



The complete lineup for Blues Heaven Festival, 12th - 13th November, Arena Nord, Frederikshavn.

For the 15th year, Denmark's most prominent multi-award-winning blues & soul festival will again deliver a high-caliber music program with a range of styles from both Grammy and American Blues Music Award (BMA) winning artists. Creating the exceptional and heartwarming atmosphere that always arises when the stars and an international music-loving audience meet. The previous year's festival attracted audiences from 17 different countries and saw all local hotels sold out several months in advance.

Bobby Rush - 2x GRAMMY-winning blues legend, Blues Hall of Fame inductee, 5x Grammy nominee, 13x Blues Music Award winner, and B.B. King Entertainer of the Year winner, plus a cameo in the Netflix original *Dolemite Is My Name* starring Eddie Murphy. Bobby Rush has been making records for nearly 70 years and has more than 400 recordings, 75 career releases, and 27 studio albums to his name.

Rick Estrin & The Nightcats - Larger-than-life star Rick Estrin has fronted the wildly captivating and musically talented Nightcats for the last decade. He and the band are among the most entertaining and colourful showmen around with Estrin's flashing harmonica solos, quick wit, and signature hipster-cool looks. Touring the world and proving night after night why they once again this year won the Blues Music Award for Band Of The Year.

John Primer & The Real Deal Blues Band - 2x Grammy-nominated artist and American blues legend John Primer was the bandleader and guitarist for Muddy Waters, Willie Dixon, and Magic Slim & The Teardrops. Having played or recorded with a who's who of blues greats including Junior Wells, Johnny Winter, The Rolling Stones, and Buddy Guy. There are very few fans, critics, or musicians who will deny the fact that John Primer is the real deal.

Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials - World-renowned Lil' Ed has been standing tall for almost 30 years. The band's big sound is fuelled by Lil' Ed's gloriously rollicking slide work and deep blues string bending, along with his rough-edged soulful vocals. It's as authentic and hard-hitting as Chicago blues gets. The Chicago Sun-Times says, "Lil' Ed & The Blues Imperials are the hottest purveyors of bottleneck boogie to come out of Chicago since Hound Dog Taylor."

"Monster" Mike Welch got the name at the age of 13, has since achieved star status as an extraordinarily skilled and in-demand guitarist. Welch has released six albums in his own name. From 2001-2017, he was the lead guitarist in Sugar Ray & the Bluetones. Then with Mike Ledbetter, who sadly died of an epileptic seizure in January 2020 (two months after their memorable Blues Heaven concert)

Kirk Fletcher has a reputation as a bonafide can't-miss performer. Widely considered one of the best blues guitarists globally, he has commanded respect and acclaim of critics, peers, and fans across the globe. Kirk was the lead guitarist of The Fabulous Thunderbirds for many years. He is a 5x Blues Music Award and a 2015 British Blues Award nominee and has played with various famous artists, including Joe Bonamassa.

Gaye Todd Adegbalola - 77-year-old singer, guitarist, and harpist Gaye is a Blues Music Award winner. She has shared the stage with B.B. King, Ray Charles, Willie Dixon, and Koko Taylor. She is best known musically as a founding member of Saffire – The Uppity Blues Women (1984 – 2009). The group recorded exclusively with Alligator Records. Additionally, she has six recordings on her own label.

The Bender Brass first appeared at the Blues Bender Festival in Las Vegas. Jimmy Carpenter - Sax, Doug Woolverton - Trumpet, and Mark Earley - Baritone have played with "Who is Who" and performed at more than 20 of the biggest festivals in the US and they are the icing on the cake. This amazing horn section will be available to support any/all of the bands during the festival.

There will also be Nora Jean Wallace, a Chicago Blues singer with deep Delta roots. The Bruce Katz Band, Bruce is a legendary keyboardist. He was a member of Gregg Allman's band for six years.

R.J. Mischo is considered by critics and fans worldwide to be in the upper echelon of today's great Harp players and singers.

Kat Riggins, is coming with a fresh release 'Cry Out' which this year was nominated for "Contemporary Blues Album Of The Year" at the Blues Music Awards in Memphis.

Groove City feat. Daria Biancardi, the phenomenal voice of Daria and the Italian soul band Groove City pay homage and RESPECT to the undisputed "Queen of Soul" Aretha Franklin.

Trickbag - mix top Swedish singer Tommy Moberg with London-based harp-player Steve "West" Weston, Finland's guitar ace Tomi Leino, plus a killer Swedish rhythm section, and there's a party.

Philippe LeJeune plays Memphis Slim - the French pianist recorded an album in 1980 with boogie-woogie pianist Memphis Slim and will now pay the great master respect.

Kokomo Kings - the band is a collaboration of some of Sweden and Denmark's top players. After years of backing a long list of international blues artists, they got together in 2012 to record their debut album "Artificial Natural".

The Jelly Roll Men are on a mission, and they want to bring old-school blues to everyone out there. The band has earned a solid reputation for being a great live act and a real crowd-pleaser. They reached the semi-final at the BMA's in Memphis in 2020.

Paul Benjamin is back and will be the official MC for the 3rd time. Paul is the former Chairman of the Board at the Blues Foundation in Memphis. He currently organises and promotes several American blues festivals.

About the festival:

Blues Heaven Festival is a world-renowned festival. In 2018 was named "Best International Festival of the Year" by the French online magazine Zicazic and, in January 2019, awarded "2nd Best Festival in the World" by Polish magazine Twój Blues. In addition, Blues Heaven Festival organiser Peter Astrup won "Hoochie Coochie Man of the Year" in 2018 at the Danish Music Awards. In January 2020, Peter received this year's award for "Keeping the Blues Alive" in Memphis, Tennessee. This award is the highest accolade that can be granted to any non-musicians and has only ever been awarded 3 times in the past to people outside of the United States.

We hope you're looking forward to this year's musical highlights and Europe's largest event of blues/soul music.

www.bluesheaven.dk for tickets and other info.

Tickets from DKK 590 / €79
Weekend tickets DKK 1,090 / €147

Friday 12th Nov. 18:00 - 01:00 (Doors open 16:00)
Saturday 13th Nov. 17:00 - 01:00 (Doors open 16:00)