



Castle of Riomaggiore

RIOMAGGIORE

Location: The castle of Riomaggiore – also known as Castellazzo di Cerricò – is located in the upper zone of the historical centre of Riomaggiore, on the promontory above the village. Riomaggiore is a small village built inbetween two steep aquifers right on the shoulders of La Spezia.

Type of castle: Fortified walls with towers.

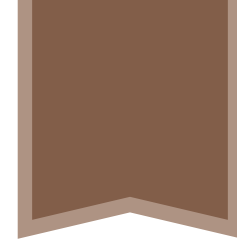
Construction period: Beginning of the 13th century. In 1260 it was a feud belonging to the Turcotti or Della Turca family, who fortified the area on the promontory. Between the 13th and the 14th centuries the construction phase was completed by the Genoese.

First appearance in literary sources: It appears to have been a feud of the Turcotti family since 1260.

Strategic role: Defensive, against the incursions of pirates and Saracens.

Further use: The inner part was filled in with soil and the castle was turned into a graveyard at the beginning of the 19th century.





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Current condition: Recently restored, the defensive walls and the two round towers remain.

Viewing: Nowadays the castle is the headquarters of local public administration and a centre for cultural and educational activities.

History: After the Turcotti family, the castle passed under the rule of Nicolò Fieschi, who sold it in November 1276 to the Commune of Genoa, who completed and improved the building.

Structure: It has a quadrilateral basement and the long sides are slightly convergent.