

The Svenik people make up the vast majority of the population in the northern reaches of Cardriss. They are a rugged people, accustomed to harsh winters and short growing seasons, and they place a high value on strength and skill. They are the fairest skinned of all the peoples of Cardriss and most have blue eyes and blonde hair, though green eyes and copper hair are not unheard of. They use few dyes and their wool, leather, and fur clothing typically bears its natural beige and brown colors. They enjoy drinking and are known for making a variety of wines from the berries that grow in the region. They also appreciate warm hearths and many evenings are spent gathered around a fire hearing tales of the exploits of ancestors and famed heroes.

The Svenik are skilled seafarers and their language, which is also called Svenik, is known by some sailors and traders down the length of the east and west coasts. The appearance of their ships, however, is often an unwelcome sight as they are known to raid their neighbors, especially after poor growing seasons. They are fierce warriors and, although they are the only major culture to have never developed their own monastic tradition, they have many warriors who emulate the ferocity of the bears who share their region, to devastating effect. They also have the least stable political system of any major region. Every settlement is ruled by a chief or Jarl, and powerful Jarls can subdue or rally other settlements as vassals. Particularly powerful rulers can take the title Drott, or King, and may unite large areas and numbers of people, but such kingdoms are short lived- only forming when a leader has proven their strength, and only lasting as long as that king remains powerful.

Most Prevalent Alignment: Chaotic Good

Class Considerations: Barbarians, skalds, and rangers are very common in the north. There are also a good number of hunters and shifters (usually favoring bear, owl, and wolverine aspects), and nearly all fighters with the viking archetype are from this region. Clerics are not unheard of but oracles are far more common.