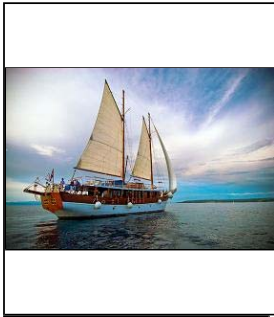




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Welcome Guest[You and SATW](#)[How to Join SATW](#)[SATW Awards](#)[SATW Institutes](#)[Advertising](#)[SATW Foundation](#)[Lowell Thomas Awards](#)[Calendar of Events](#)**SATW's Top Ten Music Cities****Date:**8/25/2009**SATW Bill Muster Photo Showcase**

NEWS FROM: The Society of American Travel Writers

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TRAVEL WRITERS SELECT NORTH AMERICA'S TOP 10 CITIES FOR LIVE MUSIC

MORE INFORMATION: www.satw.org

August 25, 2009: The Society of American Travel Writers (SATW), the world's largest organization of professional travel journalists and photographers, recently polled its members to come up with the "Top 10" best North American cities for live music.

"Travel should involve all five senses, and one of the great travel experiences is listening to live music in the places where it originated or in spectacular settings," says SATW president, Bea Broda.

Listed in order of votes with comments from SATW writers, here are North America's "Top 10" destinations for live music.

1. **New Orleans, Louisiana** www.neworleanscvb.com

"New Orleans bleeds music – it's in the air, in the water, in the people. You can't go to New Orleans without the music swallowing you whole."

Lisa A. Tomaszewski, travel editor, HMP Communications

2. **New York City** www.nycgo.com

"Where else can you 'Rent' a seat next to some 'Guys and Dolls,' let down your 'Hair' and be transported anywhere from the 'South Pacific' to 'Chicago,' and leave the theatre thinking, 'Mamma Mia!' that was some enchanted evening!" Evelyn Kanter, freelance travel writer/photographer

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Jazz in Washington Square (video by SATW Active Carole Terwilliger Meyers). **SATW members rate New York one of the Top Ten live music cities in North America**

3. Austin, Texas www.austintexas.org

"Only in Austin, Texas can you go for super-delicious and inexpensive barbecue, sit outdoors at a picnic table and hear decent live rock at no additional charge." Carole Terwilliger Meyers, travel writer

"Austin is home to the yearly South by Southwest (SXSW) Music Festival, where nearly the entire city becomes a music venue for a week. There are hundreds of live shows a day, making it just as fun for locals as for industry executives." Joshua Hinsdale, freelance travel writer

4. Nashville, Tennessee www.visitmusiccity.com

"Nashville isn't just the 'home' of country music. It's the heart and soul of country music." Steve Winston, freelance travel writer



Dolly Parton performs in Nashville
(photo by SATW Active member Karin Leperi)

5. Chicago, Illinois www.explorechicago.org

"Chicago's reputation as home of the blues can't be understated, with live shows available at clubs every night. The diverse neighborhoods and city-sponsored events also offer live music, from Old Town School of Folk Music to Lollapalooza in Grant Park and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. It's all here, all the time." Laurie Borman, freelance travel writer

6. Memphis, Tennessee www.memphistravel.com

"Barbecue and blues, blues and barbecue. Memphis is a foot-tapping, sensory delight." John H. Ostdick, freelance travel writer

"Doesn't get any better than Memphis, Beale St. and barbecue, wow, what a concerto. Plus the ghost of old Elvis is always hanging around somewhere, munching on a fried banana and peanut butter sandwich and strumming his guitar." Rich Browne, host, Barbecue America

7. Montreal, Canada www.tourisme-montreal.org

"Montreal has anything you might want, with a European accent." George Bryant, freelance travel writer

"Montreal is a hotbed of world music, and free music festivals!" Nancy Lyon, freelance travel writer/photographer

8. Las Vegas, Nevada www.visitlasvegas.com

"From Elvis and Frank through Barbra and Barry to Celine and Bette, Vegas has been THE venue every great act hopes to get booked into. And with all the smaller lounges at the major hotels, you can catch talent on the way up, too." Bob Jenkins, freelance writer.

9. Branson, Missouri www.explorebranson.com

"Where do top sidemen go when they tire of the LA lifestyle? To Branson where they can play their music at any of its 52 live performance theatres, enjoy life on three pristine lakes and 12 championship golf courses. Every day's a musical high, but the Christmas scene is fabulous!" Lorraine O'Donnell Williams, travel writer.

10. Denver, Colorado www.visitdenver.com

"Red Rocks is the most visually stunning outdoor amphitheatre in the country, maybe the world." Ted Alan Stedman, freelance travel writer

"A concert at Red Rocks should be on everyone's bucket list...Red Rocks is one of a kind." Kim McHugh, freelance writer

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