

Ujungby Village

Hex 005

A modest village on both banks of the Swirl River, with a main road leading east south of the river to Ivan's Keep 25 miles away (40 kilometres; Hex 505), and southwest off-map to the hamlet of Fagersta at the Black River bridge some 35 miles (55 km) away. Properties north of the river here are poorer, and there is an aggressive rodent problem in this area. Rat-catchers Fink & Vendibles have a shop here, and are always kept busy. There is also a less than spotless bakery, Grigor's Sundries, said by some to be the prime cause of the rodent issues hereabouts. By the ford on the north bank is The Demon's Axe tavern, which has a ban on all weapons being brought inside, and door-wardens who brook no refusal. South of the river, towards the southwestern edge of the settlement is the Market Place, alongside which is resident Halfling fortune-teller, Madam Kellan, "Sunrise Coins", dealers in rare and exotic goods, who are always happy to buy items of value without asking too many awkward questions, and the Human apothecary Jorgena. Along the east road south of the river are several small artisanal workshop-homes, catering chiefly to the district's farmers, and a decent tavern, "The Singing Dagger", which has a good selection of rarer food and drinks. (Derived from random tables in the Shadowdark RPG, details from those rules include that the settlement is Neutral, the district north of the river is Slums, with a Poor tavern, the southwestern district is Market, with an Artisan district to the east and its Standard tavern.)

On the north bank of the river is Spinks's Mill, where the settlement's leader, an elected Mayor, lives. The walled courtyard around the Mill supposedly helps keep the rats out, although the family's six cats are a more likely deterrent. Southeast of the settlement is the edge of the nearby farmlands, though most of the fields on the map are worked by villagers as small-holdings for a variety of food crops during the short summers. There are a few barns and storage sheds for shared use scattered about among the paths and hedgerows here. In the expanse of the Market Place is an open-sided, covered structure, the Toll Booth, where fees to set-up stalls are collected, and where some smaller stalls are found sometimes, when the weather is especially poor. The nearby Well provides draught animals with water, seeing more general use in winter, when the river is often frozen over. The land rises a little more quickly north of the river, as suggested by a few sketchy contour lines there, with the trails leading away off-map north in this area connecting mostly with farms of hardy sheep and goats, as the land is less suitable for crop-growing. The main west-east road brings numerous travellers through the village, notably during the brief springs and summers, as the land becomes more open for access.