



The Castle of Tresana

TRESANA

Location: The village of Tresana – after the split of the ancient fief of Lusuolo - stands north-west of Aulla, 3 km to the right of the Magra river, on sunny Mount Ciurlina, where the streams that come from Zeri and Mulazzo converge.

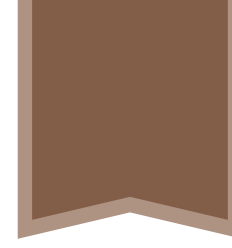
Type of castle: Marquis castle and fortified village.

Construction period: The fortified towers and the village were built from the 12th century onwards. There were several renewals during the Middle Ages and until the 17th century.

First appearance in historical sources: The first writings about Tresana date back to the 12th century: an imperial decree of Frederick I Barbarossa in 1164 confirms the ownership of “Trixana cum tota curia” by Obizzo Malaspina.

Strategic role: It was once an impregnable fortress and controlled the whole valley, moreover it was also the place where the right-side tributaries of River Magra converged before Terrarossa.





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Further use: The Marquis of Tresana's lack of resources negatively influenced the castle's care, which was already in a state of ruin by the 17th.

Current condition: The fortified structure – which nowadays is badly degraded - is located on the highest part of the hill and is still being restored.

Viewing: The village of Tresana can be visited, although the castle is a ruin covered by vegetation.

History: The fief of Tresana belonged to the Malaspina family and came about from the split of the fief of Lusuolo - which happened in 1408, after the death of Opizzino, son of Azzone - but it became independent only in 1559. The descendants of Marquis Guglielmo Malaspina were bad administrators and harsh to their villagers, who looked for other allies in neighbouring states. The last Marquis died in 1651 and the fief – which once again became the property of an empire – was sold in 1659 to Bartolomeo Corsini, Marquis of Laiatico, who ruled in this area until fiefs were abolished. Changes of ownership: Genoese Republic, Duchy of Milan, Corsini family.

Structure: Military defensive structure (tower with an enclosure) and simple renaissance structures. The building is located on the highest part of the hill and is overlooked by another quadrangular tower followed by a circular tower. The structure probably had a defensive role, as well as residential. However, it is far humbler than other properties of the Malaspina family.