

Hora de munte

(Banat, Romania)

The *Hora* is danced by both men and women of all ages, at Sunday dances and weddings and is used as an introductory dance. There are various regional variants of the *Hora* and some have specific names, such as *Hora mare* (large hora), the most common version, or *Hora lente* (slow hora). *Hora de munte* (mountain hora) is coming from the Semenic Mountain. This dance is an open *Hora* and progresses to the right and to the left.

The Semenic Mountains are a part of the southern group of the Occidental Carpathians, culminating with the Piatra Goznei Peak (1447 m) and the Semenic Peak (1445 m) and representing an important hydrographic knot; “the water castle of Banat.”

Located in the southwest corner of Romania, Banat is a distinct entity in terms of its folklore. The style there is characterized by elegant movements, a nice and proud attitude. The name Banat comes from *ban*, the Romanian word for the military leader of a region.

Pronunciation: HOH-rah deh MOON-the

Music: Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu Romanian Realm Vol. 3, Band 6 or 2/4 meter
Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, 60th Stockton Folk Dance Camp, Band 12

Formation: Open mixed circle, hands in W-pos, facing center.

Styling: All of the steps to the side, and the two-steps must be danced in a curved manner as if on the edge of a small circle, curving slightly in on the right and the left.

Meas

Pattern

16 meas INTRODUCTION (no action)

FIGURE 1 (singing)

- 1 Step on R sdwd to R (ct 1); step on L next to R (no wt) (ct 2).
- 2 Step on L sdwd to L (ct 1); step on R next to L (no wt) (ct 2).
- 3 Step on R to R (body facing slightly LOD) (ct 1); step on L to R (ct 2).
- 4 Step on R (facing ctr) (ct 1); step on ball of L (ct &); step on R (ct 2). (cts 1,&,2 = one two-step).
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4 with opp ftwk and direction.

FIGURE 2 (instrumental melody)

- 1-2 Take 4 walking steps twd ctr (R, L, R, L) (cts 1,2,1,2).
- 3 Step on R to R (slightly) (ct 1); step on ball of L next to R (ct &); step on R (ct 2)(cts 1,&,2 = one two-step).
- 4 Repeat meas 3 with opp ftwk and direction.
- 5-6 Repeat meas 1-2 moving bkwd.
- 7-8 Repeat meas 3-4.

Hora de munte—continued

Sequence: (according to the singing and instrumental music)

F1 + F1 + F1 + F2 +
 F1 + F1 + F1 + F2 +
 F1 + F1 + F1 + F1 + F2 + F2 +
 F1 + F1.

Presented by Sonia Dion & Cristian Florescu, © 2006

Song for Hora de munte

/C-am venit cu voie bun hai bună seara	I have gladly come, good evening
Să petrecem împreun hai bună seara/	To rejoice with you
Vom petrece și-om juca hai bun seara	We will celebrate and dance
Inima ne-om bucura hai bună seara	Our hearts will be very happy
/C-am venit aici la voi hai bună seara	I have come here
Să vă petreceți cu noi hai bună seara/	To rejoice together
C-am venit cu voie bun hai bună seara	I have gladly come
Să petrecem împreun hai bună seara	To rejoice with you
/Haida oameni buni jucați hai bună seara	Let's dance good people
Și paharele-nchinați hai bun seara/	Take glasses of wine and cheers
/Ast seară-i seară mare hai bună seara	This evening is a special evening
Cu vin bun și lutare hai bună seara/	With great wines and musicians
Dragu mii unde-am venit hai bună seara	I like this place where I came
Și cu șin m-am întâlnit hai bună seara	And the people I have met
Ca aici-as oameni buni hai bună seara	Because there are good people here
Nu moi duce până luni hai bună seara	I don't leave this lovely place until Monday!