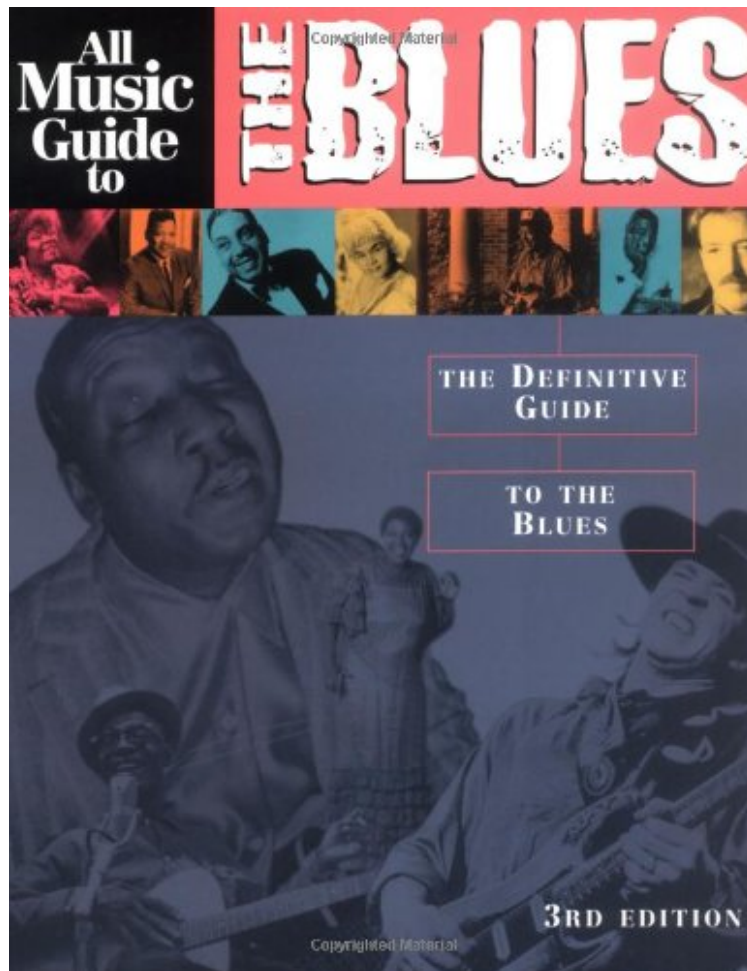


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All Music Guide to the Blues: The Definitive Guide to the Blues

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From BackBeat : All Music Guide to the Blues: The Definitive Guide to the Blues before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised All Music Guide to the Blues: The Definitive Guide to the Blues:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy Michael LambertIf you love the Blues this is an indispensable guide. For dedicated fans and for would be dedicated fans.18 of 20 people found the following review helpful. The best on the market!By KTD73The other reviews focus on the flaws in this book, and there certainly are some. (My biggest problem is that the number of stars given to rate a certain album sometimes don't match with the written reviews.) But overall there is so much wonderful and helpful information in this book that I can't recommend it highly enough.One of the questions you have to ask in a review like this is "compared to what"? By comparison, the Music Hound Guide to the Blues costs a dollar more, reviews thousands (literally) fewer albums, and makes assessments that are just plain silly at time. And don't get me started on the latest version of the Rolling Stone Album

Guide (which claims to be all you need for all genres). Actually, I panned that one pretty well elsewhere on .I've used two editions of this book over the last six or seven years to build my blues library, and I've seldom been steered wrong. For one thing, they have a sophisticated rating system that not only tells you how good they think an album is, but how essential it is for a collector. For instance, they point out which are the best albums to start with if you are just coming to appreciate an artist. Also, the extra writing is well worth the price. There are hundreds of worthwhile overviews of artists' lives and musical careers. They seem honest and insightful. And there are many essays about the history of the blues and the different genres of the blues that are extremely educational. The bottom line: this is a great book for the home bookshelf and for packing into your favorite used CD shop. As for the stuff that shouldn't be there in some people's opinions: I've never complained about having too much information. Omissions are a much more serious issue, but those are easily overcome by consulting the excellent website run by this company which is obviously much more comprehensive than any book could ever be. (But there are some places you just can't pack a computer . . .) This book is definitely number one in its field, and a bargain at the price. I doubt that any blues enthusiast will regret the money spent on this jewel. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By Ray Although not quite "Definitive" this is one of the best historic perspectives on The Blues I've read.

Fully updated to reflect today's revitalized blues world, this guide is any blues fan's lifeline to the best blues past and present. It reviews and rates 7,000 recordings in all major styles across the blues map - from Delta blues to Louisiana, Memphis, Chicago, Texas, and beyond; from classic female singers to jump blues, blues slide guitar, blues in jazz, soul blues, blues-rock, modern acoustic and electric blues, and more. This fun and easy-to-use guide provides profiles of over 1,000 blues artists. Thirty historical essays plus supplemental "music maps" chart the roots and evolution of the blues, its various styles, instruments used, key artists, and more. The essays explore the blues from the Mississippi Delta to modern electric blues and everything in between.

"Should be on every blues lover's list." -Blues Access "Easily the best blues guide...a real winner." -Real Blues About the Author Vladimir Bogdanov is president of All Media Guide (AMG); Chris Woodstra is AMG vice president of content development; Stephen Thomas Erlewine is AMG director of content, popular music.