Shipbuilding in Dael Riata

Summary

Shipbuilding is the technological and economic engine of Dael Riata. Through the pioneering work of the Earls of Dalmuir, the kingdom has moved from artisanal construction to an industrialised "pattern" system, producing the fastest and largest merchant and war vessels in the known world.

Description

Industrial Innovation

Daelian shipyards, particularly those in Dalmuir, have achieved global dominance by standardising components and construction designs. This system allows for parallel processing: while one team lays a keel, others pre-cut ribs and planking to established templates. This has reduced the build time for elite vessels, such as the Daelian Raider, to as little as three months.

The 400-ton Merchant Class

The 400-ton merchant ship represents the forefront of naval engineering. These massive caravels are too large for oars and rely on complex three-mast rigging.

Launch Timeline (Dalmuir Prototypes):

- **Prototype 1:** Keel laid Spring 766; launched **Spring 769**.
- **Prototypes 2 & 3:** Keels laid Summer/Autumn 766; launched **769**.
- **Prototype 4:** Started Summer 768; completed **Winter 769** (17-month build time).

By 774, Dalmuir alone had produced 30 of these hulls. The only other shipyards capable of matching this scale are located in Dalreoch, Duffjordhead, and Kronstadt in Skyss.

Primary Shipyards

- **Dalmuir:** The foremost shipyard in the world, featuring 8 elite 400-ton slipways. It is fed by high-quality timber from the forests of the River Aodh.
- **Duffjordhead:** A dedicated centre for shipbuilding owned by House Sioltach, featuring 2 elite 400-ton slipways.
- **Dalreoch:** The capital's yards focus on both new construction and servicing foreign vessels, operating 1 elite 400-ton slipway and several 300-ton and 200-ton bays.

Relationships

People

- Ian Gilruary: The 1st Earl of Dalmuir, whose interest in practical knowledge established the foundation for Daelian naval dominance.
- Earsaid Alpin: The Reader of Naval Engineering at the University of Dalreoch, currently researching improved hull designs.
- King Alasdair V: Patron of the shipyards whose personal rule has focused on expanding the royal merchant fleet.

Places

- Dalmuir: The industrial heart of Daelian shipbuilding.
- University of Dalreoch: Proposed site for the new Chair of Naval Engineering.
- Kronstadt: The Skyssian capital and primary competitor to Daelian shipyards.

Skyss - Story Background	Characters	Skyss - Places	Pantheons of the World	Other Background

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