

Baranjsko kolo

(Croatia)

The name means "circle dance from Baranja." In the Pannonian part of Croatia, between the Dunav River and the lower course of the Drava River, is the region of Baranja. This remote and isolated area has preserved its authentic dances, songs, and costumes. While musical accompaniment was previously led by the *gajde* (bagpipe) and *diplice* (wooden flute), the dances are now accompanied by the tamburitza orchestra, led by the *samica*, a kind of tambura. Željko Jergan researched this region from 1976 to 1986. This particular dance he learned in LADO, the Croatian State Folk Ensemble, which was presented by Professor Zvonimir Ljevaković.

Pronunciation: BAH-rhine-skoh koh-loh

Cassette: Croatian Dances 1998 Side A/1; 2/4 meter
Croatian Folk Dances by Jerry Grcevich, Vol 1 Side A/1; Vol. 3 Side B/3

Formation: Closed circle, alternating M and W. W hands on M shldr. M hands joined behind W back. If several W are dancing together, they join in belt hold (R over L). When done in a circle, use front-basket pos (R over L).

Styling: Same ftwk for all dancers, except the M can improvise. The style is very stiff and rigid. Part of the dance is done flat-footed and part on the ball of the ft, and with varying degrees of vertical movement.

Meas

Pattern

INTRODUCTION. No action. Music played by the diplice plus 2 chords.

I. WALKING

The circle moves in RLOD.

- A 1 Walking step: Step on R slightly diag fwd R with bounce (ct 1); bounce on R (ct 2).
2 Step on L back to place with bounce (ct 1); bounce on L (ct 2).
3 Step on R behind L with bounce (ct 1); bounce on R (ct 2).
4 Step on L to L with bounce (ct 1); bounce on L (ct 2).
5-16 Repeat meas 1-4, three more times (4 in all), except on last 2 meas (meas 3-4), step R, L in place. Note: Each meas has 2 soft knee flexes (cts 1, 2) and one soft bounce (almost inside your shoe) (ct 2).

II. DRMEŠ

Steps are heavy and very bouncy with knee flexes throughout fig.

- B 1 Stamp R diag fwd R with bounce and knee flex (ct 1); bounce twice on R (cts 2, &).
2 Step on L back to place with bounce and knee flex (ct 1); bounce twice on L (cts 2, &).
3 Step on R behind L with bounce and knee flex (ct 1); bounce twice on R (cts 2, &).
4 Step on L to L with bounce and knee flex (ct 1); bounce twice on L (cts 2, &).
5-16 Repeat meas 2-4, three more times (4 in all), except on last 2 meas (meas 3-4) step R, L in place.

Baranjsko kolo—continued

III. WALKING STEP, ALTERNATE DIRECTIONS

Use same styling as Fig I.

- A 1 Step on R diag fwd R, leaving L in place with toe touching floor (ct 1); bounce on R (ct 2);
 2 Step back on L where toe touched (ct 1); bounce on L (ct 2).
 3 Step on R behind L (ct 1); bounce on R (ct 2).
 4 Step quickly on L to L (ct 1); step on R close to L quickly and slightly fwd (ct 2).
 5-16 Repeat meas 1-4, alternating ftwk, three more times (4 in all).

IV. HEEL STEP AND CROSS STEP

- B 1 Heel step: Run R, L in place on balls of ft (cts 1, 2). (S, S)
 2 Hop on L in place (ct 1); step on R heel slightly fwd (ct &); step on L in place (ct 2). (Q, Q, S)
 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three more times (4 in all).
 9 Cross step: Leap on R in place (ct 1); step on L across R with deeply bent knee (ct 2). (S, S)
 10 Hop on L in place as R moves fwd (ct 1); step on R across L (ct &); step on L back to place (ct 2). (Q, Q, S)
 11-16 Repeat meas 9-10 three more times (4 in all).

A REPEAT FIG III—WALKING STEPS, ALTERNATE DIRECTIONSV. FIGURE V

- B 1-4 Repeat Fig IV, meas 1-4 (heel step 2 times).
 5-8 Repeat Fig IV, meas 9-10 (cross step 2 times).
 9 Moving fwd twd ctr, run R, L (cts 1, 2). (S, S)
 10 Step R, L, R in place (cts 1, &, 2). (Q, Q, S)
 11-14 Repeat meas 9-10 twice more (3 times in all), alternating ftwk and direction (LR-LRL bkwd; RL-RLR fwd).
 15 Run L, R bkwd (cts 1, 2).
 16 Stamp L, R in place (cts 1, 2).

Repeat dance from beg (2 times in all).

Original description by Željko Jergan and Dorothy Daw
 Presented by Željko Jergan

Baranjsko kolo—continued

