

Louisiana PASS

Music of Trinidad

The Caribbean island of Trinidad is famous for a style of music called *calypso*, which combines many types of music, including African, Spanish, American jazz, and blues. Calypso singers are accompanied by guitars, flutes, saxophones and steel drums (made of steel oil containers), which have a very distinctive sound.

Calypso was extremely popular in the 1950's and 60's, and has given birth to many other styles of music, including one called soca. Soca is an upbeat, more rhythmical variation of calypso, with influence from traditional Indian music as well. Like any other style of music, there are many forms of soca, including chutney soca, which gets its name from the Indian condiment ("chutney"). Ragga soca is a style reminiscent of dancehall reggae.



To read about Caribbean music, click on these links:

[Caribbean Music 101](#)

[Babados Music: Calypso](#)

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