

HORĂ
(Hora de la Câmpulung)
Romanian

Notes by Dick Crum for Aman Institute 94

There are many dances called *horă* in Romania. The term is also used generically to refer to any folk dance done in a large circle. The *horă* presented here is purported to be from the Câmpulung district, but has for many years been done everywhere in Moldavia. In the late nineteenth century, its steps and music were popular among the nobility, and a version of it, *Hora unirii*, 'Hora of unification', became practically a national anthem during that period.

In the 19th-century Balkans, traveling Romanian musicians took this dance elsewhere in the Balkans; in old Serbia it was done by the aristocracy under the names *Bojerka* and *Biserka*).

- Recordings** Three different melodies for this dance are on tape cassette #941, Romanian Folk Dances.
- Meter** 6/8, in a rhythm pattern of slow-quick, slow-quick per measure
- Formation** Open circle, men and women, hands joined and held at shoulder height.

MEAS	ACTION
1	Facing very slightly R of center, step Rft in line of dance (1); very low bounce on Rft, bringing Lft forward ready to step (&); step Lft, continuing in line of dance (2); very low bounce on Lft, continuing in line of dance (&).
2	Continue, stepping Rft in line of dance (1); close Lft beside Rft, taking weight on Lft (&); again step Rft in line of dance, turning to face center (2); pause (sometimes with slight bounce on Lft) (&).
3	Facing center, step Lft forward toward center (1); very low bounce on Lft (&); step Rft backwards (away from center) (2); very low bounce on Rft (&).
4	Still facing center, step Lft sideways to L (1); close Rft beside Lft, taking weight on Rft (&); step Lft sideways to L (2); very low bounce on Lft (&).