

Bharzul – Lords Road by Tom Cartos

Background

The Lords Road is the main avenue through the city of Bharzul, leading directly north from the Watchers Gate all the way to the Stone Palace. It gradually slopes upwards the entire length, connecting the various levels of the mountaintop city.

The Lords Road showcases much of the Dwarves wealth and talents. The wide avenue is lined with ornate statues and sculptures made from bronze and gold, the road itself is inlaid with marble and precious metals formed into grand ornate patterns. During holidays and festivals, parades are put on here to entertain the populace. Raised podiums on either side provide a vantage point for the audience to overlook the area. These are also frequented throughout the year as casual meeting places.

Like much of the city it has a secondary defensive use. Any attacking force that did somehow manage to breach the gate would be funnelled along this route, always downhill from the defenders. Lightweight, mobile artillery and barricades are stashed along the road and can be deployed onto it within minutes of an alarm being sounded, something practiced regularly by the city's guard.

Grid Information

GRID SIZE – 34x44(300DPI)

VTT SIZE – 4760x6160 (140DPI)

RECOMMENDED PRINT SIZE – A0/ANSI E

Design Notes

Lords Road

- **01 – Central Avenue** – Slopes gradually upwards towards the Stone Palace.
- **02 – Keystone Tile** – These ornate tiles can be found at key locations around the city. They are hand carved from a single block of stone and inlaid with precious metals and other valuable materials gathered from the mines. Each one is unique.
- **03 – Stairs** – These side stairs continue the entire length of the road, providing pedestrian access when the central avenue is closed off for events or drills.
- **04 – Connecting Roads** – All roads in Bharzul connect back to the Lords Road, making it the most heavily trafficked part of the city.
- **05 – Canal** – Water from the Moribund Sea is funnelled throughout the city for a variety of reasons, however the canals either side of the Lords Road are primarily decorative rather than functional. In the summer months some of the children like to use them as a waterslide.
- **06 – Podiums** – These raised platforms are used as stands for parades and events, but also as open use public spaces. Taking a walk along the Lords Road at lunch time or at weekends is met by the sounds of hundreds of people merrily conversing.

Many of the podiums also have gold and bronze statues, like these of the Lords 3rd Mounted Brigade, a famous company of Goat Knights.