

# PARALIAKOS

*Source:* Greek dance learned from Giorgios Lelakis (well-known Cretan dance teacher). "Paraliakos" 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.

*Style:* Gentle and swaying    *Presented by:* Lee Otterholt, Autumn Leaves 2006    *Rhythm:* 2/4

*Formation:* Either front basket-hold (right arm under, left arm over) or low handhold. Long curved line.

<u>Count</u>	<u>Steps</u>
1, & 2, 3	Facing slightly and moving to the R: step on L foot in front of R (1), step on ball of R foot to R (&), step on L foot in front of R (2), step and sway on R foot to the R, turning body slightly to the L (3).
4, 5	Step and sway on the L foot to the L, turning body slightly to the R (4), step straight FWD into the center on the R foot (5).
6, & 7, 8	Step diagonally BKWD to the L on the ball of the L foot (6), close and step (a small "jump") on the R foot next to the L (&), step on L foot crossed behind R (and "push off" from R foot) (7), step on R foot to the R (8).

NOTE: Steps 5, 6, & 7 together describe a backwards "D" floor pattern.

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, he is my original source for this dance.

Original words and translation located on separate document.

