

Vira Do Sitio

(Portugal)

A Portuguese couple dance from Nazare. Marianne Taylor learned this from Madelynne Green, who learned this dance in Portugal.

Pronunciation: VEER-ah doh SEE-tee-oh

Music: 3/4 *Dances of Portugal*, Track #8

Formation: A circle of couples, in groups of two working together, men with their backs to the center facing their partners.

Steps & Styling: Flat-footed and low to the ground yet light on the floor.

Vira: Three quick running steps beginning with either foot (cts 1,&,2). Repeat with opposite footwork (cts 1,&,2).

Turning Vira: Using the Vira step, turn CW, completing one turn with two Vira steps.

Half-Turn Vira: Vira with R while making a half-turn (R shoulder back); a Vira step in place with L-R-L; a Vira while making a half-turn (L shoulder back); a Vira step in place.

Vira Cruzada

Meas 1-2: With 2 Vira steps (beginning R) M1 and W2 (“first corners”) move in to meet, L shoulders adjacent *while* “second corners” dance in place, bringing L shoulder back on meas 2. (From this point, second corners will repeat movements of the first corners, but always two bars later.)

Meas 3-4: First corners, with 2 Vira steps, move back to place, pulling L shoulder back to end with R side slightly toward corner.

Meas 5-6: First corners cross to each other’s place, passing face to face with L shoulder leading

Meas 7-8: Backing away to end with R shoulder toward ctr as before..

Meas 9-16: Repeat meas 1-8 to home places; on last 2 meas, second cpls must pass through ctr, as they have only 2 Vira steps for crossing.

<u>Meas</u>	<u>3/4 meter</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
		<u>INTRODUCTION</u> . No action.
	I.	<u>ALL CIRCLE</u>
1-8		All turn to R moving around circle (M CW, W CCW) using 7 Turning Vira steps making a total of 3½ turns. Beg R end with strong down-step on last L Vira step, in place.
9-15		Return to beg pos (M CCW, W CW) using 7 Turning Vira steps and again making a total of 3½ turns.
16-17		Facing partner, two Viras in place, using small steps to L and R.

Vira Do Sitio — continued

- 18-19 Beg L, two Vira steps to exchange places with ptr, passing ptr face-to-face and moving CW to change places and ending facing ptr.
- 20-21 Repeat meas 16-17.
- 22 Repeat meas 18, returning to orig pos using one Vira.
- 23 Facing ptr, step R (ct 1); close L to R (ct 2); clap once (ct 3).
- 24 Clap once (ct 1); hold (ct 2).
- II LEFT SHOULDER STAR
- 1-15 With L shoulders to ctr of the group of four dancers, beg R and dance CCW twice with 15 Basic Vira steps, to end in place facing partner.
- III RIGHT SHOULDER STAR
- 1-15 Repeat Fig II, with opp ftwk and direction
- 16-23 Dance Vira Cruzada Step (see above); meas 1-8. On meas 23 couple 1 turns away from original set.
- 24-40 Dance Vira Cruzada Step with corners of adjacent sets, meas 1-16.
- 41-48 Dance Vira Cruzada Step meas 1-8 with original couple, to end in original places and clap twice as in Fig I, meas 23-24.

Presented by Andy Taylor-Blenis