

The **CIX** VFR Club

Christmas Caper – 2017

The Twelve Days of CiXmas

The tour this year will be in part of the West Indies along the archipelago of islands off the coast of Venezuela, starting at the Virgin Islands and finishing at Port of Spain Piarco International Airport. Along the way, we shall be calling at some very well known & loved landing strips; St Maarten, St Barthelmy and Mustique, among others. Some of the landing strips are small and poorly prepared, while others are international airports. Some of the airfields you will be landing at do not have any fuel; indeed, the facilities are very rudimentary, so be sure to have sufficient fuel for the next leg or two - three?

The tour has been divided up into trips for the day; total number of days flying is 12. You need to file a new flight plan for each leg, even though some of these legs are only a few miles long. I suggest that having completed one leg, you submit your PIREP to the CIX VFR Club in the normal manner, disconnect from VATSIM for a short while – time for a cuppa – then reconnect, file a new flight plan & orft you jolly well go.

This is Twin Otter territory & this tour is ideal for that aircraft. I'm sure that many of you will have seen the YouTube videos of aircraft landing at & taking off from St Barthelmy & Saba, and the Twin Otter excels in these kinds of situation.

Whatever aircraft you decide to use for this trip - and you are not restricted to just the one type - remember to plan your trips well; there is no fuel at a lot of these airfields! Some of the landing strips are extremely short and you will be severely restricted in the choice of aircraft. Plan-G files are supplied for all legs of this event.

Mel Kirk has kindly agreed to suspend his regular Monday flights for the month of December so please don't feel that you have to fly this event in glorious solitude. Whilst there might be a dearth of ATC, you can always fly with a colleague, or perhaps you might like to fly as a group. Just remember that some of the smaller airfields don't have a lot of parking spaces, so if there are a lot of you, it might get a bit cramped.

As far as scenery is concerned, I have just used my default Orbx Global Vector scenery.

Prior to submitting this event, I have flown every leg to ensure that it is do-able in a reasonable time scale. I have thoroughly enjoyed planning this event & I hope you will get as much enjoyment out of flying it as I did.

A lot of the charts for the event can be found at the following sites:

<http://www.uvairlines.com/admin/resources/charts/charts-caribbean.htm>

<http://www.poweredby.be/ifr-charts/pdf-carib-charts.htm>

Blue skies, a very Happy Christmas & a Prosperous New Year to you all.

John Lygo

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vQFI
CiX VFR

1 November 2017

Somewhere in the Caribbean