

Dhivaratikos (Greece)

Dhivaratikos (thee-vah-RAH-tee-kohs) from the Ionian Island of Kefallonia is basically a Syrtos dance which has been rhythmically modified to fit the uncharacteristic 3/4 meter. The name Dhivaratikos refers to the village of Dhivara. Outside the island, it is sometimes known as Syrtos Kefallonias. The Ionian Islands, off the west coast of Greece, show marked Western influence in their music and songs, due to the long-term Venetian presence there. This Italianate style is very apparent on Corfu, the best-known island of this group. Presented by Joseph Kaloyanides Graziosi at the 1990 University of the Pacific Folk Dance Camp.

RECORD: Folkraft LP 6 Side A/4 (Syrtos Kefallonias). 3/4 meter

CASSETTE: Greek Dances Summer 1990 Side A/2; Greek Folkdances Summer 89 Side A/7.

FORMATION: Open circle, mixed lines, "W" pos. Leader is at R end.

STYLING: Smooth and gentle.

MUSIC 3/4 meter PATTERN

Measures

3 pick-up notes INTRODUCTION. No action.

I. BASIC

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving in LOD (CCW), step fwd on R ft (ct 1); step fwd on L ft slightly behind R ft (ct 2); step fwd on R ft (ct 3).
- 2 Step fwd on L ft in front of R ft (ct 1); step fwd on R ft (ct 2); step fwd on L ft in front of R ft (ct 3).
- 3 Dance low leap fwd on R ft, swinging L ft straight-legged in front of R ft, L ft toes touching floor and heel pivoted inward (turn slightly to face ctr) (ct 1); facing slightly L of ctr, step (or dance optional low leap) to L on L ft (ct 2); step to L on R ft across in front of L ft (ct 3).
- 4 Facing ctr, step to L on L ft (ct 1); touch toes of R ft fwd (ct 2); drop R heel to touch floor without taking wt, as toes of R ft are lifted (ct 3).

II. VARIATION

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving in LOD (CCW), step fwd on R ft (ct 1); turning to face L of ctr, step fwd on L ft across and in back of R ft (ct 2); rock fwd onto R ft (ct 3).
- 2 Repeat meas 4 of Basic.
- 3-4 Repeat meas 1-2.

Variation is danced at leader's discretion, whenever leader calls "Opa" (OH-pah).
Dance Variation once (4 meas) and return to Basic pattern.