

The Emerald Empire

The Land of Rokugan



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Rokugan stretches some nine hundred miles from the Great Northern Mountains to the Kaiu Wall in the south, spanning six hundred miles from the Sea of the Sun Goddess in the east to the Burning Sands in the west. The land within these boundaries is known as the Emerald Empire, ruled over by the Emperor Hantei XXXVIII and home to the seven Great Clans who serve him.

Previous Page: Emerald Lands • Chris Ostrowski



Above: Along the River of Gold • Alayna Lemmer



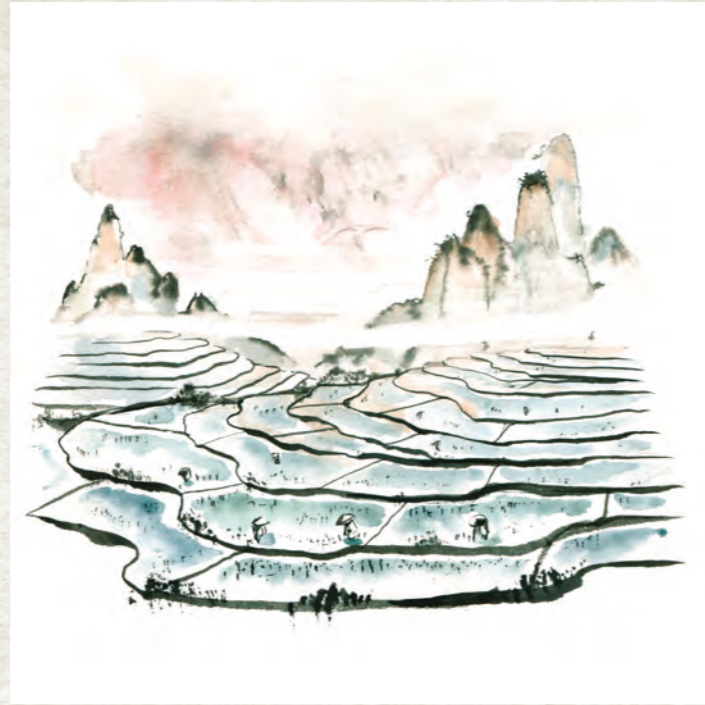
Above: A Better World • Jeff Porter

Below: Audience Chamber • Paolo Puggioni



Opposite: Rokugan • Francesca Baerlad





Left: Baggage Train • Joshua Cairós
Above: Rice Paddy • Francesca Baerald
Opposite: Village • Haibin Wu
Below: A Land of Heroism and Steel • Andrey Pervukhin





Above: A Veritable Feast • Senfeng Chen
Left: Meditations on the Teachings of Sensei • Eli Ring
Below: Harmonize • Eli Ring
Opposite: Imperfect Land • MAD Boceto



Imperial Domains and the Imperial Court

The Imperial City of Otsan Uchi lies upon Rokugan's eastern coast, between the lands of the Crane and Lion Clans who are the Emperor's chief courtiers and protectors respectively. There the Emperor rules from their seat upon the Emerald Throne, behind the high walls of the Forbidden City in the Imperial Palace itself.

All of Rokugan belongs to, and is ruled by, the Emperor Hantei, but in practice the land is divided into a great many provinces, each under the stewardship of one of the Great Clans, or occasionally one of the minor clans, who lack divine ancestry. In return for the right to dwell in these lands, each clan serves the Emperor according to the needs of the Empire and their own traditions. Representatives of the Great Clans vie for political power in the Imperial Court at Otsan Uchi, and at the Winter Court, held each year at a site of the Emperor's choosing, in the lands of a particularly – if fleetingly – favored clan.



