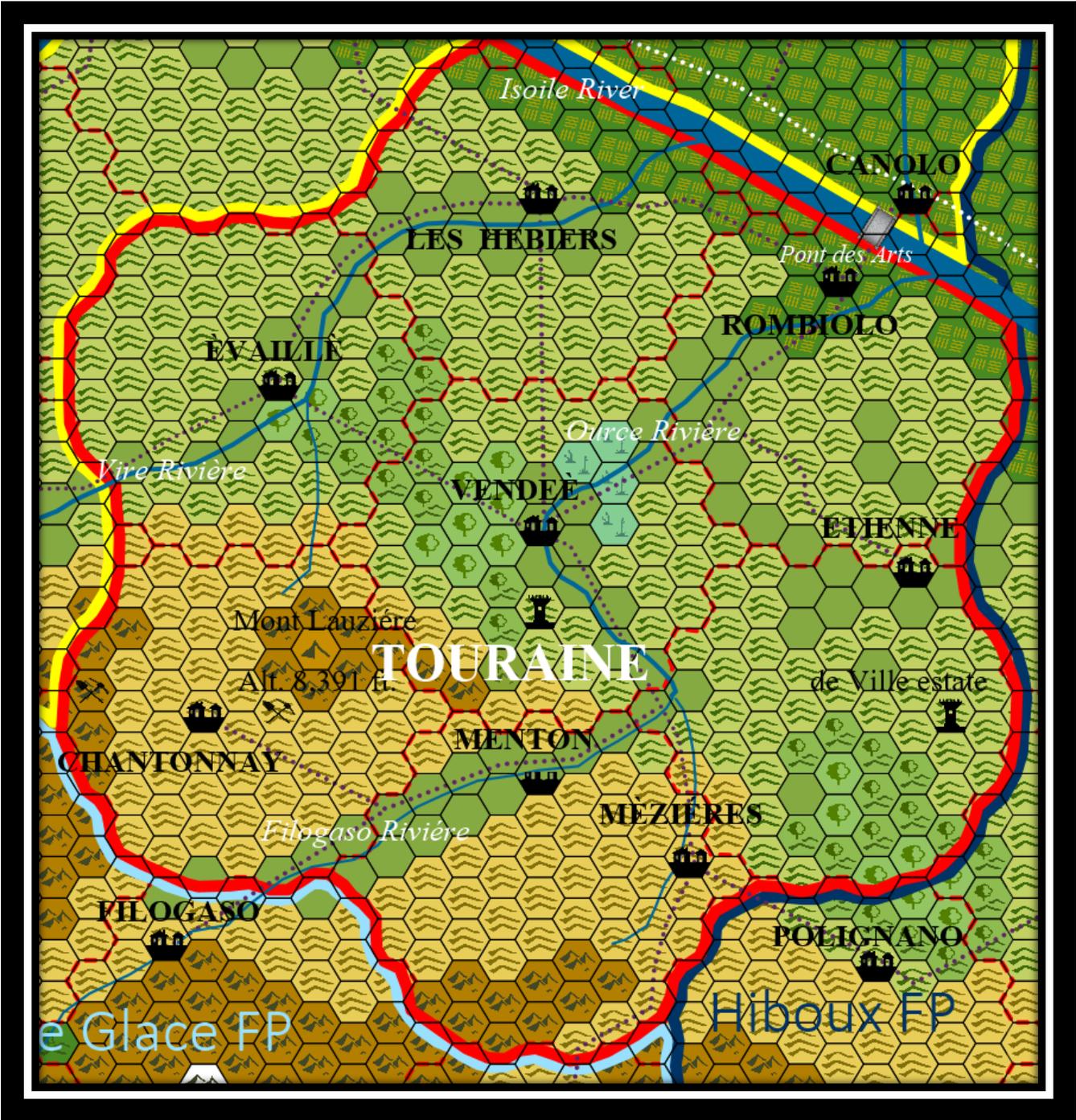


Touraine, County of

1014 AC



Area:
392 square miles

Population:

1000 AC - 2800

1014 AC - 2520

Villages: *(population values are given for 1000 AC and 1014 AC)*

Vendeè (560/500): is located in the center of the County a couple of miles north of the tower of Touraine. The village serves as the commercial and administrative center of Touraine and serves the needs of the ruling Countess of Touraine.

Rombiolo (400/350): is located on the Isoile River at the south end of the Pont de Arts and one of the primary crossing points over the Isoile River. Located where the Ource meets the Isoile the land is incredible fertile and is the agricultural center of Touraine.

Chantonay (245/225): is located in the foothills of the Glantrian Alps and is the center of the silver mining trade in Touraine with two large mines in operation in the surrounding hills and mountains.

