

House Name House Saltbrine

House Type Vassal House

Coat of arms Per fess crested white and azure, over all a sailfish embowed to chief azure piercing a fish vert

Words We Who Salt the Earth

Seat Deadharbor

Head Lord Bryn Saltbrine

Region Scyllian Isles

Titles

- Lord of Deadharbor
- King of the Shield Islands (Former)

Heir

Overlord House Aurumii

Founder Godrey Saltbryne

Overview

House Saltbrine is still recovering from its failed rebellion and violent upheaval of authority, but things seem to be turning for the better as Bryn is determined to restore the honor and valor that the house once held. By following the Old Way, Lord Bryn is constantly funneling wealth into the house, something it hasn't seen much in the past fifty years or so.

History

There are those who make claims to Greybeard's blood and there are those who would spit in the face of anyone who would suggest a thing. House Saltbrine takes pride in their ancestry belonging to Greybeard's right hand man, Nikolaes Saltbryne. As Greybeard lay waste to the serpent of old, Nikolaes was right at his side to aid in the battle. When Greybeard expanded his rule east, it was Nikolaes he trusted with the Narrow Plains, with a stalwart fort on the Shield Islands. Ask any Saltbrine and they will cry stolen valor on part of Greybeard, as any road a legend walks is paved by those closest to them. To Saltbrine, Nikolaes is the true legend.

He earned himself the title "Mad Dog Niko" for his dogged and ruthless nature in battle, where it was rumored he was bitten by the dog Lyssara. It would set the standard for the Saltbrine raiders fighting style for centuries, and lead to a devout worship of the frenzied goddess. They found her ways suited their life much better than Disdona or Khalthar ever

could. Their ways were too soft, too just for the ironborn ways. They did not bless Nikolaes as Lyssara did.

Fortune would not favor the early days of Saltbrine. The conquest sent the mainland raiders sailing back home to their iron shores, but Nikolaes would stay behind with some of his most loyal men and die in battle. His son Godrey would honor his father's legacy by making a proper house on Scyllian land, laying claim to the Black Chain as Saltbrine's ancestral homes, with families and warriors filling each island's keep. Godrey would help in mounting the first rebellion alongside Greywynd years later to avenge his father, but Saltbrine's loss was great, and they left the lost rebellion with half the manpower and their tail between their legs.

As time went on misfortune would continue to follow the House. The deep ties with Greywynd would become strained as Saltbrine felt the great house owed them a lot over the years. They would abstain from the second rebellion to build their forces back up. Then Noccer Saltbrine led the charge on the third rebellion and lost, betrayed by Greywynd and Aurumii and taking a loss so deep Saltbrine was barely able to recover. Noccer is executed for his crimes, leaving twelve year old Brennard in charge of the ruined remains of the once great house. He would be forced to sell off most of Saltbrine's land, leaving only a chunk of Deadharbor in their name. He was remembered as a sad drunk, unable to recover from his familiar loss and unequipped for ironborn life.

Heirloom

Saltbrine had two great ancestral heirlooms to their name. The first was the fabled Gem Sea Sword, Nikolaes' own sword. Legend has it that the glittering sapphires that adorn its hilt were tears the legendary sea serpent shed upon death.

The second was Nikolaes' ship *The Sea Gem*. Bryn had the ship dismantled to sell for parts to fund their own ship, save for the figurehead of a snarling black dog with a bleeding sailfish in its mouth. The new lord intends for this ship to become a new heirloom to pass down to their children.