

SYRTÓS PYLAÍAS

(Greece)

Source: This is a syrtós, or kalamatianós, from the village of Pylaía in the region of Macedonia and Thessaly in northern Greece. The song is about a wedding and so it is probably done as a wedding dance also. It is described in this book:

Greek Folk Dances, M. Vouras and R. Holden,
(New Jersey, 1965)

Music: The music is in 7/8 time. There is only one recording available at the present time:

Greek Folk Dances, Folkraft LP 3

Formation: A broken circle with hands joined at shoulder height, elbows bent and down. The hands should not be pushed forward into the circle, but should be comfortably back near the shoulders.

Characteristics: This dance is for both men and women and should be happy in feeling, much like a regular syrtó or kalamatianó.

7/8 time (Slow, Quick, Quick)

Meas. cts

I	1,2,3	Wt on L ft, facing diag R, step fwd (LOD) on the R ft (Slow).
	4,5	Rock back on L ft, leaving R ft in place (Quick).
	6,7	Rock fwd on R ft in place (Quick).
II	1,2,3	Step fwd (LOD) on L ft (Slow).
	4,5	Rock back on R ft, leaving L ft in place (Quick).
	6,7	Rock fwd on L ft in place (Quick).
III	1,2,3	Facing ctr, raising hands above head, step sdwd to the R on the R ft.
	4,5	Turning slightly to the L, step behind the R ft on the L ft.
	6,7	Step on R ft in place.

SYRTÓS PYLAÍAS (Cont)

- IV 1,2,3 Facing ctr, raising hands above head, step sdwd to
the L on the L ft.
- 4,5 Turning slightly to the R, step behind the L ft on the
R ft.
- 6,7 Step on L ft in place.

The step as described above is done three times; after
the third time, meas. III and IV are repeated so that
the dance will coincide with the song, then the dance
begins at the beginning again.

Abbreviations added to fit U.O.P syllabus format.

Presented by John Pappas