



VANCE CUSTOM GUITARS S1

VANCE CUSTOM GUITARS ARE PRODUCING CUSTOM GUITARS OF EXCEPTIONALLY HIGH QUALITY WITH AMAZING ATTENTION TO DETAIL.

BY **REG BARBER**

Vance Custom Guitars may not be a name you are familiar with, but it is a name to remember. I won't be forgetting anytime soon because I have just had my mind blown. The Vance S1 is built with an attention to detail that is second to none. As with all things you get what you pay for, the S1 is a high-end instrument and comes with a high price tag but compared to high-end mass-produced guitars, the Vance S1 is very affordable.

The Vance Custom Guitars S1 is unashamedly a rock/metal/progressive style of guitar, both in aesthetic and in its design considerations. The choice of old growth Honduras Mahogany provides the S1 with a pronounced mid-range and plenty of note definition when used with high gain settings. The body is thinner than that of a similar shaped and very well known guitar, and is much lighter than it looks thanks to body chambers and tone wood selection that is lighter by choice.

The neck is designed to be strong and rigid. The rigidity comes from a combination of several factors. The neck is built from three pieces of Honduras Mahogany, with the center strip flipped to provide extra strength. It is further reinforced with two pieces of pultruded

graphite fiber, which is many times stronger than conventional graphite fiber and extends the length of the neck and into the peghead. There is also the inclusion of a volute to add strength to the headstock.

The headstock is set to an optimal angle to best transfer string vibration to the nut, which in turn creates a clear fundamental frequency to each note, the result being notes that sound extremely defined, even under the highest of gain settings.

The sound of the Vance Custom Guitar S1 really has to be heard to be believed. The combination of tone woods and Bareknuckle pickup is a match made in heaven. Straight out of the box (custom built flight case actually) it had me smiling from ear to ear. The S1 sounded amazing before I had even plugged it in. It has the kind of sustain that you would expect from an aluminium guitar, and a clarity that you would expect from a neodymium pickup. The neck is extremely comfortable, with a soft V through to a C shape, and the compound radius of 12 inches to 14 inches is very playable and allows a very low action. Being a custom made instrument the set up was flawless, the S1 is a dream to play, and play it I did for hours upon hours, upon hours...

THE BOTTOM LINE

Bottom line is that for all the amazing tone wood, super high quality hardware, attention to detail and design considerations it doesn't mean zip if doesn't have an amazing tone and lots of playability.

The Vance Custom Guitars S1 has the most amazing tone and playability of any guitar I have ever picked up. I spent similar money on a 25-inch scale length guitar many years ago because it was the most beautiful instrument I had ever seen. Where were you Vance all those years ago? Any chance I can swap you for one? Please? 🙏

PRICE: \$2995 for standard
\$3300 for old growth Honduras
Mahogany and Schaller Ruthenium
Bridge and hardware.

- Old growth Honduras Mahogany 4 lb. chambered body
- Old growth Honduras Mahogany three piece neck
- Pultruded graphite reinforcement in the neck
- 17 degree peg head with volute
- 25 inch scale with 24 frets
- Medium jumbo frets with compound 12" to 14" radius
- 42.5mm nut width with tapered soft V to C neck profile
- Ebony fretboard with hand finished frets and Tusq XL nut
- Bareknuckle Nailbomb humbucker pickup
- Locking Sperzel machine heads
- Schaller Ruthenium hardware with brass studs
- Black dye finish with thin nitrocellulose lacquer
- Lightweight custom flight case included

▶ WHAT WE RECKON

PROS

- ▲ Exceptionally high quality build
- ▲ High quality hardware
- ▲ Amazing tone woods
- ▲ Extremely playable

CONS

- ♥ None

CONTACT

PRO AUDIO SUPPLIES

1800 026 307

www.vancecustomguitars.com