

# Paraliakós

Greece

Greek dance learned from Giorgios Lelakis (well-known Cretan dance teacher.)

"Paraliakos" ("pah-rah-lee-ah-KOHSS") means "by the seaside" and Giorgios calls the dance "the beach dance." Giorgios thinks the dance resembles dances like "Gaitenaki rodou." The melody is sometimes referred to as "Vratsera," a type of boat mentioned in the song text.

**Music:** "Vratsera," tape made for me by Giorgios Lelakis

**Rhythm:** 2/4

**Formation:** Long curved line.

**Handhold:** Either front baskethold (right arm under, left arm over) or low handhold.

**Style:** Gentle, swaying.

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METER: 2/4

PATTERN

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Count

- 1 & 2, 3 Facing slightly and moving to the R: step on L ft in front of R (1), step on ball of R ft to R (&), step on L ft in front of R (2), step and sway on R ft to the R, turning body slightly to the L (3).
- 4, 5 Step and sway on the L ft to the L, turning body slightly to the R (4), step straight fwd into the center on the R ft (5).
- 6 & 7, 8 Step diag bkwd to the L on the ball of the L ft (6), close and step (a small jump) on the R ft next to the L (&), step on L ft crossed behind R (7), step on R ft to the R (8).  
(Steps 5, 6 & 7 together describe a backwards "D" floor pattern.)

[1, 2, 3, sway, sway, in, around, 2, 3, push off & walk]

Even though the dance steps go in a regular 8-count pattern, the music is, for the most part not in phrases of 8, so the dance phrase and the music phrase do not coincide. As a result you could begin anywhere you want in the music (as long as it is on the count and not the offbeat!) Another consequence of this non-concurrence is that you could (theoretically) begin the dance at any point in the dance phrase. I begin as Giorgios did, as he is my original source for this dance.

## Paraliakos song text:

Pote tha nixome pania / na katso sto timoni, (2X)

Na do tis Leros ta vouna /

na mou diathoun i poni? (2X)

A-ah, vratsera mou ella yia tho/

pou'echo dyo loyia na sou po.

Ximerose, Anatoli /

to kosmo na fotisi, (2X)

Ke ti vratsera pou'erchete /

na tin kalosorisi. (2X)

A-ah, pai o brouzos sta fountari /

kio keros de sioundari.

Pafse Vouria mou na fisas /

ta kimata n'afrisis, (2X)

Ke ti vratsera pou'erchete /

na mi ti foverisis. (2X)

A-ah, pai o brouzos sta fountari /

ke tou spasi to kontari.

O-oh....

## Translation:

When will we set sail / so I can sit at the tiller,

So I can see the mountains of Leros /

so that my pains will subside?

A-ah, my little fishing boat come here /

since I have something to tell you.

Bring the dawn, oh Eastern Sky /

and shine your light on the world,

And welcome my little fishing boat

that is approaching.

A-ah, the breeze is getting stronger /

and the weather is not subsiding.

Oh North Wind stop blowing /

and making foam on the waves,

And do not frighten my little fishing boat

that is approaching.

A-ah, the breeze is getting stronger /

and it will break the mast.

O-oh....