

Totnes Castle



Totnes is a classic Norman motte-and-bailey castle, raised soon after the Conquest at the highest point of the hilltop town of Totnes.

Climb Totnes Castle's high and steep-sided motte mound to the later stone shell-keep which rings the summit. Mount the steps to the wall-walk and look out for the 30-odd 'crenellations' of the battlements, most of them pierced with slots for the defenders' crossbows.





Originally Totnes Castle was an earthwork and timber construction. In the early 13th century, the shell keep was built to crown the mound. This was later rebuilt -circular in shape, Totnes Castle is one of the best preserved of the three such keeps in Devon.

- Take a walk around the outside wall to see the steep sided ditch and outer bank which would have formed part of the original defences for the entrance.
- One of the ancient trees standing in the bailey of the castle is a Holm Oak, thought to be more than 150 years old.
- Could travel to Totnes by ferry.

