

BALTA
(Romania)

Balta means "Swamp," and is a dance found in Muntenia, Romania. The alternation of motifs in six counts with those in eight counts makes the dance non-concordant with the music at the level of the measure and phrase, but becomes concordant at the beginning of each repetition of the melody! This organization of motifs gives rise to syncopation calling for attention in performance, and is common to dances from the Calușari repertoire.

Pronunciation:

Record: Hai La Joc, Noroc Vol. I, Side A/1. 2/4 meter.

Formation: Closed or open circle. "W" pos.

Meas Pattern

~~16~~ meas → INTRODUCTION. NO ACTION

- 1 Facing slightly to R, step R (ct 1); hands move down to "V"; step L (ct 2), hands move up to "W."
 - 2 One two-step ^{3/4}R, L, R (cts 1, & 2), hands held in "W."
 - 3 Facing slightly to L, step L (ct 1), hands move down to "V"; step R (ct 2), hands move up to "W."
 - 4 In place facing ctr, step L (ct 1); step R (ct &); step L (ct 2); stamp R (ct &), hands held in "W."
 - 5 Step R (ct 1); stamp L (ct &); step sideways L with L (ct 2); step R across in front (ct &).
 - 6 Step L in place (ct 1); step R diag bkwd (ct &); step L in place (ct 2); step R across in front (ct &).
 - 7 Step L in place (ct 1); ~~step R across in front (ct &);~~ SMALL STEP R DIAG BKWD TURNING R (ct &) moving fwd, step L across in front (cts 2, &).
 - 8 Step R across in front (cts 1&); ~~step L across in front (cts 2&).~~ TURNING TO FACE R, CLOSE L TO R & HOLD (ct 2&)
 - 9 With R shldr leading moving bkwd, step R (ct 1); close L (ct &); step R (ct 2); stamp L (ct &).
 - 10 In place facing ctr, step L (ct 1); stamp R (ct &).
- (1st ct only).
 10½-15 Repeat action of meas 5½-10 reversing ftwk.
 (1st ct only of 15).
 15½-16 In place, step L (ct 2); step R across in front (ct &); step L in place (ct 1); step R diag bkwd (ct &); step L across in front (cts 2&).

AS OF Kolo FESTIVAL 1981 THIS IS A RUNNING THREE TO LEFT!

Presented by Sunni Bloland