

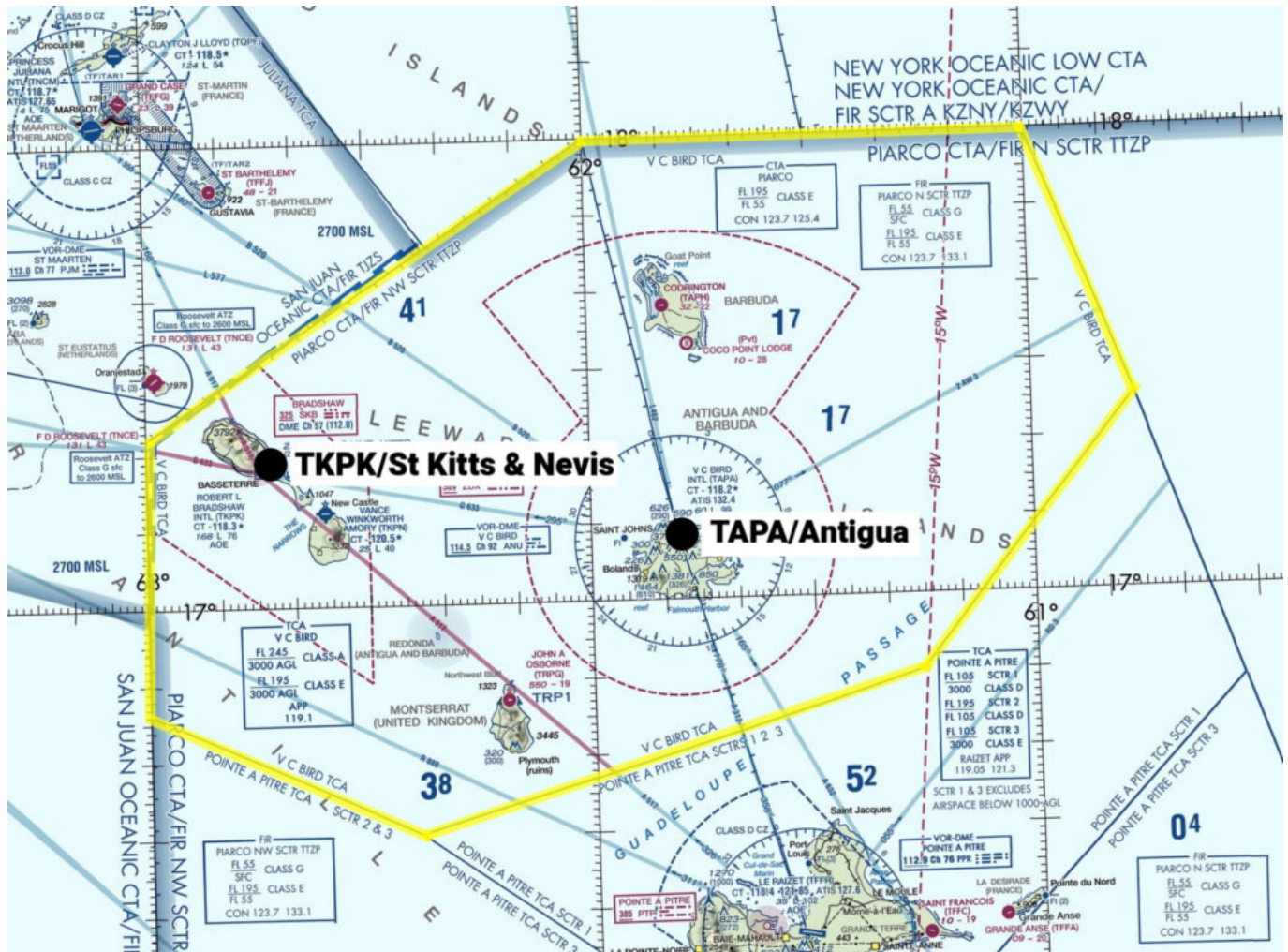
Secret Overflight Requirements in Antigua

David Mumford
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.

