

Undead Burg



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Undead Burg () is a Location in Dark Souls. It is accessible via Firelink Shrine, and leads to the Undead Parish.

Information

The **Undead Burg** is an early-game area that introduces players to a variety of enemy types and gameplay mechanics. It serves as a path to several key areas, including the Taurus Demon boss, Black Knight encounters, several merchants.

Area Bosses

Mandatory

- **Taurus Demon**

Enemies

Black Knight:

- **Location:** Found down a staircase in the area near the crossbow Hollow Soldiers.
- **Details:**
 - Guards the **Blue Tearstone Ring**, which boosts defense when HP is low.

- Strong opponent with high poise.
- Effective Strategies:
 - Backstabs are highly effective.
 - Dodge heavy attacks using rolls or block lighter attacks with a shield.
 - Alternatively, use ranged attacks (15+ Firebombs can defeat it from a safe position).

Havel the Rock:

- **Location:** Found behind a locked door in the tower before the Taurus Demon. Accessible with the **Watchtower Basement Key** (acquired after the Moonlight Butterfly) or the Master Key.
- **Details:**
 - Extremely high poise and strong melee attacks.
 - Drops **Havel's Ring**, which increases equipment load.
- **Effective Strategies:**
 - Use backstabs or hit-and-run tactics.
 - Lure Havel outside the tower and attack with ranged weapons or firebombs while he retreats.
 - Requires patience and focus if attempting in early-game with un-upgraded weapons.

Merchants

Male Undead Merchant:

- Found below a staircase near the first bonfire.
- Sells:
 - **Firebombs** (50 souls each)
 - **Repair Powder**
 - **Residence Key**
 - **Throwing Knives**
- Drops the **Uchigatana** if killed.

Items

General Items:

- **Garbage** - Found near a ladder that leads back to the entrance area.
- **Soul of a Nameless Soldier** - Located on the lower route near the merchant.
- **Gold Pine Resin** - Found in a chest behind a locked door (requires the Residence Key or Master Key).

Weapons and Shields:

- **Wooden Shield** - Located on the balcony near the bonfire.

- **Light Crossbow** – Found on a rooftop near throwing knives.
- **Claymore** – Found on the large bridge guarded by the Hellkite Drake.
- **Drake Sword** – Obtained by severing the Hellkite Drake's tail.

Rings:

- **Blue Tearstone Ring** – Dropped by the Black Knight near the staircase.
- **Havel's Ring** – Dropped by Havel the Rock.

Consumables:

- **Throwing Knives** – Found on a rooftop near the merchant.
- **Black Firebombs** – Found in a chest.
- **Humanity** – Dropped by various enemies and found near the starting bonfire.

Walkthrough

From Firelink Shrine to the First Bonfire

1. **Starting Path:**
 - Begin at Firelink Shrine, ascending the stairs to the right.
 - Clear the Hollow Soldiers as you proceed toward the aqueduct.
2. **Entering Undead Burg:**
 - Cross through the aqueduct and into the Undead Burg.
 - The path diverges:
 - **Lower Route:** Leads to consumables and minor items.
 - **Upper Route:** Leads to progression.
 - Take the upper route, clearing Hollow Soldiers with crossbows and swords.
3. **First Bonfire:**
 - Enter the building near the crossbow Hollows to find the first bonfire.
 - This bonfire will serve as a key checkpoint for most of your exploration in this area. Kindle it early for increased Estus Flask charges.

From the Bonfire to the Taurus Demon

1. **Hollow Ambushes:**
 - Move up the staircase from the bonfire and deal with Hollows waiting in ambush.
 - Check the area near the spear-wielding Hollows to find the merchant.
2. **Narrow Path to the Battlements:**
 - Progress through the narrow streets filled with multiple enemies.
 - Use firebombs or lure enemies out to prevent being overwhelmed.
 - Loot the area for the **Black Firebombs** from a chest and other consumables.
3. **Path to the Boss:**
 - At the spiral staircase, choose:
 - **Lower Route:** Leads to the Black Knight, guarding the **Blue Tearstone Ring**.
 - **Upper Route:** Leads to the Taurus Demon boss fog gate.

- Clear enemies on the spiral staircase and ascend to reach the fog gate.

The Taurus Demon

1. Preparation:

- Eliminate the two crossbow Hollows atop the nearby tower before entering the fog gate.
- Buff your weapon with **Gold Pine Resin** for increased damage (optional).

2. Battle Strategy:

- Lure the Taurus Demon to the center of the bridge.
- Climb the ladder to the tower, and perform plunging attacks for significant damage.
- After the attack, retreat to a safe distance or circle around to repeat the process.

3. Victory:

- Defeating the Taurus Demon unlocks access to the bridge guarded by the Hellkite Drake.

Covenants

Warrior of Sunlight:

- After defeating the Taurus Demon, players can meet **Solaire of Astora** and join the **Warrior of Sunlight** covenant.
- Requires 25 Faith to join, but summoning or being summoned lowers the requirement.

Shortcuts

Bonfire Shortcut

- After defeating the Taurus Demon, proceed to the large bridge guarded by the Hellkite Drake.
- Lure the Drake to activate its flame attack and rush to the staircase in the center of the bridge.
- Descend the stairs and kick down the ladder to unlock a shortcut to the Undead Burg bonfire.

Hellkite Drake Bridge Bypass

- **Method 1:** Descend the stairs from the bridge to travel underneath it, avoiding the Hellkite Drake.
- **Method 2:** Use the **Master Key** to access the alternate route through Darkroot Basin:
 - From Firelink Shrine, travel through New Londo Ruins and into the Valley of Drakes.
 - Enter Darkroot Basin and proceed to the lower Undead Burg, bypassing the Drake entirely.

Watchtower Shortcut to Havel's Tower

- Use the **Watchtower Basement Key** (obtained after the Moonlight Butterfly) or the Master Key to unlock the door near the spiral staircase.
- Leads to Havel the Rock and connects to Darkroot Basin.

Soul Farming

The **Hellkite Drake** can be used to farm souls by baiting its flame attack to burn nearby enemies. This method yields 555 souls per cycle and is a safe way to level up early.

Notes

- The bonfire near the spear Hollows is a crucial checkpoint; upgrading it early with Kindling ensures better sustainability in the area.

Trivia

- The **Drake Sword**'s ranged R2 attack emits a shockwave, making it effective in narrow corridors. However, the attack consumes significant durability.
- The **Black Knight** in Undead Burg is one of several scattered throughout Lordran, each guarding valuable items or key locations.
- The **Taurus Demon**'s design emphasizes vertical combat, teaching players to use the environment to their advantage.

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