



*Anchie and Courtney Invite you to a  
Special Celebration for New Years Eve, 2025*

## **AN AFRO-COLOMBIAN CELEBRATORY EXPERIENCE**

---

*Hosted in Cartagena, Colombia*

**December 27, 2025 – January 3, 2026**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

3

**Trip Objectives**

4

**Why Cartagena?**

5

**Trip Itinerary & Cost**

8

**About Global Academics**

9

**Trip Hosts**



# TRIP OBJECTIVES

- Engage in an immersive Afro-Colombian Cultural Experience for Healing, Justice, and Liberation
- Dialogue and Learn about the African heritage, and current Racial Realities of Afro-Colombian Life
- Support and Visit the First Independent African Community “Palenque” in the Western Hemisphere, Established Through Resistance to Enslavement
- Bring in the New Year Outside of the U.S and inside the Beauty of African Culture



A bowl of tropical fruit, including a pineapple, an orange, and a banana, is visible in the upper right corner of the page. The background is a warm, orange-toned gradient.

## WHY CARTAGENA?

## WHY AN AFRO-COLOMBIAN IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE?

CARTAGENA IS A LIVING CLASSROOM FOR UNDERSTANDING AFRO-COLOMBIAN HERITAGE, WITH ITS COLORFUL STREETS, MUSIC, AND TRADITIONS TELLING STORIES OF RESILIENCE, CREATIVITY, AND CULTURAL PRIDE.

As a historic port city central to the transatlantic slave trade, Cartagena holds deep significance in the African diaspora. Walking through its walled city, you encounter vibrant murals, local rhythms like champeta, and oral histories passed down through generations, all of which illuminate the enduring presence and contributions of Afro-Colombian communities. The city is not only a UNESCO World Heritage Site but also a space where history is felt in daily life—offering students the chance to learn beyond the textbook through lived experiences and community voices.

Just an hour away is San Basilio de Palenque, the first free Black town in the Americas, founded by escaped enslaved Africans. Palenque stands as a powerful example of cultural preservation, with its own language, music, and traditions recognized by UNESCO as a Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Visiting this community fosters deeper understanding of how Afro-Colombian identity has been shaped by both historical struggle and modern expressions of self-determination. We will engage not just as observers but as participants—learning from local leaders, artists, and historians—gaining insights into the intersections of race, culture, and resistance that continue to shape Colombia today.



# TRIP ITINERARY

## DECEMBER 27, 2025 - JANUARY 3, 2026



### Daily Itinerary

*Our retreat will take place on-site in Cartagena, Colombia*

#### Day 1 - Saturday, December 27

- Travelers arrive at Rafael Nunez International Airport (code CTG)
- Check-in to our special little island oasis Tiny Village Cartagena. Just a 10 minute boat ride from Cartagena, we have the entire island to ourselves, with a private chef, pool, activities, gathering spaces and more.
- Welcome Group Dinner

#### Day 2 - Sunday, December 28

- Breakfast is included each morning
- Afro-Colombian Walking Tour to Explore "La Heroica", the Walled City (UNESCO) with our Afro-Colombian guide to learn about this magical city with its stunning colonial architecture juxtaposed to the cities key role in the transatlantic slave trade, invasions from European nations at war to monopolize the region and more.
- Hosted Lunch
- Free time to explore La Heroica where there are lots of shops, art galleries, music, and more.
- Return to our private island
- Dinner on your own at the island restaurant or in Cartagena. Suggestions provided.

#### Day 3 - Monday, December 29

- Breakfast Conversation with Afro-Colombians and matters of race, identity, and culture
- Walking Tour and Exploration of "Barrio Getsemani" where street art/murals, live music, local cuisine, and the people of Colombia live, work, and express the depth of the culture. During our visit to this neighborhood, we will learn about its history where the enslaved, slave traders, and poor whites lived together in a mix of competing interests.
- Hosted Lunch
- Time to explore Barrio Getsemeni
- Return to our private island
- Dinner on your own at the island restaurant or in Cartagena. Suggestions provided.

#### Day 4 - Tuesday, December 30

- Private day tour to visit the Palenque! A liberatory celebration of our heritage and resilience. Roughly an hour's drive outside of Cartagena, we will visit the often-overlooked community of Palenque on a private tour from Cartagena. You'll learn about the Palenqueros' fight for freedom against the slave system, and the retention of African cultural traditions that have been passed down through generations. Highlights include the museum dedicated to the town's Afro-Colombian heritage, seeing the traditional houses, and witnessing the vibrant African drum and dance that are an integral part of daily life in the community.
- Hosted Lunch
- Return to our private island
- Dinner on your own at the island restaurant or in Cartagena. Suggestions provided.

#### Day 5 - Wednesday, December 31 *Happy New Year!*

- Free day to explore Cartagena at your leisure. Recommendation of museums, art galleries and more will be provided.
- Lunch on your own
- We will meet at 7pm to enjoy time together for Archie, Courtney & Friends New Years Eve Dinner and Celebration. Remember to wear an all-white outfit in honor of our African traditions

#### Day 6 - Thursday, January 1

- Beach Day! We have reservations at a Private Beach Club with lunch provided. Relax and enjoy the white sand beaches and warm water with good friends.
- Return to our private island
- Dinner on your own at the island restaurant or in Cartagena. Suggestions provided.

#### Day 7 - Friday, January 2

- Last day in Cartagena to pick up gifts to take home or relax by the pool.
- Lunch on your own. Suggestions will be provided
- Closing Dinner with Archie, Courtney & Friends.

#### Day 8 - Saturday, January 3

- Return to the U.S.





# TRIP PAYMENT



## Per Person Cost Details:

### **\$3,500 USD** What's Included:

- Double-occupancy room. Add \$800 pp for single occupancy.
- Accommodations, breakfast each morning, hosted lunches indicated on the itinerary Welcome and Closing dinner, all lectures/activities/museum/festival fees indicated on the itinerary, in-country transportation, and NEW YEARS EVE dinner and party celebration

### What's NOT Included:

- flights to and from Cartagena Colombia
- Any alcohol or additional meals
- Any activities not listed on the itinerary

## Deposit, Registration, and Installment Payment Plan

1. Participants are required to register and pay a \$500 non-refundable deposit per person by Friday, September 5, 2025.
2. Registration and all payments must be made through the Global Academics site. Register and **Make All Payments HERE**
3. The balance and total due is required 30 days before travel (November 27, 2025).

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

*Hosted in Colombia*

*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](mailto: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.



# ARCHIE & COURTNEY

HOSTS FOR OUR NEW YEARS CELEBRATION

Archie, Courtney, and their son Logan share a deep passion for traveling and exploring the global Black experience. They have journeyed to places such as South Africa, Brazil, and Cuba, where they've come to cherish both the beauty of our culture and the resilience of our people. For this New Year's celebration in Cartagena, Colombia, they're bringing together old friends and new ones who share that same spirit and zest for life.

*They warmly invite you - and your friends and family -  
to be part of an unforgettable farewell to 2025 and  
a joyful welcome to 2026.*