Above: The Imperial Palace • Chris Ostrowski

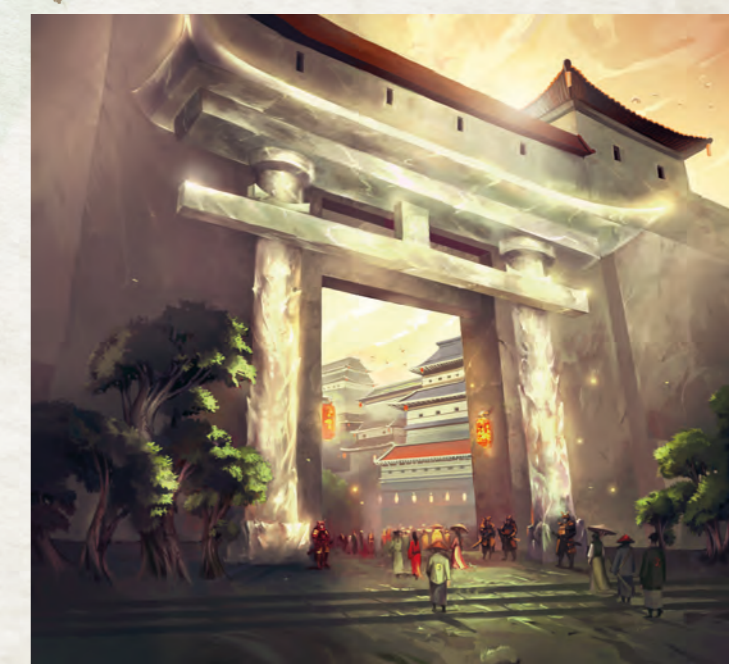
Below: Shiro Yogasha, Palace of the Emerald Champion • Francesca Baerald



"Our claim to these lands stretches back to the dawn of the Empire."



Above: Miwaku Kabe, the Enchanted Wall • Nele Diehl



Above: Kanjo District, District of Forbearance • Nele Diehl

Divine Blessings



Above: Seeker Initiate • MuYoung Kim



Above: Temple of the Dragons • Leanna Crossan



Above: Shrine to Hantei • Francesca Baerald
 Right: Way of the Chrysanthemum • Francesca Baerald



Above: Tears of Amaterasu • Hai Hoang

"As Lady Sun's
 brilliance illuminates
 the land, so too does
 her chosen son radiate
 peace and prosperity to
 all Rokugan."





Masters of the Court

The Crane Clan

The Crane Clan



The Crane Clan are masters of perfection – courtiers, philosophers, poets, and artisans as renowned for their refinement as they are feared for their political might.

To the Crane, politics is an art. The dojo of the Crane Clan are responsible for producing the great majority of the Empire's courtiers and officials, earning the Crane the title of Left Hand of the Emperor. Even those Crane who choose to fight adhere to this philosophy, such as the famed Kenshinzen duelists who seek perfection with every carefully measured stroke.

Previous Page: Doji Hotaru • Darren Tan



Above: Graceful Strike • Le Vuong

Below: Doji Whisperer • Kathryn Steele



Above: Superior Authority • Lin Hsiang

Below: Political Rival • Caravan Studio



Above: Doji Shigeru • Asep Ariyanto

Left: Kakita Ryoku • Le Vuong

Below: Soul Beyond Reproach • Le Vuong



The Lands of the Crane Clan

The Crane dwell in eastern Rokugan, inhabiting much of the Emerald Empire's coast. The palaces of their great families lie in the north of their domain, close to the Imperial City, a proximity which defines the Crane.

Crane lands are as fertile and verdant as the fisheries beyond their shores are bountiful. These hinterlands provide the Crane with much of their wealth, but their power derives from their literal and metaphorical closeness to the Imperial Court, with the seats of the Doji, Daidoji, and Kakita all nearby. But the Crane lands are bordered by rivals, too – the fierce Lion in the north and the minor Mantis Clan in the islands to the Crane's east, sea raiders known to prey upon the Crane's coastal domains.



Above: The Esteemed Palaces of the Crane • Alayna Lemmer
Opposite: The Lands of the Crane and the Holdings of the Mantis • Francesca Baerald



The Lands of the Crane
and the Holdings of the Mantis