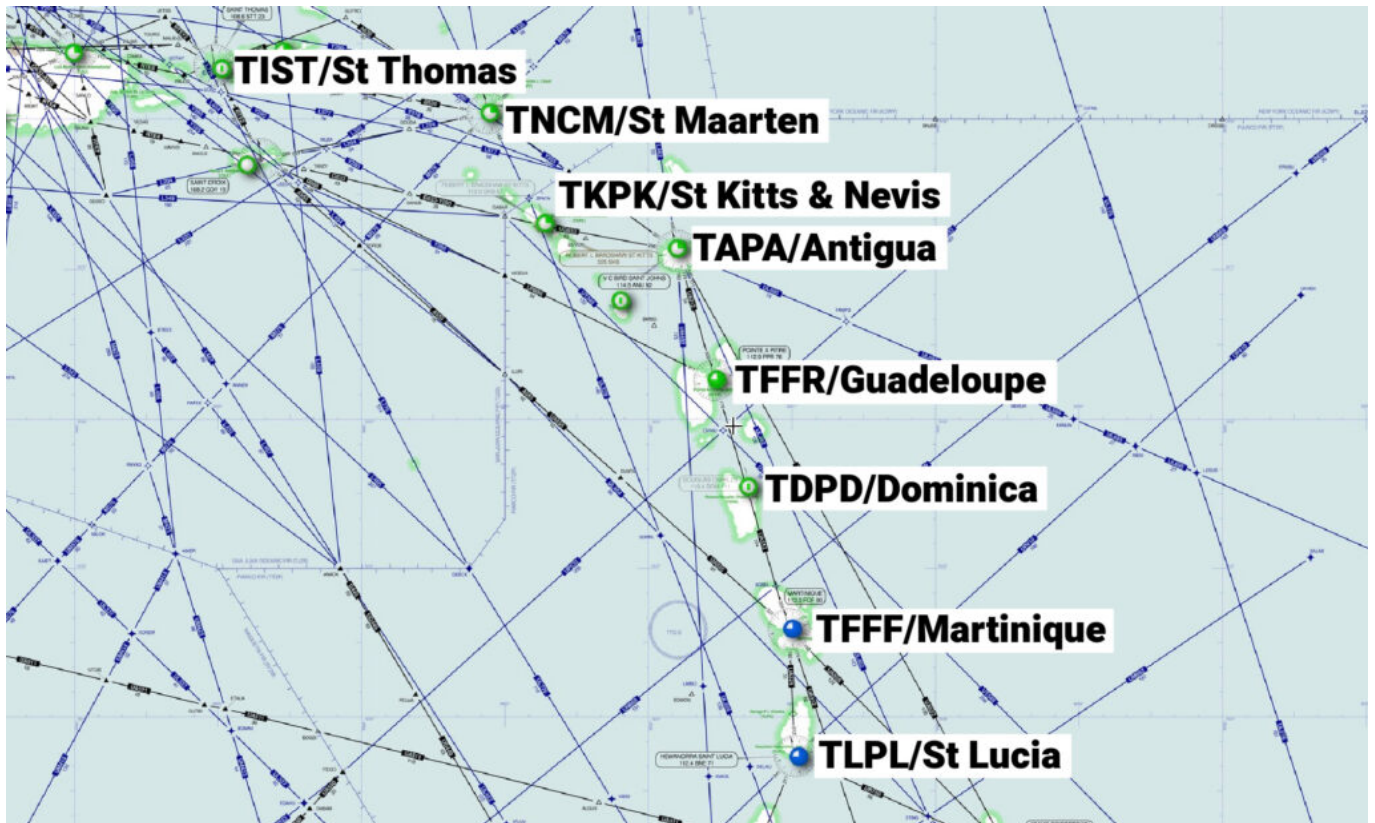
If you enter the Antigua TMA/TCA (the airspace around Antigua up to FL245), you'll need to apply for a "cross-border permit". Without it, they won't let you enter the airspace!



Area in yellow is the Antigua TMA/TCA.