Ethnic groups:

Averoignian 36%, Flaem 35%, Thyatian 25%, Orkarian 3%, Other 1%

Languages:

Thyatian common, Averoignian

Ruler:

Dame Genevieve de Sephora (born 959, 1000AC - M20, 1014AC - M23, 5th Circle Alchemist, AL - Neutral)

House:

Sytaire

Military:

The Countess maintains a fulltime professional guard unit. The Ram's Head (40 F2, chain, spear and short sword or hand axe, riding normal horses) are divided into 4 squads each led by a sergeant which patrols Touraine and upholds the laws and watches for wandering monsters from the nearby mountains. Touraine is often visited by patrols from Les Hiboux by the various banners of Malachie's 15th Division and they assist the Ram's Head in patrolling the land and watching for wandering monsters. The 15th Division also participates in training and exercises with the local militia of Touraine. The Viscounty employs 20 sheriffs who handle basic law and order within the Viscounty.

Trails:

Touraine which is located on the south bank of the Isoile River and tucked between the river and the mountains has no major trails passing through it. The fair quality Ximes road leads from Rombiolo westward and over the Tarn River at the Pont de Edoard to Ximes in Noevelle Averoigne. The majestic Pont des Arts crosses the Isoile opposite Rombiolo and provides easy access to and from Touraine from the Isoile and Les Hiboux Free Provinces and the rest of Glantri via the Vyonnes-Glantri City Road. The trail leading from Vendeè to Rombiolo and over the Pont des Arts to Canolo in the Isoile Free Province is

a fair rated trail and is heavily patrolled by the Ram's Head. The smaller settlements of Touraine are linked to each other and to Vendèe and Rombiolo by smaller poor quality trails.

Food:

Subsistence

Economics:

Touraine produces enough staple foods to feed its own population and those communities surrounding it. Touraine is home to several large productive silver mines which account for a large portion of the wealth of the County. The rolling hills of Touraine are tailor made for livestock, so Touraine raises an excess of cows, sheep and pigs which are often shipped across the river to the more agricultural Les Hiboux Free Province where the land is too rich to waste by giving it over to grazing lands.

Touraine Monthly Financial Ledger (figures from 1000 AC)

Main resources: 1 animal (livestock), 1 mineral (silver)

5 hexes: hills; rural; pop. 1400; tax 140 dc

2 hexes: hills, river; rural; pop. 840; tax 84 dc

Touraine: village; pop. 560; tax 56 dc

Total population: 2800 villages/rural

Touraine sets just off the main caravan routes thus little trade passes through Touraine. The Countess is able to collect additional income on the trade that does enter Touraine based on fees and duties assessed on the assessed value on the items. In addition, the Countess collects various fines assessed his subjects as well as collecting taxes on adventurers booty. As a result, the Countess is able to collect an average of 150 dc a month.

Tax Income: 280 dc

Resource Income: 1400 dc

Standard Income: 2240 dc

Council Tax: 814 dc

Net Cash: 1016 dc

Overhead (45%): 457.2 dc

Available Cash: 588.8 dc

With 21,960 XP/year, in 14 years (1000-1014) the Countess could gain 307,440 XP, rising from M20 to M22 on dominion XP alone.

Alternate (tax only): 3360 XP/year in 14 years (1000-1014) the Countess could gain 47,040 XP on dominion XP alone.

Alternate (tax and extras only): 5160 XP/year in 14 years (1000-1014) the Countess could gain 72,240 XP on dominion XP alone.

History:

Counts of Touraine:

Thierry Tulasne	896-986	b. ? d. 986
	Brotherhood of the Radiance	896-986
Genevieve de Sephora	986-	b. 959

The lands that later became the Country of Touraine were, like all of western Glantri were not settled by the Flaem upon their arrival in the Highlands. However, with the coming of the Averoignians to the northwest and the Thyatians to the southeast around 728, the hills to the south of the Isoile were soon rapidly settled by the land and space hungry settlers.

At first the Thyatians were the predominant settlers of the hills of Touraine and surrounding area due to the proximity of their main settlements in present day Westheath and Hightower where the Averoignians under King Edoard had the rich lands of present day Noeville Averoigne as well as the rich river valley north of the Isoile to settle. All changed however once the first word of significant deposits of silver and other valuable metals were discovered in the hills and adjacent mountains. The hills were outside the Kingdom of Noeville Averoigne and were unclaimed by the Flaem so a general land rush ensued as Thyatian, Flaem, and Averoignians all moved into the hills to tap into and exploit the mineral wealth of the hills. It is likely that conflict would have ensued between the Averoignian, Flaem and the Thyatians if not preempted by the civil wars that plagued the Highlands starting in 784.

