

Oro Vlaška

(Vlach)

"Oro Vlaška" is, as the name implies a "Vlach dance." The Vlach people, who speak a Romanian dialect, (the name "Vlach" derives from Wallachia, an old term for a region of southern Romania) live as an ethnic minority in parts of Greece, Bulgaria and the former Yugoslavia, especially Serbia. I put these three steps, which I learned dancing with various Vlach people in Serbia in the late 1970's, to this music. You could use many different Vlach melodies for this dance. (A similar dance, named "Vlaško Oro" has also previously been taught to this same music. I was unaware of this dance when I found this music and put these steps to it. My apologies to anyone who still remembers and loves this other choreography for any confusion this might cause!)

MUSIC: "Oro Vlaška" on Folkraft 1568

FORMATION: Short, straight lines, hold neighbors' belts (right arm under left)

STYLE: Almost comically energetic.

METER: 4/4

PATTERN

Counts

Figure 1

- 1 & 2 & 3 & Moving to the right: Step on right foot to right, leaning slightly forward and twisting upper body to the right, that is: L shoulder forward(1), step on left foot next to left, bringing upper body back to upright position, R shoulder fwd (&). Repeat twice more (2 & 3 &).
- 4 & Step on right foot to right, leaning slightly forward and to the right, that is, away from ctr (4), stamp left foot next to right (&).
- 5 & Still facing right: step sideways on left foot toward center, leaning toward center (5), stamp right foot next to left (&).
- 6 & Still facing right: step sideways on right foot away from center, leaning away from center (6), stamp left foot next to right (&).
- 7 e & a Facing and moving left: jump on left foot (7), stamp right foot next to left (e), jump on right foot (&), stamp left foot next to right (a).
- 8 & Jump on left foot (8), stamp right foot next to left (&).

Figure 2

- 1 e & a Turning slightly to right and dancing in place: jump onto right foot (1), stamp left foot next to right (e). Turning slightly to the left: jump on left foot (&), stamp right foot next to left (a).
- 2 e & a Repeat (2 e & a).
- 3 & a Facing and moving forward toward the center: Step on right foot (3), hop on right foot (&), step on left foot (a).
- 4 & Step on right foot (4), stamp left foot next to right (&).
- 5 & 6 & Beginning with left foot, run 4 steps backwards away from the center, lifting knees high (5&6&).
- 7 Land with weight on both feet together (7).
- 8 & Jump and land with feet approx. a shoulder-width apart (8), jump and land on left foot with right foot lifted and crossed in front of left shin(&).

Figure 3

1 e & a	Repeat 1e&a of figure 2 (1 e & a).	"Single-single"
2 e & a	Repeat 1e&a of figure 2 (2 e & a).	"Single-single"
3 e & a	Repeat 1e&a of figure 2 (3 e & a).	"Single-single"
4 e & a	Leaning right: jump on right to right (4), stamp left next to right (e), lift, then lower right foot, making a sound (&), stamp left foot next to right (a).	"Double"
5 e & a	Repeat 4e&a on opposite foot (5e&a).	"Double"
6 e & a	Repeat 1e&a (6e&a).	"Single-single"
7 e & a	Repeat 4e&a (7e&a).	"Double"
8 &	Leaning left: jump on left (8), stamp right foot next to left (&).	"Step-stamp"

Note: All stamps without weight.

Leader calls out changes from one figure to the next.