



Castles and Cathedrals

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Middle Ages:

The Middle Ages describes Europe between the fall of the Rome and the beginning of the Renaissance. It lasted from the 5th to the 15th century. This period represented growth in power of monarchies and churches.



Intro to Castles:

- Castles were created as a form of fortification
- They were originally known as “castels”
- Started after Nordic nations (Vikings) started attacking parts of Europe
- Often Built on hilltops
- Biggest castle in the world is the Prague Castle
- The Normans built the first castles after winning the Battle of Hastings in 1066
- The age of castles lasted about 500 years
- Kings, lords, lords’ wives, and servants lived in castles



Castle Architecture

- The best structures were built from stone, wood, and mortar.
- Extremely well built and stable structures.
- Repair was easy.
- Security was provided by the forests around the buildings.
- Castles were cold, uncomfortable, mainly for protection, and dark.
- The structure was made for fighting off enemies.



Parts of a Castle (outside)

- Moat- deep water to keep enemies from coming in
- Drawbridge- could be raised or lowered depending on if the people were welcomed or not
- Curtain Wall- Anywhere from 8-20 feet thick to provided defenses and protection
- Gatehouse- built into curtain wall; was at first just a door, but an iron gate was added because enemies used it to gain access to the castle
- Towers- Used to look outside of the castle, but also could be used to hold prisoners
- Keep- highest point of the castle and center of defense; this was the most secure area of a castle

Parts of a Castle (inside)

- Kitchen- cooks made meals here
- Great Hall- everyone ate here, servants slept here at night; court jesters performed in this area
- Stables- held livestock
- Chapel- private church for the lord and his family
- Extra Housing- this depended on how many nobles were staying at the castle
- Armoury- used to store weapons
- Dungeons- used for holding prisoners and torturing them in extreme cases

Famous Castles

Windsor Castle - Built by William the Conqueror while he ruled England.

Tower of London - Built in 1066. Has served as a prison, treasury, armoury, and royal palace.

Leeds Castle - Built in 1119, became home to King Edward I.

Chateau Gaillard - In France, built by Richard the Lionheart.

Cite de Carcassonne - In France, started by the Romans.

Spis Castle - In Slovakia; one of the largest Medieval castles in Europe.

Hohensalzburg Castle - In Austria, built in 1077, but expanded in the 15th century.

Malbork Castle - Built in Poland in 1274 by the Teutonic Knights; largest castle in the world by surface area.

Falkenstein - Located in the Selke Valley of the Harz Mountains; Where Eike von Repkow compiled the the Sachsenspiegel Book of Law



PRAGUE CASTLE



THE PRAGUE CASTLE
SERVED AS THE SEAT
OF PRINCES AND KINGS
OF THE CZECH
REPUBLIC AND LATER
THE BISHOP OF THE
REPUBLIC

WINDSOR CASTLE



THE OFFICIAL
RESIDENCE OF THE
QUEEN, AND THE
LARGEST OCCUPIED
CASTLE IN THE WORLD,
HOUSING OVER 1000
PEOPLE

TOWER OF LONDON

CONSTRUCTED BY
WILLIAM THE GREAT
TO SHOW THE POWER
OF THE NORMAN
MILITARY. IT IS
LOCATED ON THE
RIVER THAMES BOTH
AS A FORTRESS AND
A GATEWAY TO THE
CAPITAL



LEEDS CASTLE



LOCATED IN KENT
ENGLAND, BUILT IN
1119 FOR KING
EDWARD

CHATEAU GAILLARD



LOCATED IN HAUTE-NORMANDIE FRANCE, HIGH ON THE ANDELEYS CLIFFS. IT WAS CONSTRUCTED DURING FEUD BETWEEN RICHARD THE LION-HEART AND PHILIP II OF FRANCE

CITÉ DE CARCASSONNE



THE CITÉ DE
CARCASSONNE IS A
MEDIÉVAL CITADEL
LOCATED IN THE FRENCH
CITY OF CARCASSONNE,
IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
AUDE, LANGUEDOC-
ROUSSILLON REGION.

