



Explore and Discover World Music

by DJ Kris Koch

Traffic has slowed to a crawl. The sky is slate-gray, threatening to drizzle the week away. Today's late-breaking news sounds a lot like yesterday's, and your favorite CD's seem a bit overplayed.

Looking for an escape? Stashing a few new world music selections into your CD collection or iPod can be your ticket to an audio world tour. Next time you'll be prepared—your car might be stuck in traffic, but at least your imagination can be taken miles away with a little help from some Latin salsa, Caribbean reggae, or even some African soukous.

You're never too old—or too young—to begin exploring the popular and traditional music of the world. Parents, tired of hearing cartoon theme songs—over, and over, and over again? Many of these theme songs are children's first introduction to world music. Don't hesitate to take the cue and play similar styles to begin developing a lifelong appreciation for a wide variety of music.

Access to world music has never been better. Libraries are a great resource for those who want to listen to some unfamiliar tunes for free. And internet music sites are packed with CD's and singles that can be downloaded in an instant.

An open mind won't be disappointed. Here are a few recommended selections to get you started. The singles on the list are all available from iTunes, and the CD's are widely available through most popular music stores and on-line retailers.

The DJ's List: World Music

North America	<p>Geno Delafose "French Rockin Boogie" single (a fast blend of jazz, blues & French music)</p> <p>Various Artists Rough Guide to Bluegrass CD (good for a road trip through the mountains)</p>
Caribbean	<p>Jimmy Cliff "I Can See Clearly Now" single (a classic, uplifting track)</p> <p>Various Artists Putumayo Playground Presents Reggae Playground CD (includes reggae version of Beatles' <i>Here Comes the Sun</i>)</p>
Latin America	<p>Tito Puente "Ran Kan Kan" single (mambo, mambo, mambo)</p> <p>Various Artists Putumayo Kids Presents Latin Playground CD (great for summer parties!)</p>
Africa	<p>Amr Diab "Nour El Ain" single (huge Arabic hit)</p> <p>Various artists World Playground Presents African Playground CD (soukous and other African styles)</p>
Europe	<p>Altan "Tommy Peoples/The Windmill..." single (a set of reels that will bring out your Irish)</p> <p>Various artists Putumayo Kids Presents French Playground CD (grab a baguette and enjoy!)</p>
Asia & the Pacific	<p>Bally Sagoo "Jugni" single (A classic Punjabi Indian dance song)</p> <p>Various Artists Kal Ho Naa Ho soundtrack CD (great music from a popular film from India)</p> <p>Yothu Yindi <i>Tribal Voice</i> CD (digeridoo sounds & Australian rock)</p>



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