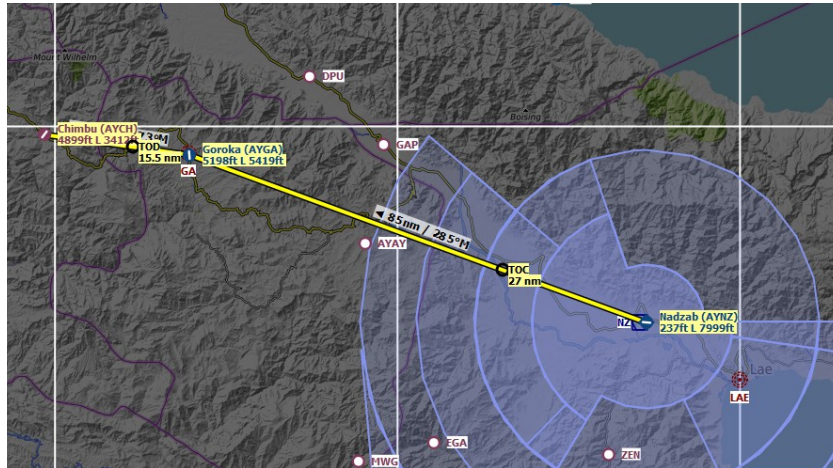


The CIX VFR Club

Christmas Caper – 2019

Day 8 - Nadzab to Chimbu via Goroka



Goroka is the capital of the Eastern Highlands Province of Papua New Guinea. It is a town of approximately 19,000 people (2000), 1600m above sea level. It has an airport in the centre of town and is on the Highlands Highway, about 285 km from Lae in Morobe Province and 90 km from the nearby town of Kainantu, also in the Eastern Highlands. Other nearby towns include Kundiawa in Simbu Province and Mount Hagen in Western Highlands Province. It has a mild climate, known as a "Perpetual Spring".

It is the home of several national institutions: the Christian Radio Missionary Fellowship, the PNG Institute of Medical Research, the National Film Institute, the Melanesian Institute, the Raun Raun Theatre Company and the University of Goroka. Several NGOs also have presences there, including Oxfam and Save the Children. The town's single largest hotel is the Bird of Paradise, owned by the Coral Seas Hotels chain.

Coffee is a common cash crop in the area; smaller industries include trout farms, pigs, bee keeping and food gardens. Broccoli, kau kau or sweet potato, carrots, ginger and peanuts are examples of produce that grow well here; nearby Bena Bena is known for its pineapples.

In May, Goroka hosts the PNG Coffee Festival.

The renowned Goroka Show is a three-day event that takes place annually around the time of the country's Independence Day (September 16). The Goroka Show is the oldest show in Papua New Guinea; over 50 years of "keeping the spirit alive".

The Route

Leg 1	Nadzab to Goroka	85 nms
Leg 2	Goroka to Chimbu	25 nms

Today's flying is 110 nms and can be undertaken in a Cessna 172, although you will have to climb to 10 000 ft to clear the high terrain on the second leg. Even with the turn around at Goroka, the trip can be completed well within 1hour 45 minutes.