If you're headed to TAPA/Antigua airport itself, you don't have to do this - you just get billed when you land. **You only need it for any flight through this airspace below FL245.**

So this is going to **mainly affect flights to TKPK/St Kitts & Nevis airport, as well as low-level flights between islands in the region** - the likes of St Maarten and the Virgin Islands in the northwest, down through Guadeloupe, Dominica, Martinique, and St Lucia in the southeast.



As one OPSGROUP member reported - "Inbound to TKPK we were asked for the Antigua airspace permit. Apparently this is new so we did not have it and got a reroute of about a 100NM, it almost caused low fuel situation. Be aware!"

Airport Spy

Find airport ...

Basse Terre, Saint Kitts and Nevis INTL TKPK

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Rated 2 from 1 reviews

Medium International Airport | Longest Rwy: 2,317 m / 7,600 ft (07/25) | Elev: 170 Less visited

Reviews 1 Alerts 0 Articles 1 Documents 0

“ Antigua Airspace Approval to land in St.Kitts **”**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Reviewed January 29, 2023
Aircraft: G500 | Flight type: Private | ID: 9009577

Permits
Saint Kitts and Nevis

PRIVATE COMMERCIAL

Overfly Land Overfly Land

Closest Airports

TNCM St. Maarten, Netherlands Antilles ★★★★★ 13
49 nm, 2349m/7707ft Large

TAPA Antigua, Antigua and Barbuda ★★★★★ 6
54 nm, 2744m/9003ft Medium

You have to apply online at the vcbirdats.com site **at least 6 hours prior to the flight.**

Fees depend on aircraft MTOW, as a long-since deleted TAPA Notam explains:

- Up to 5,000 pounds - 25 USD
- 5,001 to 10,000 pounds - 35 USD
- 10,001 to 15,000 pounds - 45 USD
- 15,001 to 25,000 pounds - 55 USD
- 25,001 to 50,000 pounds - 65 USD
- 50,001 to 100,000 pounds - 80 USD
- 100,001 to 200,000 pounds - 95 USD
- 200,001 to 300,000 pounds - 110 USD

300,001 and over - 125 USD

On the vcbirdats.com site, you will need to register an account. If you're not an airline, you won't have an IATA code, so just use "00" as the code making the account. You will then you'll be presented with a screen that looks like this:

The screenshot shows a 'New Cross Border Request' form with the following sections and fields:

- Company Details:** E-Mail (text input).
- Flight Plan:** Aircraft Identification (Field 7 from the FPL) (text input), Aircraft Registration (text input), Type of Aircraft (text input), WTC (dropdown menu with 'Choose one'), Flight Rules (dropdown menu with 'Choose one'), Type of Flight (dropdown menu with 'Choose one'), Maximum Takeoff Weight (lb) (text input).
- Date of Flight:** dd/mm/yyyy (date picker).
- Estimated Off-Block Time:** -- : -- (time picker).
- ICAO Departure Airport Code:** (text input).
- Route (Field 15 from the FPL):** (text input).
- ICAO Destination Airport Code:** (text input).
- Estimated Elapsed Time:** HHMM (text input).
- Security:** 'I'm not a robot' checkbox and reCAPTCHA logo.
- Flight Details:** Type of Flight (radio buttons for 'Single Flight' and 'Repetitive Flight').
- Submit:** A large blue button at the bottom right.

One intrepid Opsgroup member who tried this out said that after they submitted all the info for the cross-border permit it was **issued instantly via email**. Just make sure that on the permit it says the callsign or tail number so ATC joins the two when approaching the airspace.

It's worth noting that this cross-border permit is **not actually an overflight permit** - it's basically just the fees you have to pay in advance for Nav and ATC. In this neck of the woods, *real* overflight permits are not required. For landings, only scheduled and charter flights require landing permits. For these, contact paula.fredrick-hunteab.gov.ag for Antigua, and foreigna@sisterisles.kn for St Kitts & Nevis. (Unless you know some better email addresses than these - in which case, let us know!)

And if you've been to the region recently, **please file an Airport Spy report** so we can share the info with everyone else in the group!



Got some intel?

Are you an Airport Spy?

You go to unusual places and see curious things. Your turboprop friends envy you. Now, it's time to give back.

For your next trip, pack a notebook, and file your Spy Report below. You'll get a weekly ops briefing in return.

[File your report](#) >