

BRÎUL DE LA FĂGĂRAȘ
(Transylvania - Romania)

Făgăraș is a town in the western part of Judet Brasov. It is also the name given to a sub-zone of the larger folklore zone of South Transylvania. This dance belongs to the category of Carpathian Brîu diffused among the villages situated along the roads which shepherds took each year from the South Carpathians to the grazing grounds of the Danube meadows and Dobrogea. The simpler variants of the Carpathian Brîu such as this one from Făgăraș are done by both men and women although I suspect this one leans heavily on the masculine side due to the high leaps and leg gestures called for in certain motifs.

Pronunciation: Bruh-OOL day lah FAH-gah-rahsh

Music: NOROC 1074

Formation: Short lines of M and W.

Position: Hands on shoulders

Rhythm: There are several rhythmic motifs in this dance, some of them requiring two measures. An s indicates a slow beat, a q indicates a quick beat.

Meas. Rhythm Pattern

FIGURE I.
1-2 q-s-s Facing slightly to R and moving to R, stamp on R ft in place (q), step R (accented) to R (s), leap back on L, flipping R ft high in front of L so that lower R leg is parallel to floor (s).

3-16 q-s Leap on R ft to R (q), step on L slightly in front of R (s).
Repeat measures 1-2 seven more times (8 times in all).

FIGURE II.

1 s-s Hop on L ft, swinging R ft (knee straight) across L (s), touching R toe to floor, hop again and touch R toe to R side (s).

2 q-q-s Hop on L ft moving slightly fwd (q), step on R ft (q), step on L ft as R kicks fwd a bit in front (accented) (s).

3-4 q-s Hop on L ft, moving bkwd (q), step on R ft (s).

5-16 s-q-s Step on L ft (s), step on R ft fwd (q), step on L ft fwd (s).
Repeat measures 1-4 three times (4 times in all).

FIGURE III.

1 s-s Moving to R, hop on L ft clicking R to L (s) twice.

2 q-q-s Hop on L ft (q), step on R ft to R (q), step L in front of R (s).

3-4 q-s Stamp R ft to R (q), step on R accented to R (s).

5-16 s-q-s Leap L ft behind R (s), leap on R to R (q), step on L slightly in front of R ft (s).
Repeat measures 1-4 three more times (4 times in all).

FIGURE IV.

1 s-s Hop on L ft in place swinging R ft across L, knee straight (s), hop on L ft in place swinging R ft diagonally R, knee straight (s).

2 s-s Hop on L ft in place swinging R ft behind L leg, knee bent (s), Hop on L ft in place as R swings diagonally R, knee straight (s).

3 q-s Hop on L ft, moving backward (q), step to R on R ft (s).

4 s-q-s Step on L ft (s), step on R ft fwd (q), accented, step on L ft (s).

5-16 Repeat measures 1-4 three more times (4 times in all).

Presented by Sunni Bloland