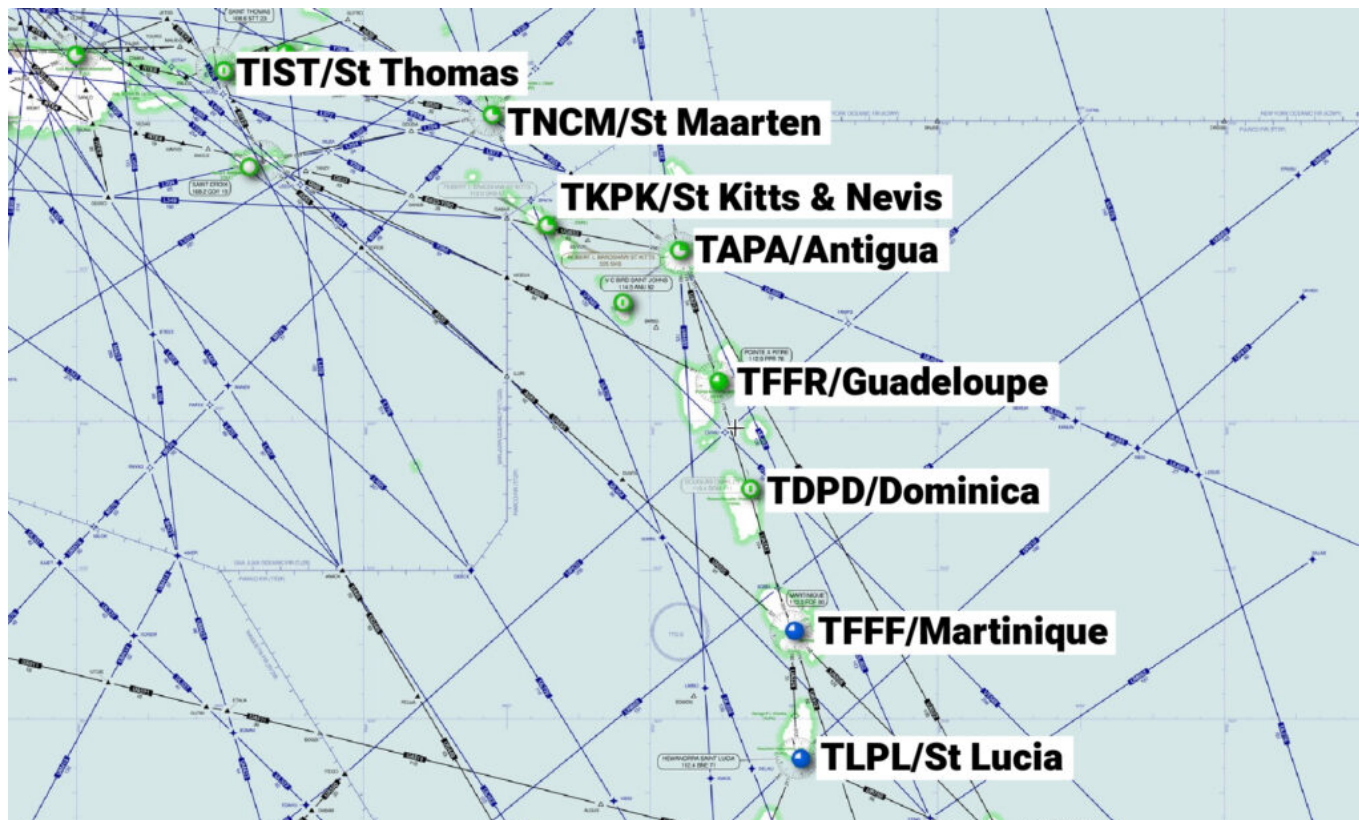
If you enter the Antigua TMA/TCA (the airspace around Antigua up to FL245), you'll need to apply for a "cross-border permit". Without it, they won't let you enter the airspace!



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!”

Basse Terre, Saint Kitts and Nevis
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Rated 2 from 1 reviews
 Medium International Airport | Longest Rwy: 2,317 m / 7,600 ft (07/25) | Elev: 170
 INTL TKPK Less visited

Reviews 1 Alerts 0 Articles 1 Documents 0

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:

New Cross Border Request

Company Details

E-Mail

ICAO Departure Airport Code

ICAO Destination Airport Code

Flight Plan

Aircraft Identification (Field 7 from the FPL)

Route (Field 15 from the FPL)

Aircraft Registration

Type of Aircraft

WTC

Choose one

Flight Rules

Choose one

Estimated Elapsed Time

HHMM

Type of Flight

Choose one

Maximum Takeoff Weight (lb)

I'm not a robot

reCAPTCHA

Submit

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](#) 