

Ostrogoths (Barbarians)

Background: The Ostrogoths originally lived in what is now eastern Germany. Towards the end of the second century, seeking a warmer climate and a “taste” of Rome’s splendor, they moved south to a region near the Black Sea. Eventually, many Ostrogoths became Christians and lived peacefully until attacks by the fearsome Huns forced them to flee into Roman territory. However, the Romans sent to supervise their migration took advantage of the Ostrogoths by selling them rotten food and seizing some of their children as slaves. Outraged, the Ostrogoths joined with the Visigoths to humiliate a Roman army at Adrianople in A.D. 378. Twenty years later the Roman Empire was divided into two parts, East and West.

What To Do: You are responsible for accomplishing two very important military objectives. First, use the minimum number of your eight tribes (each tribe represents 1,000 warriors) to conquer the province of Thrace. Second, devote the remainder of your tribes to defeating one of the Roman leaders. (Note: If you find that after conquering Thrace there are not any Roman leaders left to defeat, try to conquer as many of the other provinces in the Empire as you can.) Finally, if you feel that you have a strong enough military force, you might try to conquer one of the other barbarian groups and take possession of that barbarian’s tokens.



Cut out these tokens and trade them for goods from other provinces.

