

The Factions: Crusaders

The Crusades were a series of religious wars with the main goal of restoring Christian access to the holy places in Jerusalem. The Crusades were originally launched as a response to a call from the leaders of the Byzantine Empire for help to fight Muslim Seljuk Turks expansion into Anatolia. These Turks had cut off access to Jerusalem. The main series of Crusades occurred between 1095 and 1291.

The crusaders comprised military units from all over western Europe, and were not under unified command. First the equipment and command structure of feudal Europe was largely maintained. Later additional elements like regular units of mounted Turkopoles were adapted and included into the army.

HEROES OF THE CRUSADING AGE

Richard I “Lionheart” **Richard I** (8 September 1157 – 6 April 1199) was King of England from 6 July 1189 until his death. He also ruled as Duke of Normandy, Duke of Aquitaine, Duke of Gascony during the same period. He was known as Cœur de Lion (“Lionheart”), even before his accession, because of his reputation as a great military leader and warrior.

Richard was a central Christian commander during the Third Crusade, effectively leading the campaign after the departure of Philip of France. He achieved considerable victories, among them the successful siege of Acre, which later became the last strong- and foothold of the Crusader states.

He was unable to reconquer Jerusalem, but his struggle with Saladin made it into legend.

FACTION RULES

Crusaders use the Norman Battle Board and they also have the same faction rules.

There is one exception: Since horses became at times difficult to feed, only two units of knights may be fielded mounted (three in games with more than 6 points).

In addition, one unit of Warriors may be fielded as mounted Turkopoles. They are equipped with javelins. Due to their lighter armour and protection, they have their Armour value reduced by one against enemy shooting.

All other units must be fielded as foot units.

Hero of the Crusading Age: 3 SAGA Dice.

Protected Barrage: One unit of Bowmen or Crossbowmen may deploy within $\forall S$ right behind a unit of Warriors, using the line of sight from the unit standing before them (thus effectively shooting over them). Only the unit of Warriors may be engaged in melee from the front.

Cunning Tactician: During any time of his turn Richard may change the position of up to three SAGA Dice on the Battle Board. He may do this only once per turn.

Knights of Europe: Since Richard brought many new Knights into Outremer, the Faction limitation of mounted warriors does not apply for armies lead by him.