

Tartessos Region Map Notes

This region has an unhappy recent history. For over 100 years, Tartessos was a beautiful city (think of Ephesus on Earth), with much trade with Artemisia. It was originally founded by colonists from the southern states of that continent, and almost immediately prospered. It tamed the wild barbarians to east and west, and had good relations with the cities of the Plains between the two great mountain ranges, Gyorga Borkai to the west, Emerencia to the east, with the great river Nikaran between them. These cities were Vlaakunar the Proud, Myrotha the Splendid and Fhemaiith the Great, and were magnificent places to behold.

Then, 30 years ago, the earth trembled, the realm to south of the cities was thrown up, and great sinkholes opened up. Nest came the Dragon Malaecalaun from the now erupting volcano that was its lair, with 20 of her vicious brood. They laid all these cities low, putting thousands to the flame. Even fair Tartessos was not spared – in one night, it was just smoking ruins. Then the dragons retreated to their lair. None hazard the reasons for their sudden fury, nor why they retreated to their lair, but every year, they fly over the now named Dragons Desolation and scout the land once more. It is completely uninhabited.

The barbarians of east and west still roam with various tent cities forming more or less permanent abodes; along the east coast, between the great lights of the Light to the Heathens in the north, to the Light of Waking in the south, are five small city States, which squabble among themselves, but represent the only form of civilization in the whole region. Yet even they are riven by religious fanaticism – the Inquisition runs strong here, and woe betide the unwary foreigner. Needless to say, this is a major crimp on trade and development.

The foreign affairs offices in all the Irisian States in Artemisia strongly discourage its citizens from travelling here!