

## Niagara Hornpipe

Musical score for "Niagara Hornpipe" in B-flat major, 2/4 time. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-5) starts with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats, and a 2/4 time signature. It features a 3-measure rest followed by a repeat sign. Chords above the staff are B $\flat$ , F7, B $\flat$ , F7, B $\flat$ E $\flat$ , F7, B $\flat$ , and F7. A boxed 'A' is above the first measure. The second system (measures 6-11) continues the melody with a 3-measure rest. Chords are B $\flat$ , F7, B $\flat$ , B $\flat$ , B $\flat$ , B $\flat$ , F7, and E $\flat$ . A boxed 'B' is above the 8th measure. The third system (measures 12-15) includes a C chord above the 12th measure. It features a first ending (measures 14-15) and a second ending (measure 15) both marked with a 'B $\flat$ ' chord. A 3-measure rest is present at the end of the piece.

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"Niagara Hornpipe" is an American hornpipe in B flat major. The parts are played AABB. Boston publisher Elias Howe printed contra dance instructions along with the tune in **1000 Jigs and Reels** and dance directions only in his **American Dancing Master and Ball-Room Prompter**. The printing in Ryan's **Mammoth** (1883) and its successor, Cole's **1000 Fiddle Tunes** (1940), gave the tune wide dissemination and it was played by fiddlers from Missouri, North Dakota, New York's Adirondacks to Nova Scotia.

The tune is a bit unusual being in B $\flat$ . It also has an interesting rhythm in the A part. It was printed in Howe's **1000 Jigs and Reels** (1867), Ryan's **Mammoth Collection** (1883), Cole's **1000 Fiddle Tunes** (1940), White's **Unique Collection** (1986) and Phillips's **Traditional American Fiddle Tunes, vol. 2** (1995).

It was recorded by Tom Doucet (Nova Scotia) on **The Down East Star** (1975), Mark Hamilton (Adirondacks) on **Songs and Tunes from Wolf Run** (1992).