

UNGURICA

(Oltenia, Romania)

This is a *Sârba* type dance popular in southwestern Romania (Oltenia) from the Banat border into Argeş. It is danced over 2 measures, 3 measures, or 4 measures depending on where it is danced. One popular version is sung by Niculina Stoican.

Pronunciation: UHN-goo-ree-tzah

Formation: Open or closed circle with arms in “V” position, “W” position, or back basket hold (L over R). Most common position for each variation is provided below.

Music: 2/4

Meas

Basic (Double Csárdás)

- 1 Facing center, step R to R (ct 1); close L to R (ct &); step R to R (ct 2).
 - 2 Close L to R (ct &) (Double Csárdás R).
 - 3 Repeat meas 1 with opp ftwk and direction (Double Csárdás L).
- Note: “V” position or “W” position are most common.

Basic SSqqS (*Sârba*) Side to Side

- 1 Step R to R (ct 1); bounce slightly on R or touch L beside R (ct &), step L to L (ct 2); bounce slightly on L or touch R beside L (ct &).
 - 2 Facing slightly R of center, step R fwd to R (ct 1); step L slightly fwd in front of R (ct &); step R fwd to R and turn to face center (ct 2); Touch L beside R (ct &).
 - 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2 with opp ftwk and direction.
- Note: “V” position or “W” position are most common.

Basic Coconeşte

- 1 Facing slightly R of center, run R fwd (ct 1); Run L fwd (ct &); turning to face center, step R to R (ct 2); bounce slightly on R and lift L slightly in place (ct &).
 - 3 Step L to L (ct 1); bounce slightly on L and lift R slightly in place (ct &); step R to R (ct 2); Bounce slightly on R and lift L slightly in place (ct &).
- Note: Depending on energy level, lifts can be subtle or vigorous, or dancers may dance *Pas de Basque*-like steps in place. Arms in “V” position is most common.

***Sârba* and Crossing step**

- 1 Accented step R fwd twd center (ct 1); hop on R (ct &); step L fwd twd center (ct 2); hop/bounce on L (ct &).
- 2 Step R back (ct 1); step L back (ct &); step R back (ct 2); hop on R and lift L slightly (ct &).
- 3 Step L slightly to L (ct 1); step R in front of L (ct &); step L back into place (ct 2); step R slightly to R (ct &).

- 4 Step L in front of R (ct 1); step R back to place (ct &); step L slightly to L (ct 2); Hop/bounce on L in place and lift R slightly (ct &).

Note: Back basket hold is common during this step, or “W” hold with arms/hands swinging fwd and down to “V” position on ct 2 of meas 1, then back to “W” position on ct & of meas 4.

3 Measure *Sârba* with Crossing step

- 1 Facing R of center, step R vigorously fwd (ct 1); Hop on R (ct &). step L fwd (ct 2); Hop on L (ct &).
- 2 Turning to face center, step R across and in front of L (ct 1); step L back to place (ct &); step R slightly to R (ct 2); step L in front of R (ct &).
- 3 step R back to place (ct 1); step L slightly to L (ct &); step R in front of L (ct 2); step L back to place turning to face R of center (ct &).

Note: Most common is arms in “V” position with arms swing fwd on ct 1 and ct 2 of meas 1 and keeping rhthym during meas 2-3.

Banat-Oltenia Sequence

- 1-4 Action of meas 1-4 of **Basic SSqqS (*Sârba*) Side to Side**. Hands are in “W” position and move in “windshield wiper” fashion with a slight up-down motion R, L, R, L, R to R and reverse to L.
- 5-8 Repeat meas 1-4.
- 9-24 Repeat four time meas 1-4 of the ***Sârba* and Crossing step** with arm/hand movement as above.
- 25-32 Repeat four times the **Basic *Coconește*** with arms in “V” hold.

Presented by Stephen Kotansky
Statewide 2012



Romania - Historical Regions Map