

Crucial Slide Guitar Blues (2004)

Written by bluesever

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01. *It's My Life, Baby* - Johnny Winter 02. *Never Miss Your Water* - Lil' Ed And The Blues Imperials 03. *She's Fine* - Bonnie Raitt 04. *Give Me Back My Wig* - Luther Allison 05. *I'm Gone* - Elvin Bishop 06. *The Same Thing* - Bob Margolin 07. *Taylor's Rock* - Sonny Landreth [play](#) 08. *When the Church Burned Down* - Kinsey Report 09. *She's Gone* - Michael Hill's Blues Mob 10. *Jack O'Diamonds* - Corey Harris [play](#) 11. *The Sun Is Shining* - Hound Dog Taylor & The Houserockers 12. *Out of Here* - Dave Hole

Alligator has a justifiable reputation as one of the premier blues labels, and it draws on its recorded resources for this compilation. There's certainly no doubting the quality of the players and the music here, from Johnny Winter to the late Hound Dog Taylor, whose raw style sears the ears on Elmore James' "The Sun Is Shining." An older Corey Harris track reminds people that he's a remarkable acoustic slide player, and Sonny Landreth's "Taylor's Rock," from a Hound Dog Taylor tribute, features him playing no less than four parts, and still injecting plenty of grease. Australian Dave Hole remains a bit of a secret, but on the basis of this, deserves wider exposure. And if there's an odd man out here, it's A.C. Reed, who doesn't even play guitar. But he's joined by someone who does, Bonnie Raitt, and she lays down some wonderful work on "She's Fine." Elsewhere, there's Elvin Bishop, Luther Allison, and Lil' Ed among the suspects, with everyone making sure that the listener has a rockin' good time and confirming that the art of slide guitar is alive and well. --- Chris Nickson, allmusic.com

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