

Pillinger Peak Region

This fairly inhospitable region is dominated by hills and mountains in the south, with the soaring Pillinger Peak; and the scrub of Berend's Wastes in the north.

Both have roads (or glorified tracks) to ancient pilgrim sites:

In the south east, barely 2-3 days journey over broken and hilly ground lies the shrine of St Pillinger, with a massive obelisk erected by his followers before they were wiped out by the Orcs of the Bloody Hand and their monastery totally destroyed. Hermann Pillinger sculpted the amazing monument of the Goddess Freya in her warrior mode over a 35 year period. The cave at the foot of the mountain contains a natural pool said to have miraculous healing powers. Other caves in the area are not so seemly, despite a magnificent limestone vista of stalagmites, stalactites, colourful shawls and mighty columns. In one is said to reside the dread Drake, Asterix, who was stirred up by the aforesaid orcs, and decimated them in fiery fury, causing them to relocate westward to their present site. The other is believed to be a gateway to the lands of Niflheim, and the Grim Queen, Hel herself.

In the north the dusty road to Isendathing, an ancient gathering place of local tribesmen where ancient feuds are settled and judgements given, still to this day. There lies one of the holiest places of the north, the Temple to Odin. But the trek is arduous, and passes through lands bleak and drear, with seasonal streams only, venomous native life, and a vicious tribe of Hobgoblins, the Grimtooth clan. To make the journey safer, the lords of Dunor have erected a small citadel, Sturnhund, where a company of 60 men are on a rotation, keeping their skills well-honed against the raiding hobgoblins.

And in the centre of it all, perched on cliffs, lies the monastery of St Joachim, a strange group of monks given to creating architectural fancies, and commencing a mountain sculpture to rival Pillinger's great work in the south. This order was founded by Joachim the Raven, the sole survivor of the massacre at the now hallowed site of Pillinger Peak.

Finally, in the ocean south of a ruined Keep, once the demesne of Jakob Scultz, is the wreck of the Dunor Republic Ship Hadrianus, on a reef. Jakob had managed to escape with his family and faithful retainers from another siege by the determined Bloody Hand Orcs, only to lose his ship, his treasures and his life, lured onto the rocks by the siren song of a mermaid (named Doggetage's Bane for the dreadful death of a savage man who sought to destroy her, and instead started her on a quest of revenge against Dunor-folk.