



# The Castle of Regnano

CASOLA

**Location:** It is located in the north of Casola, on the right coast of Aulella creek, in the province of Massa Carrara.

**Type of castle:** Circular tower with enclosure.

**Construction period:** 11th century.

**First appearance in literary sources:** On the 16th February 1066 in the last will of Guiterno, a noble Langobardic.

**Strategic role:** Defensive tower with residential use along the road from Lucca to Piacenza. It was the centre of a large feud in the upper part of Aulella valley, on the border with Garfagnana.

**Further use:** The latest information dates back to 1624, when it was assigned to Knight Costanzo Belencini di Modena by the Grand Duke Ferdinando II.

**Current condition:** Ruins of the tower, the inner part of which is now a vineyard.









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**Viewing:** The ruins of the castle can be visited. Safety equipment is required to access the area.

**History:** The castle is located outside the built-up area of Regnano, in the middle of a large feud assigned to the bishop of Luni in the 11th century by a noble Langobardic named Guiterno. In his last will of 1066, all the territories belonging to the feud are carefully listed, and it is also written that it was Guiterno himself who allowed the castle to be built “con la torre e i muri e le case e tutti gli edificie e le botteghe e i fossi e il monte e le rive...” (with the tower, houses, buildings, workshops, moats and river banks).

In 1185 Frederick I Barbarossa conferred this feud to the Bishop of Luni until 1202, when it was conquered by Lucca and then by Spinetta Malaspina the Great. From the 15th century, it was part of the Florentine state. For a short period of time it was entrusted to a knight from Modena but was later returned to the Grand Duchy of Tuscany.

**Structure:** There are a few remains of the castle’s defensive wallsthat consist of the foundations of the circular tower,which nowadays appears as a dry-stone wall surrounding the vineyard.