



Vintage Pacific Coast VEC300DB A Blue Guitar

The English brand Vintage has released a striking guitar in the lower price segment, with a special blue colour. **text Hein van Dongen**

VINTAGE PACIFIC COAST VEC300DB

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: United Kingdom

TYPE: Folk Guitar with cutaway

TOP: Solid Spruce

BACK & SIDES: Mahogany

FINGERBOARD: Techwood

SIZE: 650 mm

NECK: Nato

BRIDGE: Graph Tech

SADDLE: Graph Tech

PICKUP: Undersaddle Piezo

CONTROLS: Volume, blend

CASE/COVER: No

DISTRIBUTOR:

JHS & Co. Ltd.,
Leeds (UK),
tel. +44 (0) 113 286 5381

WEBSITE

vintageguitarsrus.com

Many guitars of this brand seem to have been made with a nod to the past. Could the blue colour perhaps refer to the

famous lines of Wallace Stevens: "Things as they are - are changed upon the blue guitar"? Or is it a reference to the blues duet of the same name that Lonnie Johnson and Eddie Lang recorded in 1929? It turns out that the background is more mundane: The VEC300DB should have a jeans colour (Denim Blue). Now the colour that lacquer takes on is always very dependent on the surface and Denim Blue is therefore not really the spruce top: in certain light the colour even tends slightly towards turquoise. But the colour is certainly striking and Vintage delivers the instrument in other special colours.

Construction and sound

The VEC300DB has a modest body size, roughly 00 with a cutaway. The scale is large (649 mm/25.5 inches)

and this gives the guitar the impression that it is not a small one when playing. As mentioned, the top is made of solid spruce, the back and sides are made of laminated mahogany. The neck is made of nato wood. The fingerboard is made of laminated poplar wood, the bridge and saddle are from Graph Tech. The guitar has a piezo element under the saddle and a microphone in the sound box. The Vintage Double T6 preamp can be operated from the side. On the control panel we find a volume and a blend control plus a tuner. As usual, turning on the tuner immediately works as a mute for the outgoing signal.

Sound and playability


The quality of the amplified sound is above average, especially in this price range. The combination of the body, the element/mic and the preamp gives the guitar a sound that actually sounds like it should must: namely as an acoustic guitar. The unamplified sound, which is

what many people are more interested in, is also very usable.

The guitar has a solid volume and a balanced balance between high and low.

The 25.5-inch scale makes the instrument suitable for people with somewhat larger hands and perhaps also for untrained fingers. For a beginner, the height of the strings of this model could perhaps be set a little lower, which is not a major intervention.

Conclusion

If you go for the color of this guitar and this Vintage falls exactly within your budget, it naturally has an edge over its competitors. But in this price range, there is a lot for sale and of course nothing beats a comparison by means of your ears while you try them out one by one in the same room. I suspect that the VEC300DB will then emerge as one of the better guitars from your comparative product research. 

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VERDICT

GUITARIST SAYS: Striking guitar with a favorable price, usable both amplified and unamplified.