

Ruzga de Santa Marta

(Santa Marta, Portugal)

This dance was first learned in Portugal in 1962 by Madelynne Greene. It was taught to her by the Grupo Folklorico de Santa Marta de Potuzelo by arrangement with Dr. Sousa-Gomez, director and founder of the group.

Pronunciation: ROOZ-gah deh SAHN-tah MAHR-tah

Music: 2/4 meter *Dances of Portugal*, Track #5

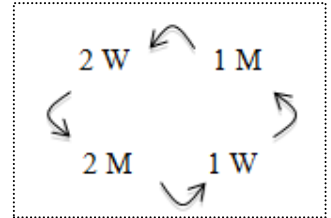
Formation: 2 cpls facing fwd in their Line of Direction.

Steps & Styling: Arms are curved upward, hands held a little above head level. Not bouncy, slightly bent knees, spring is in the ankles. W wear very heavy woolen skirts and swing them sharply as they turn, revealing their pretty petticoats.

Step-Close-Step-Half-Turn: Step R, close L, step R, raising L knee up while pivoting half to L. Then dance bkwd, step L, close R, step L while raising R and pivoting half to R. M will begin bkwd on L and W will begin fwd on R.

Two Step Clapping: A simple step-close-step keeping ft close to floor. Accent each step by clapping hands.

Gallop to Center: Slide-close, slide-close, slide-close, jump onto both ft with L shoulders to ctr. Can be done with opp ftwk.



Meas 2/4 meter

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. None. (Option: start on meas 3)

I. TWO-STEP WITH PIVOT

1-32 Using Step-Close-Step-Half-Turn Step, M pivots to face partner (behind him) then pivots to face W in front of him. W begin the two-step on R moving fwd, then pivot and dance the next step bkwd, etc. An easy way to remember is: the first step of each meas is always on the outside ft whether facing fwd or bkwd.

II. TWO-STEP WITH CLAPPING HANDS

1-8 The two W facing ctr clap their hands as the two M, using Turn Step Clapping Step, cast off over L shoulder CCW progress with simple two-steps fwd in the circle passing on the first 4 steps behind the W in front of them and continuing on the next 4 steps to the opp M's place.

III. GALLOP TO CENTER

1-8 M Gallop to ctr, leading with L shoulder. On the jump they will be facing each other in the ctr. As they gallop out of ctr leading out with R shoulder, the W gallop in, having turned ¼ turn first to lead with their L shoulder to ctr. Then the M gallop in again as W gallop out with long steps, and then all gallop to places to begin the dance again.

Sequence: Fig I, Fig II, Fig III

Ruzga De Santa Marta — continued

Upon repeating the dance, Figure I is done only half as long – 16 steps instead of 32.
The dance repeats with the M now in reversed pos in the circle. They begin bkwd to face new partner.
Continue Fig III until the end of the music. There is no pose at end

Presented by Andy Taylor-Blenis