SPIS CASTLE



THE RUINS OF SPIŠ
CASTLE IN EASTERN
SLOVAKIA FORM ONE
OF THE LARGEST
CASTLE SITES IN
CENTRAL EUROPE.
THE CASTLE IS
SITUATED ABOVE THE
TOWN OF SPIŠSKÉ
PODHRADIE AND THE
VILLAGE OF ŽEHRA

HOHENSALZBURG CASTLE



IT WAS BUILT IN
1077 BY
ARCHBISHOP
GEBHARD, AND
PROVIDED A
STRONG
FORTRESS
DURING THE
HUNGARIAN WAR.
IT IS FULLY
PRESERVED.

MALBORK CASTLE



THE
HEADQUARTERS
OF THE
TEUTONIC ORDER,
AND WAS THE
HOUSING OF THE
GRANDMASTER
OF THE ORDER
WHO LIVED OUT
HIS ENTIRE LIFE.
IT FORTIFIED THE
RIVER NOGAT
FROM THE
PRUSSAINS
INVADING FROM
THE BALTIC SEA.

FALKENSTEIN CASTLE



LOCATED IN PFRONTEN
SITUATED 1200 METERS ABOVE
SEA LEVEL, STANDING AS THE
HIGHEST CASTLE IN GERMANY.
WAS CREATED AS A FORTRESS
FOR THE BISHOP OF AUGSBURG

Photo by Joel Scholtz

Intro to Cathedrals

- Larger than Castles
- Sign on wealth in the Medieval church of England
- Made for the glory of God
- Started thriving in 1000
- Building cathedrals was a community competition to see who could build the tallest ones
- Most took over a century to build
- Cathedrals were often the center of the town
- Altars of the churches usually faced east, facing Jerusalem and the rising sun
- Most Cathedrals lay in Europe because this is where the Catholic Christians resided

More Info

- The church offered forgiveness of sins for those who helped build them
- The first cathedral was built in Canterbury in 597
- People paid the church 1/10th of their earnings
- Church Hierarchy: Pope>Cardinal>Bishop
- Bishops' headquarters are cathedrals
 - Only considered a cathedral is a bishop worked there
 - Ex: Cathedral of Laon in France lost its bishop when the town decreased in size and it now just a church
- Many went to mass to gain access to Heaven
- Cathedrals provided education and a home for the poor and sick
- Most cathedrals at the time did not have chairs; people stood or knelt during mass

Cathedral Architecture

- Built in resemblance of Roman basilicas
- Mostly made of stone (shaped, not natural)
- First built in Romanesque Style (round arches and thick pillars)
- Moved to Gothic style in the 12th century (very pointed and tall)
- Most were laid out in the shape of a cross with aisles down the middle
- A grand entrance on the west end was called a narthex, but many cathedrals did not have this. Instead, they had doors facing the North or South
- Built much larger than the community needed, as pilgrimages were expected to take place.
- Had pitched roofs to prevent heavy snow build up



St. Paul's Cathedral

LOCATED IN LONDON
ON LUDGATE HILL, THE
CITY'S HIGHEST POINT





Notre Dame de Paris

LOCATED ON THE
PARISIAN
ISLAND ILE DE
LA CITE



LOCATED IN
ISTANBUL TURKEY,
IN THE EUROPEAN
PART OF THE CITY
CALLED
SULTANAHMET,
ONCE A CATHEDRAL
THEN A MOSQUE.

Hagia Sophia

LOCATED IN
NORTHWESTERN
FRANCE AND IS ALSO
THE SEAT OF THE
ARCHBISHOP OF
ROUEN AND
NORMANDY



Rouen Cathedral



LOCATED IN THE
HEART OF FLORENCE.
STANDS FOR "SAINT
MARY OF THE
FLOWER"

Santa Maria del Fiore

Resources:

- <http://www.medieval-castles.net>
- <http://www.themiddleages.net/life/cathedrals.html>
- <http://www.history.com/topics/middle-ages>
- <http://www.medievalplus.com/religion/>
- <http://www.historylearning-site.co.uk/medieval-england/medieval-cathedrals/>
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- http://orig00.deviantart.net/0981/f/2012/317/9/11/spis_castle_by_dorcadion-d5kx508.jpg
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- <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/488>
- <http://castles.org/dokuwiki/kids/parts-of-a-castle/parts-of-a-castle>