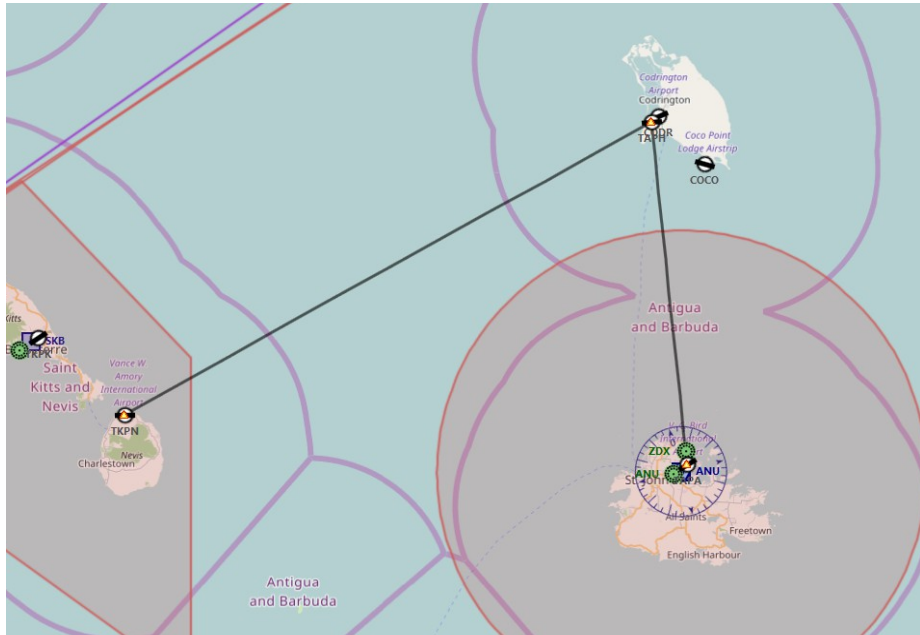


# The **CIX** VFR Club

## Christmas Caper – 2017

### The Twelve Days of CiXmas

On the Sixth Day of CiXmas.....



..... we fly off to Antigua and Barbuda. Our first port of call will be Codrington aerodrome and then we head south for VC Bird International, St. John's.

The airport was built as a US Army Air Force base around 1941, and named Coolidge Airfield after Capt. Hamilton Coolidge(1895–1918). Renamed Coolidge Air Force Base in 1948, it was closed as a result of budgetary cutbacks in 1949, with right of re-entry retained by the United States. Agreements were subsequently reached with the UK and, later, the Antigua government upon independence, for the establishment and maintenance of missile tracking facilities. Antigua Air Station was established on a portion of the former Coolidge AFB. As of 2011, NASA continues to utilise the Antigua facility for launch tracking services on an as-needed basis; and did so for the launch of the Mars Science laboratory on 26 November 2011. Upon the closure of the base in 1949 it became a civil airport. It was known as Coolidge International Airport until 1985, when it was named in honour of Sir Vere Cornwall Bird (1910–1999), the first prime minister of Antigua and Barbuda. In December 2005, the Antigua and Barbuda Millennium Airport Corporation announced it would invite tenders to construct the first phase of a new passenger terminal designed to serve the airport for 30 years. In 2012, they announced the construction of its second terminal.

### The Route

Leg 1	TKPN (Vance Winkworth Amory) to TAPH (Codrington)	49 nms
Leg 2	TAPH (Codrington) to TAPA (V C Bird International)	29 nms

This days flying is 78 nms and flying time at 140 kts will be in the region of 33 minutes. But as with the previous legs, there are other things that need to be done. So, you know the drill, you should schedule perhaps an hour and a half for today's trip.