

Brîul de la Făgăraș (Romania)

Brîul de la Făgăraș (br-ool deh lah fuh-guh-RAHSH) was presented at the 1970 San Francisco Kolo Festival by Sunni Bloland. Fagaras is a town in the western part of Județ (county) Brașov in southern Transylvania. This dance belongs to the category of Carpathian Brîu diffused among the villages situated along the roads which the shepherds took each year to the grazing grounds of the Danube meadows and Dobrogea. The simpler variants, including this dance from Făgăraș, are done by both men and women, although the high leaps and leg gestures indicate a predominantly masculine styling.

RECORD: NOROC 1074-EPA, 331/3 RPM, side B/4.

RHYTHM: 8/8 meter, counted: 1/4 note = S, 1/8 note = Q. The rhythm for each figure is shown on the line with the title; parentheses indicate measures.

FORMATION: Short mixed lines in T-pos. Face slightly R of ctr.

STYLING: During more than twenty years since this dance was first presented in California, there has been a tendency for both the rhythm and styling to stray. The grapevines in Figures I and III should have a prancing feeling, with dancers facing slightly R of center. The leader at the right end of the line should not face more directly in LOD.

MUSIC	8/8 meter	PATTERN
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Measures

INTRODUCTION None in the music. The name of the dance is announced.

I. STAMP-STEP AND GRAPEVINE (Q, S, S, Q, S)

1 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving in LOD (CCW), stamp R in LOD without wt (Q); step R in LOD with accent (S); leap on L behind R, flipping R ft high across in front of L, so that lower R leg is parallel to the floor (S); leap on R in LOD (Q); step L in front of R (S).

2-8 Repeat meas 1 seven times.

II. HOP-TOUCH FACING CENTER (S, S, Q, Q, S) (Q, S, S, Q, S)

1 Hopping on L in place and swinging straight R leg fwd across L, touch R toe to floor (S); hopping on L in place and swinging straight R leg to R, touch R toe to floor to R side (S); moving slightly fwd, hop on L and swing R leg fwd slightly raised (Q); step fwd on R (Q); step back onto L as R kicks fwd low (S).

2 Hop on L, raising bent R knee and moving bkwd (Q); step back onto R (S); step back onto L (S); step fwd on R (Q); step fwd on L (S).

3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three times.

III. HOP-CLICKS AND GRAPEVINE (S, S, Q, Q, S) (Q, S, S, Q, S)

- 1 Facing slightly R of ctr and moving in LOD, hop on L, clicking side of R ft to L (S); repeat hop-click (S); hop on L (Q); step R to R (Q); step L across in front of R (S).
- 2 Repeat Figure I, meas 1.
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three times.

IV. HOP-SWINGS (S, S, S, S) (Q, S, S, Q, S)

- 1 Facing ctr, hop on L in place and swing straight R leg across in front of L (S); hop on L in place and swing straight R leg diag fwd R (S); hop on L in place, bending R knee and swinging R ft behind L knee (S); hop on L in place and swing straight R leg diag fwd R (S).
- 2 Repeat Figure II, meas 2.
- 3-8 Repeat meas 1-2 three times.

DANCE SEQUENCE: Dance pattern as written twice.