

Thousand Islands Crossing

dance by Don & Diane Bell

trad. tune

January 2017

The Thousand Islands Bridge is a very scenic international bridge system over the Saint Lawrence River connecting northern New York in the United States with southeastern Ontario in Canada. Don (Canadian) and Diane (American) crossed the bridge many times while they were courting and visiting relatives on both sides of the border. Annual crossings exceed 2 million vehicles.

Circle mixer for any odd number of couples

Level of difficulty: Beginner

All join hands and face the center of the circle, the woman on the right of her partner. The big circle balance figure (A1/A2) is done 4 times.

- A1 1 – 2 All balance into the circle & back
3 – 4 (Man assisting with left hand) women balance forward into the circle & back to the right (turning single as they pass their partner and end beside a new man.
5 – 8 All that again.
- A2 1 – 8 Repeat A1, end facing a new partner.
- B 1 – 4 Box-the-gnat right shoulder (with hands, balance forward and back, change places turning woman under man's arm)
5 – 8 Box-the-gnat left shoulder.
9 – 12 Partners right shoulder back-to-back
13 – 16 Partners right shoulder gypsy
(End with all joining hands and facing into the middle)

Dance Notes: This dance is a revision of the “Cross Over the Water” dance published in the CDSS News #120, Sep/Oct 1994. The caller can use prompts or singing calls included with the tune.

Thousand Islands Crossing

(From O'er The Waters To Charlie)

Don & Diane Bell

Now, ba - lance and back and the la - dies cross o - ver.

Ba - lance and back and cross o - ver a - gain.

Part - ner ba - lance and ba - ck, go un - der the bridge. Then

bal - ance and ba - ck, go un - der a - gain. Step

left and go for - ward, step right and fall back. And

gyp - sy your part - ner and all join a - gain.

The musical score is written in treble clef, G major (one sharp), and 3/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. Chords are indicated by letters G, C, D, Em above the notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes. The score ends with a double bar line on the final staff.