Taking advantage of the wars involving the Flaem and Thyatin the King of Nouvelle Averoigne annexed the hills south of the Isoile as far east as Les Hiboux and made them a part of his Kingdom. The end of the civil wars in 828 brought peace to the Highlands for the first time in nearly 50 years and not wanting to risk a new war, this time with Noeville Averoigne, the new Council of the Republic grudgingly gave up the rich hills to the Averoignians but did redouble efforts to have the Kingdom join the Republic. Finally with a new King of Noeville Averoigne, Etienne d'Ambreville, progress was made and in return for some very steep conditions Etienne demanded, the Kingdom of Noeville Averoigne was dissolved and the Averoignian lands were annexed into the Republic. The hills of Touraine were made part of the Isoile Free Province.

The hills of Touraine remained a part of the Isoile Free Province, and under the auspices of the Council of Princes of the new Magocracy of Glantri for some 50 years until political dealings between the Council of Princes and Etienne d'Ambreville's successor on the Council Prince Pierre d'Ambreville resulted in a new dominion being carved from the Isoile Free Territory. Pierre proposed the hills of Touraine to be a new Glantrian dominion and chose his mysterious advisor, but one known to be extremely powerful wizard, Thierry Tulasne to be his choice to rule the new County. The Council debated for the day about the choice of Tulasne. There was no doubt as to his competency and his power as a wizard, but no one could trace his background back any further than 5 years into the past. No one knew where he came from, or even if he was Glantrian. However, at the end of the day Tulasne won approval of the Council of Princes with only a few dissensions and the Country of Touraine was created with Tulasne as its first Count.

The mysterious Count Tulasne hired an administrator from the Spokesman's Guild to manage Touraine while Tulasne immersed himself in his magical research in Glantri City. Touraine enjoyed many years of prosperity as a new silver lode was found in the southwest portion of Touraine which brought even more wealth into Touraine. Tulasne himself was seen only rarely in Touraine, at most once a year, and as time went on both the people of Touraine and even the Council of Princes forgot about him. So it went for nearly 100 years the Thierry Tulasne remained the Count of Touraine. A long time for sure but for long lived wizards it was hardly rare enough to merit the attention of the Council of Princes. He was rarely seen in his years of rule but seen enough, once, or twice a year, to not raise questions with the Council so little notice was paid when he was not seen for several years, coinciding with the reappearance of the d'Ambrevilles and the lifting of the Grey Mist in 984.

It came as little surprise when it was announced to the Council of Princes in 986 that Thierry Tulasne, Count of Touraine had passed away. Tulasne was thought to be heirless with no children, known family, or a declared heir. However, Prince Etienne surprised the Council of Princes by introducing Genevieve de Sephora, a recently arrived wizard from Old Averoigne, as a distant relation to Tulasne from Old Averoigne. After several sessions of debate and investigation a bitterly divided Council barely passed Etienne's motion and declared Genevieve de Sephora as the new Countess of Touraine.

In the years that followed the new Countess taking over Touraine the County saw a steady growth in population and a firm steady hand in administering it as Genevieve took a personal hand in ruling Touraine and unlike many nobles spend most of her time in her dominion. Unlike Tulasne before her Genevieve made it a point to get out of her tower and visit the settlements of Touraine and soon came to earn the respect of those she ruled. Her reign as Countess was tested severely during the Great Plague when Touraine, as all Glantri, was hit hard and without clerical magic to help combat it lost nearly 15% of its population. With the end of the plague and then the Great War Touraine has seen life pretty much return to normal. The population has started to grow again after the grievous losses of 1008-1009 and within a few years Touraine is expected to return to pre-war population levels and prosperity.

Notable sites:

The DeVille estate located in the southeast hills of the County are the ancestral lands of the DeVille family. For years it served as the home and base of operations of siblings Circè (M13), Simon (M9), and Lucien (F7) a family of famous were-hunters. Countess de Sephora and Circè were especially close friends and allies and remain so to this day. Today none of the DeVille family resides there presently. Simon and Lucien were killed in 1004 on a werewolf hunt in the Valley of the Wolves and Circè became the Baroness of Leadyl in 1009 and left Touraine. Today the estate still belongs to the family but is presently only occupied by a caretaker hired by the Baroness.

Mont Lauzière is a small mountain located near the center of the County of Touraine. Several silver lodes have been found within its slopes and foothills. Unknown as of yet however is the existence of a large cavern within the mountain. The cavern has a hidden surface exit on the southern slopes of the mountain other exits from the cavern lead downward and lead nearly 1000 feet downward and eventually exit in the lands of the Shadow elves. The shadow elves are aware of the path into and out of their lands and make sure the tunnel is guarded. Agents and spies are regularly dispatched to Glantri through the cavern and tunnels.

Coat of Arms:

a golden lion on a field of black

Useful links:

Night Howlers by Ann Dupuis

the Economy of Touraine by Aleksei Andrievski

Noevelle Averoigne, Morlay-Malinbois, Fausseflamms, The history of the d'Ambreville family by Michael Berry