

Great House Vresh

The House of Gold

Outline: House Vresh is the richest of all the great houses. It has built a trading empire around its many ships and caravans. It actually produces little of its own, outside a few specialty items like rich wines, acting more as the realm's middle men. They own most of the docks in the major ports, well over half of all boats on the rivers, and fully 2/3rds of all caravans that leave the country.

Notable Members:

Duke Radian vor Vresh – The current lord of House Vresh, he is known as “Old Blue Eye” for his smart investments in the sapphire trade in his younger days, which led to massive profits. He has led for over 30 years now, since the death of his mother, the old Duchess. Nearing 80, he is still in good health, and his mind is as sharp as ever.

Lady Elia vor Vresh – Radian's heir apparent is his oldest daughter Elia. A deft merchant, she has led a number of successful trading missions to neighboring countries. Along the way she has spent much of her time and energy trying to find word of her missing younger brother, Jonannes.

Captain Tumos val Vresh – The third son of the heir to House Darren, Tumos was adopted into the Vresh House proper. He earned this by saving the life of Lady Elia from a pirate attack, as well as by being one of the most able captains in the Vresh fleet. He has also served time as a privateer on occasion.

Sir Elton val Evor – Sir Elton is the captain of the guards in charge of keeping the Vresh clan all safe. This knight came up through the ranks, serving aboard Vresh vessels as a marine. He was knighted for slaying a sea drake attacking his ship.

Holdings: Unlike most great houses, Vresh does not own any castles. Their manors tend to be clustered around the capital and the ports, and are paragons of opulence and extravagance. Most of their wealth however is tied up in their fleet of ships, and their caravans.

Their most famous holding is the ‘Water Palace.’ This is the summer residence of the Vresh, and consists of a massive sea-faring vessel, the House's first, that they have painstakingly reconstructed on an inland lake. They have then built a small floating city around it, that you must travel by boat to reach.

Lesser Houses:

House Darren – This lesser house are the great risk takers of the Vresh empire. They fund the longest voyages, to the most exotic and dangerous locales. Its very high risk, but very high reward trading. They are often looking to hire adventurers for their expeditions.

House Evor – This lesser house has built its fortune around the production of wine. It owns a number of the richest vineyards in the realm, and is an expert in foreign wine speculation as well.

Allies: Hisura, Ellerson

Enemies: Grimsbok, Ma Gren

Secrets: The founders of this house were, by and large, smugglers. There were even a few early ventures that it would be more accurate to call piracy than actual trading. A few of those ties and connections still exist, just in case.

The house also has ties to a number of more radical organizations that are pushing for democracy and other such radical notions. They do this from behind numerous levels of secrecy and the like. This is just an insurance plan on their part, in case any of these revolutionary groups come to any power.