

Brisbane is known for its many great record stores, but how on earth do you choose which ones to visit first?

Not to worry!

In this zine avid record collector Emily gives her recommendations of her top five go to record stores in Brisbane, plus a bonus hidden gem.

Rocking Horse Records

Opening in 1975, Brisbane's longest serving record store has endured the death and subsequent rebirth of vinyl to stand tall as the most well known record store in town. Descending the stairs to its basement store on Queen Street Mall is like entering a labyrinth, with rows and rows of both new and secondhand vinyl, as well as CDs, DVDs, books, t-shirts, posters, vinyl and turntable accessories and more.

Whether you're looking for the latest releases on coloured vinyl or an obscure 12" dance single from the 90's, Rocking Horse has you covered. Top tip: be sure to check out the frequently updated, second-hand new arrivals section, for rarities!

245 Albert Street
Brisbane City 4000

Monday - Thursday: 10am - 6pm

Friday: 10am - 9pm

Saturday: 9am - 5:30pm

Sunday: 10:30am - 5pm

Dutch Vinyl

Originally based in Melbourne, Dutch Vinyl opened their second store in Paddington in 2020. Despite the pandemic, their new outpost has thrived, with their sizeable shopfront, stocking a mind-boggling range of both second hand and new vinyl. Their carefully curated selection includes hard to find obscurities, rare pressings and audiophile special editions. Every genre you can think of is covered here, from mainstream pop to glam rock, to world music, Japanese soundtracks and experimental electronica.

They also stock a wide range of vinyl accessories, as well as books and turntables themselves. Speaking of turntables, they even have a listening station set up so you can “try before you buy”.

Open every day of the week, the only time I wouldn't recommend visiting is when you're in a hurry!!

179 Latrobe Terrace
Paddington 4064

Tuesday - Saturday: 10am - 5pm

Sunday: 10am - 4pm

Monday: 9am - 5pm

Jet Black Cat Music

Jet Black Cat is a West End institution. Since opening a decade ago, this shop has become well known and loved by music fans and artists all over Australia (and the world!). Stocking the latest in local and international vinyl releases, including indie/alternative, rock, pop, dance, hip hop, world music and soundtracks, along with some classics thrown in for good measure, you'll struggle to leave empty handed.

They have hosted in store performances from icons such as Courtney Barnett, and more recently have started organising full blown gigs, bringing some big names up to South East QLD and Northern NSW, and even hosting their own festival.

They offer click and collect for preorders, and even sell film for the old school photography nerds out there. What more could you ask for in a record store?

72 Vulture St
West End 4101

Monday: Closed

Tuesday - Saturday: 10am -4pm

Sunday: 10am - 2pm

Rockaway Records

Conveniently located inside Westfield Carindale shopping centre, Rockaway Records carries far more than its name implies. In addition to a large selection of new and secondhand records, CDs and tapes, this shop is filled to the brim with music and pop culture merchandise both new and vintage, comics, books, movie and anime collectables, and other knick-knacks and bric-a-brac.

If you find that you keep coming back, they have a membership program so you can score points on your purchases and reap the rewards, and take advantage of exclusive members only special offers.

Shop 2064, Level 1
Westfield Carindale
1151 Creek Road 4152

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Friday: 9am - 5:30pm
Thursday: 9am - 9pm
Saturday: 9am - 5pm
Sunday: 10am - 4pm

Sonic Sherpa

Don't let Sonic Sherpa's dilapidated signage fool you into thinking this place is behind the times. Located in the burgeoning suburb of Stones Corner, this cozy store packs a lot into a small space, stocking a wide range of both new and second hand vinyl, alongside CDs, books, magazines and merch.

In addition to holding the occasional instore gig, Sonic Sherpa somehow find the time to run two of their own record labels, bringing the latest and greatest sounds of Brissie (and beyond) to the world.

12/360 Logan Road
Stones Corner
Greenslopes 4120

Monday: 10am - 4pm

Tuesday - Friday: 10am - 5pm

Saturday: 9am - 4pm

Sunday: 10am - 4pm

Bonus Track:

Phase 4 Records

Originally based in Fortitude Valley, before setting up shop in the East Brisbane Bowls Club during the pandemic, Phase 4 Records have now made their home above popular Woolloongabba bar and live music venue The Cave Inn. Open in the evenings, Phase 4 is the only place you can enjoy a gig and a dig at the same time.

Explore a wide range of secondhand vinyl albums, singles, CDs and cassettes, as well as the latest local indie releases, including those from their own label, LCMR.

In addition to tunes, Phase 4 houses a selection of carefully curated vintage clothes, homewares, and bric-a-brac. Who said record shopping needs to be a daytime affair?

The Cave Inn
47 Balaclava Street
Woolloongabba 4102

Monday - Wednesday: Closed

Thursday: 5pm - 9:30pm

Friday - Saturday: 5pm - 10pm

Sunday: 4:30pm - 9pm

About the Author

Emily has been collecting records since 2018, and has lived in Brisbane since 2020. Her favourite genres include 80's new wave, indie rock, and synth pop.

You can follow her record collecting adventure on Instagram
[@new_wave_for_a_new_age](#).