

The 1st Annual Ojai Blues Festival is coming

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The 1st Annual Ojai Blues Festival
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If you love blues music then you will want to check out the 1st Annual Ojai Blues Festival at the Ojai Art Center, on Saturday, August 15. The live performances begin at 4:00 p.m. and end at 10:00 p.m. The Ojai Blues Festival is meant to be a continuation of the well-known Bowlful of Blues Festival that was held for more than two decades and was reportedly one of the area's most popular blues events.

The roster of performers include:

Crooked Eye Tommy: This band plays blues-rooted original music written by front-person and band namesake Tommy Marsh and his brother Paddy. The group roster features: Tommy Marsh (guitar and vocals), brother Paddy Marsh (guitar and vocals), Glade Rasmussen (bass), Tony Cicero (drums) and Jimmy Calire (saxophone, piano and

Hammond B3). Currently promoting their new disc, *Butterflies & Snakes*, the band is said to be a Ventura County favorite.

Chicago-born songstress **Deb Ryder** brings a feminine voice to the event. Ryder was influenced both by her place of birth and her father who was once a Chicago club sensation. Since the start of her career as a teenager Ryder has opened for such blues legends as **Etta James**, Taj Mahal and Big Joe Turner. Her most recent release "Let It Rain" was produced by Grammy Award-winning producer Tony Braunagel.

The Alastair Greene Band will also be performing their signature blend of blues rock. The group has gone through changes since forming in 1991 with a noteworthy line-up that has featured former members of **the Steve Miller Band**, the Paul Butterfield Band and Junior Wells Band. The original blues rock trio currently includes: frontman **Alastair Greene** (guitar and vocals), Jim Rankin (bass and vocals) and Austin Beede (drums). Greene himself is also the touring guitarist with rock veteran Alan Parsons since 2010.

Last but certainly not least, [Shawn Jones](#), considered by some critics to be the epitome of American root-rock, will also be performing at this event. With one live release and four studio discs to his credit, Jones, an experienced singer-songwriter and guitarist has shared the stage with such well-known artists as B.B. King, Buddy Guy, Bonnie Raitt, Robert Cray, Taj Mahal and Joe Bonamassa.

Tickets for the 1st Annual Ojai Blues Festival are \$25.00. They are available for [purchase online here](#).

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