

Winds on the Tor

(a “World” dance)

This circle dance was taught by Steve Kotansky at the Sunday night party on 17 July 2016 at Stockton Folk Dance Camp as the date coincided with the First Annual World Sacred Circle Dance Day. It was choreographed by the Glastonbury Tor (England) Circle Dance Group to the tune “The Young Brown Cow.” There are many versions of a dance of the same name on YouTube, dating back to 2010. Steve called it a “world” dance as it was chosen for World Sacred Circle Dance Day (see www.globalcircle.dance/video-winds-on-the-tor-english.html). YouTube research indicates the dance is done in many countries, including England, Germany, Brazil and Chile. This version of the music employs an Irish tune, Chinese and Irish musical instruments, and steps that are Western European and Israeli.

Music: “Winds on the Tor,” on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=I2A5_Xy4ijs and convertible from video to mp3 using any number of sites, including www.youtube-mp3.org.

Formation: Circle, hands joined in V-pos, facing slightly R of ctr. (Some “sacred circle” groups do it as a solo dance with scarves and/or additional arm motions.)

Video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=fFVVMpQxB4k. (As a special-occasion party dance, it does not appear on the 2016 SFDC DVD.)

Rhythm: 3/4 meter.

Steps and Styling: Waltz Step: Three smooth traveling steps done in waltz rhythm. May beg with R or L.

Crossover Step: Three steps in waltz rhythm facing ctr, with first step crossing in front, second step in place, and third step beside second step. May beg with R or L.

| Measures | 3/4 meter | PATTERN |
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INTRODUCTION. No action during sound of “wind blowing on the tor” (about 10 seconds) and 16 meas of solo tin whistle. Begin when guitar joins the melody.

1-2 Facing R of ctr, do two Waltz Steps fwd (cts 1-6).

3-4 Still traveling in LOD, do one Waltz Step turning CW once around, releasing hands and raising arms high in air (cts 1-3); facing ctr, do one Crossover Step in place, beg L crossing in front of R, and resume V-pos handhold (cts 4-6).

5-6 Take one Waltz Step fwd into ctr, raising arms parallel to floor (cts 1-3); take one Waltz Step bkwd to place, lowering arms (cts 4-6).

7-8 Do two Crossover Steps in place, beg R crossing in front of L (cts 1-6). The last two steps (R, L) are done while turning to face R.

Sequence: Repeat as written above until end of music.