



A blogger's guide to blogs

Donald J. Boudreaux

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Donald J. Boudreaux is a professor of economics and Getchell Chair at George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. His column appears twice monthly.

Café Hayek (cafehayek.com) — a blog that I write with Hoover Institution economist Russell Roberts — will celebrate its 10th anniversary in April. I'm not so modest as to avoid recommending Café Hayek to you as a fine source of examples of how basic economics is used to analyze current events.

Of course, there are many other superb blogs you can visit to improve your understanding of economics. And, amazingly, access to all of this knowledge costs readers only the time it takes them to read these blogs!

Here's a list, in alphabetical order, of some of my favorite economics blogs. This list reflects my interests and tastes, and all blogs on it offer a libertarian perspective. Be aware that many outstanding economic blogs are not on this list.

Askblog (arnoldkling.com/blog/) is where the indispensable Arnold Kling now shares his blog-worthy thoughts. Although he holds a Ph.D. in economics from MIT, Arnold is not an academic. He's an enormously well-informed businessman and public intellectual. Even when I disagree with Arnold (a rarity), I always learn from him. And his tone is among the most civilized in the entire blogosphere.

The Beacon (blog.independent.org/), the blog of The Independent Institute, offers insightful commentary on economic, social and foreign policy from scholars such as Anthony Gregory, Randy Holcombe and the great Robert Higgs.

Carpe Diem (aei-ideas.org/channel/carpe-diem/), written by economist Mark Perry, is one of the few blogs where readers find even more optimism than is found on my blog about humankind's long-term economic prospects. Perry's blog features revealing graphs and sterling commentary.

Cato@Liberty (cato.org/blog), a blog of the Cato Institute, features Cato's stable of top-flight scholars and policy analysts, including David Boaz, Sallie James, Brink Lindsey and Dan Mitchell.

Coordination Problem (austrianeconomists.typepad.com/) features my colleague Peter Boettke and other economists of an “Austrian” bent who opine insightfully on economics and economists.

EconLog (econlog.econlib.org/), although started by Arnold Kling, is now a project of the Liberty Fund of Indianapolis. My colleague Bryan Caplan and economist David Henderson are permanent bloggers. The site also regularly features guest bloggers who are exceptionally insightful. As is true for nearly all of the blogs listed here, you'll find no partisan politicking on EconLog — just deep insights on a wide range of economic and social issues from some of the economics profession's clearest thinkers and best writers.

On Free Advice (consultingbyrpm.com/blog) economist Bob Murphy mixes a humorous style with an impressive range of knowledge, especially of monetary and fiscal policy.

On Hit & Run (reason.com/blog), a Reason Foundation blog, Shikha Dalmia, Brian Doherty, Nick Gillespie, Matt Welch and other Reason writers dissect current events as well as commentary from across the political spectrum about those events.

Marginal Revolution (marginalrevolution.com/), one of the world's top economics blogs, features my George Mason University colleagues Alex Tabarrok and Tyler Cowen. Aimed at an audience slightly more advanced than most of the blogs listed here, Marginal Revolution is a unique — and sometimes deliciously quirky — source of information about economics and public policy from around the world.

Unlike in blogs, my space here is limited. I want to mention other blogs — which I will soon do.