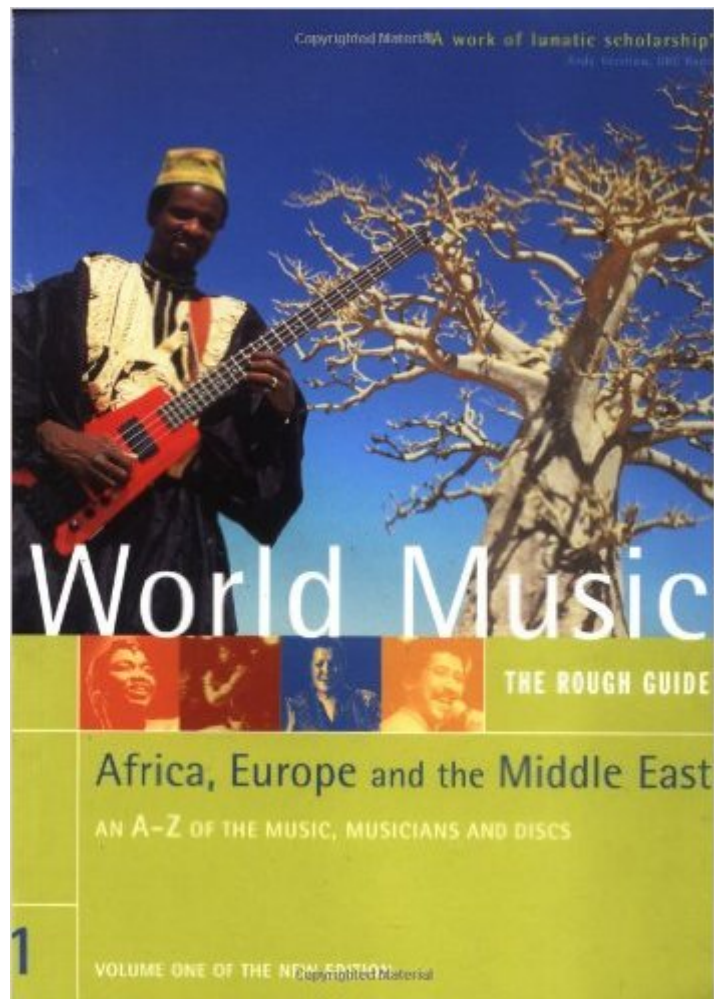


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# Rough Guide To World Music Volume One: Africa, Europe & The Middle East



## Synopsis

All entries in this reference are fully revised and updated with expanded discographies in which the CD reviews are preceded by quickly-accessible, biographical three-liners on the artists and bands.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The first two editions of the Rough Guide to World Music have long been essential reference books for music lovers, and it still holds true with the third edition. Expanded and revised, this is the first volume in a three-volume set, this time around focusing on the music of Africa and the Middle East. Drawing upon a whole host of authors, this work broadens the horizons by looking at every major style of music in the region, from classical and tribal music, to modern Afro-pop, al-Jeel and Rai sensations. New and popular genres, such as African rap, Arabesque and Toureg music, are also examined in depth, making this volume much more thorough than its predecessors. The book makes a monumental effort to catalogue the best of newer CD releases, including mention of prominent CD labels, as well as classic hits. Also, in addition to the standard articles, interviews and CD recommendations, most chapters also include a suggested playlist of iPods or MP3 players, giving an overview of the country's musical styles. The first section focuses on the vast and culturally diverse continent of Africa, and takes up roughly 3/4s of the book. Almost every major country and style is covered - Congolese soukous, Algerian rai, Ethio-jazz, Nigerian Afro-beat, high life from

Ghana, East African taraab, chimurenga and mbira from Zimbabwe, and many more. Indeed, South Africa has three separate articles focusing on pop, jazz and gospel, respectively. Other articles focus on specific cultures, such as the Kabylie Berbers of Central African Pygmies. New and expanded material includes a look at Toureg music, Libyan music, the San and !Kung bushmen of Namibia, Botswana and post-war Liberia. This makes it an essential buy for those interested in these little known countries.

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