



## **Savannah, Ga & The Lowcountry** *Race, Power, and the Preservation of African-American History & Gullah-Geechee Culture*

### **Overview**

During this six-day program, explore the preservation of African-American history and culture in Savannah and Georgia's coastal islands. Through cultural immersion, learn how different museums and heritage organizations preserve the history of African-Americans in the Lowcountry. Focusing on the themes of race, slavery, and the education of African-Americans this program considers the impact of geography, environment, and diaspora on the development of community values and culture by looking at two different experiences: the urban environment of Savannah and the rural Gullah-Geechee culture on the barrier sea islands. The Gullah-Geechee culture is distinctive and found only in the Lowcountry: the Gullah-Geechee people are descended from formerly enslaved people, primarily from the West Coast of Africa.

### **Trip Highlights**

- Discover the historical city of Savannah, Ga – including architecture, heritage sites, and local cuisine.
- Trace the history the African-American experience and education in the Lowcountry from slavery to present day.
- Visit historical sites such as the Savannah slave market, sites on the Underground Railroad, 1<sup>st</sup> African Baptist Church (the oldest Black church in the US), Sapelo Island – a Geechee community on a barrier island, and many more.
- Practice creative ways to video document this shared experience.

### **Dining**

Eating is a big part of traveling as we experience the culture through our most primal senses of smell and taste. While traveling with Nobis World, you will experience an array of favorite foods of the Lowcountry. Participants eat all meals together. Participants prepare their own breakfasts with provided foods in the kitchen of each vacation rental accommodation. Most days participants prepare their own bag lunch of sandwich and fresh fruit. Dinner is a time to unwind and discuss the day's events and will include opportunities to sample the favorite local home-style dishes.

### **Airport Information**

Participants are responsible for their own transportation for the duration of the program. The closet airport, Savannah/Hilton Head International (SAV) is 20 minutes from the accommodations.

### **Suggested Reading**

- [God, Dr. Buzzard, & the Bolito Man](#) by Cornelia Walker Bailey
- [Daughters of the Dust](#) by Julie Dash
- [Mama Day](#) by Gloria Naylor

**SIX DAY PROGRAM**

<b>DAY ONE – MONDAY</b>	
3:00 pm	Check-in to Accommodations
4:30 pm	Welcome, Introduction to Nobis Global Action Model & Big Ideas Activity
7:00 pm	Welcome Dinner
<b>DAY TWO – TUESDAY</b>	
6:00 am	Breakfast at Accommodations
6:45 am	Depart for Sapelo Island
9:00 am	<p><b>Sapelo Island Tour</b> Take a journey on Sapelo Island led by a direct descendant of enslaved Africans brought to Sapelo in the early 1800s to work the plantation. Explore Native American shell mounds, visit the tabby ruins of the slave cabins an old French plantation, walk along the Nannygoat Beach, and see the newly-restored Sapelo Lighthouse. Experience Sapelo’s unique local culture and history with an insider’s perspective that only a native of Sapelo can give.</p>
Noon	Catered lunch on Island
1:00 pm	<b>Basket Weaving Workshop</b>
2:00 pm	Return to Savannah
3:30 pm	Free Time
5:00 pm	Big Ideas Activity & Group Reflection
7:00 pm	Dinner at Accommodations with Guests
<b>DAY THREE – WEDNESDAY</b>	
7:30 am	Breakfast at Accommodations
9:00 am	<p><b>Footprints of Slavery in Savannah Walking Tour</b> Experience a walk through Savannah’s History along the forgotten footpaths of the city. Learn the complete story of Savannah’s antebellum years and threads together the story of how intricately the city and its citizens were involved in the institution of slavery.</p>
11:15 am	Big Ideas Activity
12:30 pm	Lunch at Accommodations
1:30 pm	<p><b>Day Clean Journey’s African American History Tour</b> An informative journey where one can learn about the contributions of Africans in the creation of the colony of Georgia, the State of Georgia, and the City of Savannah; the “first Underground Railroad”; secret schools; spiritual and cultural highlights of Africans in Savannah.</p>
3:30 pm	Free Time
5:30pm	Group Reflection
7:00 pm	Dinner at Accommodations with Students from Savannah State University (HBCU)
<b>DAY FOUR – THURSDAY</b>	
8:00 am	Breakfast at Accommodations
9:00 am	Group Reflection
10:00 am	Walk to Davenport House
10:30 am	<p><b>Davenport House Museum Tour</b> The 1820 Federal-style dwelling was built by upwardly mobile artisan Isaiah Davenport and his crew for his growing household, which included his wife, ten children, and twelve enslaved workers. It was his family home until his death in 1827 when his wife, Sarah Clark Davenport, converted it into a boarding house. She lived in the residence until 1840 when she sold it to the Baynard family of South Carolina. The house remained in their hands for the next 109 years. Threatened with demolition in 1955, a group of community-spirited citizens joined forces to purchase the Davenport House. This was the first act of the Historic Savannah Foundation, which has gone on to save hundreds buildings in the historic city.</p>
11:30	Bag Lunch in Davenport House Courtyard
12:30 pm	Service-Learning Project
2:30 pm	Free Time / Group Game in Forsyth
4:30 pm	Big Ideas Activity
5:30 pm	Group Reflection
6:30 pm	Dinner at Accommodations with Davenport House Junior Interpreters

DAY FIVE – FRIDAY	
8:00 am	Breakfast at Accommodations
9:00 am	Group Reflection
10:00 am	Walk to King-Tisdell Cottage
10:30 am	<p><b>King-Tisdell Cottage Tour</b>            Birthplace of the movement to preserve African American history in Savannah. This museum interprets black life in the region from slavery to freedom. It also tells the story of two working class families in the early decades of the 20th century and provides information on the life and work of Mr. W. W. Law, the civil rights leader who helped save and preserve the cottage.</p>
Noon	Lunch at Accommodations
1:00 pm	Service-Learning Project
4:00 pm	Free Time
6:00pm	Group Reflection
7:00 pm	Dinner at Accommodations
DAY SIX – SATURDAY	
7:00 am	Breakfast at Accommodations
8:45 am	Check-out
9:00 am	Final Edits Workshop
10:45am	Presentation of Service Project & Final Group Reflection
Noon	Program Ends at Noon