

## The Garifuna

The Garifuna came to Belize from the Bay Islands of Honduras on the 19th November 1803. They are the result of the intermingling of African slaves, Carib and Arawak Indians. The Garinagu dominate the southern towns of Punta Gorda and Dangriga as well as the villages of Seine Bight, Georgetown, and Barranco. Some Garinagu also reside in Belize City and Belompan. Fishing and agriculture is a traditional way of living for the Garifuna. Rituals and traditions are still being retained as the Garinagu strive to maintain a place in Belize society. November 19th is a national holiday in Belize to commemorate the arrival of the Garifuna to Belize.