



JAMAICA'S MAROON HERITAGE:

A LIBERATORY WELLNESS EXPERIENCE

Hosted in Jamaica

June 17 – 25, 2026

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TRIP OBJECTIVES

- To Be An Immersive African-Caribbean Cultural Experience For Healing, Justice, and Liberation
- To Learn About Maroon Heritage, Taino Indigenous Rights, Ancestral Connections, and Land Stewardship
- To Support and Attend the Charles Town Maroon Community Conference and Festival
- To Embody Liberatory Wellness and Way Of Being



This is an **Affinity Space**
Prioritizes People of
Color but Welcomes
Allies Who are Racially
and Culturally Aware.

WHY JAMAICA AND WHY THE CHARLES TOWN MAROON COMMUNITY?

THE STRENGTH OF JAMAICAN CULTURE IS REFLECTED IN ITS PROFOUND IMPACT ON BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS WORLDWIDE.

Attending the International Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival in Portland, Jamaica offers a rich and meaningful experience that blends history, culture, academia, and celebration. This four-day event includes academic panels on indigenous knowledge systems and ancestral heritage, providing insight into the Maroons' 18th-century struggle for freedom and their enduring legacy. Visitors are immersed in traditional ceremonies like Taino Solstice rituals, Bun Fire Night, and Ancestor Quao Day—vibrant rituals featuring drumming, dancing, fire ceremonies, and abeng horn calls that echo centuries of resistance and resilience.

The festival also showcases local Maroon cuisine, wellness villages with herbal teas and spa offerings, craft stalls, and community events that foster genuine connection with elders and locals—an authentic way to experience Jamaica's cultural identity amidst breathtaking landscapes near the Buff Bay River. Whether you're drawn to meaningful cultural exchange, historical education, ancestral commemoration, or spirited entertainment under starlit bonfires, the Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival offers a deeply enriching and unforgettable encounter.



TRIP ITINERARY

JUNE 17 – 25, 2026



Daily Itinerary*

Our retreat will take place on-site in Jamaica.

**The itinerary may shift slightly once the official Charlestown Maroon Festival is announced.*

DAY 1 **Kingston** - Wednesday, June 17

- Arrive in Kingston Airport and Check In At Jamaica Pegasus Hotel
- Welcome Group Dinner

DAY 2 **Kingston** - Thursday, June 18

- Visit Marcus Garvey's Museum - Liberty Hall
- Reasoning Session with Rastafarian Community
- Bob Marley's Home & Museum

DAY 3 **Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival** - Friday, June 19

- Check In At Goblin Hill Villas In San San
- Welcome Fireside Chat & Opening Circle (Mama G)
- Herbal Medicine Workshop (Mama G)
- Academic Day At Conference & Festival

DAY 4 **Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival** - Saturday, June 20

- Taino Solstice
- Water Ceremony At the River
- Fire Ceremony
- BunFyah Night & Reggae Dancing
- Community Day At Conference & Festival

DAY 5 **Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival** - Sunday, June 21

- Cacao Ceremony At the River
- Victory Day At Conference & Festival

DAY 6 **Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival** - Monday, June 22

- Water Ceremony At the River
- Sound Healing Workshop (Mama G & Sound Balm Yard)
- Ancestor Quao Day At Conference & Festival

DAY 7 **Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival** - Tuesday, June 23

- Art & Visioning Workshop (Mama G)
- Closing Circle (Mama G)



DAY 10 **Beach Day** - Wednesday, June 24

- Full Day at Winnefred Beach, Jamaica's Only True Public Beach that is Cared, Fought, and Maintained by the People for the People

DAY 9 **Beach/Kingston** - Thursday, June 25

- Farewell Group Breakfast/Brunch
- Drive to Kingston airport to return to the U.S.



TRIP PAYMENT



Per Person Cost Details:

\$2,600

What's Included:

- Double-occupancy room. Add \$800 pp for single occupancy.
- All hotel accommodations, all meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), all site entry fees, visits and lectures. Daily Charles Town Maroon Conference & Festival fee, all in-country transportation, tour organizer and local assistant guide.

What's NOT Included:

- Flight to and from Jamaica

Deposit, Registration, and Installment Payment Plan

1. Participants are required to register and pay a \$500 non-refundable deposit per person by Monday, December 1, 2025.
2. Register and Make All Payment HERE
3. The balance and total due is required 30 days before travel (May 15, 2026).

For Questions Please Contact Dr. Siri Brown at:
tours@global-academics.org or (510) 649-5664



Hosted in Jamaica
Space is Limited to only 20 People, Register Soon!



TOUR ORGANIZER

GLOBAL ACADEMICS

DR. SIRI BROWN, PH.D., CEO AND FOUNDER

For Questions Please Contact Dr. Siri Brown at tours@global-academics.org or (510) 649-5664



Global Academics is owned and operated by Dr. Siri Brown, a long-time educator in the Bay Area. Dr. Siri Brown is a two-time Fulbright scholar for abroad projects in both Brazil (2012) and South Africa (2019). The mission of Global Academics is to provide the most in-depth cultural immersion tour related services to fulfill your organizations objectives in adding Black World travel to your community work. The most unique aspect of our service is that we have years of experience in the countries and local communities you will visit. This depth of experience has resulted in relationships with internationally known Black artists, academics, intellectuals, and community leaders who you will meet, learn from, and enjoy during your time abroad with Global Academics.

Dr. Brown has over 20 years of teaching experience as a tenured faculty member in African American Studies at Merritt College, and part time in Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley. She recently served as the Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs & Student Support Services at Peralta Community College District and was the chair of the Ethnic Studies & Social Sciences department for over 10 years. Dr. Brown holds an M.A. in African American Studies and a Ph.D. in U.S. History with an emphasis in Early American, African American, and U.S. Women's History from The Ohio State University.

TRIP OUTREACH

SHEILA CHRISTINE BOSTIC & MARY KHALIL MATAMBANADZO

Sheila and Mary have both attended the festival before and had such a liberating and joyful experience that they welcome family, old friends and new friends to share this unique experience with them

Sheila Christine Bostic enjoyed attending the conference in 2025 and wants to share the wonderful healing experience. Sheila holds a M.A. in FCS from SFSU, a BA in Theatre from CSU East Bay, and an AA in ADAM from College of Alameda.

Mary Khalil Matambanadzo also loved attending the conference in 2025 and wants to share the beautiful experience. Mary holds a M.A. in Human Development, a M.A. in Leadership, and a BA in Interdisciplinary Humanities and Global Studies.

