

FINSTERAUER LANDLER  
(Germany)

Finsterauer Landler is a couple dance from lower Bavaria and can be seen at the local fests and community dances. It was learned by Morry Gelman from folk dance groups in Munich. This form of landler with the woman turning under joined hands while the M circles the woman is found in various forms in the Bayerischer Wald, a region in lower Bavaria along the Czech and upper Austrian borders. In upper Austria the Innviertler Landler is highly regarded by Austrian folklorists for the singing of verses, yodeling, and syncopated patsching (hand clapping) that accompanies the dance.

Pronunciation: FIN-ster-ow-er LAHND-ler

Record: Festival 45. 3/4 meter.

Formation: Cpls in circle, W to R of M, inside hands joined.

Steps: Single step: Walking steps done in 3/4 rhythm.

Meas

Pattern

- PART I. Woman Turn Under; Man around Woman
- 1-2 Cpls swing joined inside hands fwd (1 meas) and back (1 meas). Some body motion fwd and back is used but it is not a full Waltz Balance.
- 3-4 Cpls swing joined hands fwd as W turns once CW (1 meas) under joined hands which are swung to a fwd pos after W finishes her turn (1 meas). There is some fwd motion in LOD for the cpl during this maneuver.
- 5-8 Cpls swing joined hands in RLOD and then raises them as W turns once CCW under while moving to inside of circle. At same time, M with single step (start L ft) moves to outside of circle (actually to place W just left). As cpl raises joined hands again, W continues turning once CCW and moving twd outside of circle. M takes 2nd single step with R ft around W and continues twd inside of circle. W makes 3rd CCW turn under raised hands while returning to place; M takes 3rd single Left step to place and figure ends as cpl swings joined hands RLOD.
- 9-16 Repeat action of meas 1-8.

INTERLUDE.

- 4 meas Swing joined hands fwd (1 meas) and back (1 meas) and fwd again while W turns 1-1/2 CW to Varsouvienne pos.

PART II. Waltzing Forward

- 1-8 Cpls waltz in LOD moving some in to L and out to R. Drop hands at end and turn to face each other.

PART III. Clapping

- 1-8 Hit own hands three times, ptrs hands once, own once, ptr once.  
Repeat to end of 8 meas.  
Repeat dance from the beginning.

Presented by Morry Gelman

FOLK DANCE CAMP - 1979