

Old Blues Week with host teachers Ernie Hawkins, Alice Gerrard and Katie Bradley

Almeria Andalucia Spain, September 23-30, 2017



Blues lovers, La Fuente offers the opportunity to have the holiday of a lifetime! Following the success of the Old-Time Music weeks, the good folks at La Fuente are embarking on a new venture, the La Fuente Old Blues Week. This promises to be an amazing week, with the usual La Fuente attractions of great food, great company, and the lovely Andalusian countryside.

**Ernie Hawkins** is legendary as a master blues and ragtime guitarist and singer. A protégé of Rev. Gary Davis at the start of his career, he has also played with blues greats such as Son House, Mance Lipscomb, Fred McDowell, Jim Brewer, and Maria Muldaur. He is an expert interpreter and teacher of the styles of many of America's blues heroes and has produced numerous instructional videos and DVDs, for Stefan Grossman and for Homespun Tapes. Having been nominated for two Independent Music Awards, he recently won in the category of Best Cover Song. This is a rare and wonderful opportunity to learn with Ernie, as he rarely tours these days.

*"Ernie Hawkins is an important link in the unbroken chain of blues and gospel artists. His guitaristry and love of the style is incomparable. From the Rev. Gary Davis into the future with his own style Ernie is one of the special ones!"* Jorma Kaukonen

**Alice Gerrard**, arguably the most influential and important supporter and perpetuator of singing within the American folk music revival, is a favourite master teacher at La Fuente's Old-Time Music week. A singer, multi-instrumentalist and songwriter, Alice has been a key figure in the American traditional music world since the 1960s, and has recently been nominated for a Grammy Award. She draws from a vast repertoire which includes

country blues, blues ballads and honky-tonk. She shares her vast talent for interpretation and singing style, and her gift for getting the best out of each individual.

*"Alice has a haunting and distinctive voice and she can do anything— holler, shout, belt it out, swing a little, croon a little, and then flat-out break your heart."*

Lee Smith

**Katie Bradley** is an award-winning blues singer, songwriter and harmonica player who graces the London blues scene and was named 'Songwriter of the Year' at last year's British Blues Awards. Katie has been collecting rave reviews for her playing and singing since 2012.

*"Katie Bradley has become a must-see artist on the British Blues Scene"*

Steve Yourglivch – Blues Matters

Also joining the teaching team will be **Stu Weetman**, a versatile multi-instrumentalist and singer from Reading area, **Joe Evans**, guitarist, harmonica player, singer and songwriter, resident in the nearby Andalucian hills, and Buffalo Gals' own **Sooz Clare** with her wonderful ukulele and voice. All are experienced performers and very friendly, knowledgeable and accessible teachers.

Classes will be offered in guitar, harmonica, 5 string banjo blues, ukulele, and singing, all at either beginner or improver level. In addition, our guest teacher may offer classes on their favourite topics. In fact, you can request tuition in any topic related to traditional blues, and we will do our best to accommodate you.

There will, as always, be ample opportunity for socialising and session-ing. A Blues Week "Jug Band" looks likely!

Dates for the week will be September 23rd to September 30th, 2017, and the cost will be £750, not including travel, but including everything else you will require--shared en-suite accommodation at the lovely Casona Granado hotel in the beautiful village of El Pilar, all meals, tuition, use of all facilities, and transfers between the hotel and the nearby villa where classes will take place.

A £100 deposit (non-returnable) will secure your place on the week.

Visit [www.lafuenteholidays.com](http://www.lafuenteholidays.com) for more information and pictures, and there you can download an enrolment form to secure a place.

"For those of you who haven't had the 'La Fuente Experience' ", says Stu Weetman, "you are in for a treat. I attended my first Old-Time music week there a while back, and haven't missed one since. The 2017 Old Time Music week will be my 4th, and the Blues week will be as much of a blast, if not more!"

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