

# Watchtower | A Forxa



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Located in Lugar da Torre, in the village of A Forxa, it functioned as the site of the Municipality of Porqueira in the 19th century. That is why its state of conservation is excellent, being declared a Site of Cultural Interest.

Along with those of Celme, A Pena and Sandiás, the Torre da Forxa is part of the fortresses built in the Middle Ages to protect the Limian territory, as part of the continuous struggles between Afonso Henriques of Portugal and Afonso VII of Castile.

Afonso VII donated it to the Bishop of Ourense in 1157. Later, a monastery was established there, initially a family one, later being occupied by Jerónimos monks. Its first prior, Jordan, ordered the construction of a church and a cloister now missing. This same prior assumed the title of abbot of San Lourenço, prior and lord of Güin and Castelaus and also lord of the judicial party of A Forxa and Casas da Moura.

In the 14th century, it was taken and briefly occupied by the Duke of Lancaster, Jean of Ghent, in one of his incursions to claim the throne of Castile. In the following century, the 15th century, the fortress belonged to the Count of Benavente and suffered the siege of the Irmandiños (groups of peasants fighting against the power of aristocracy)

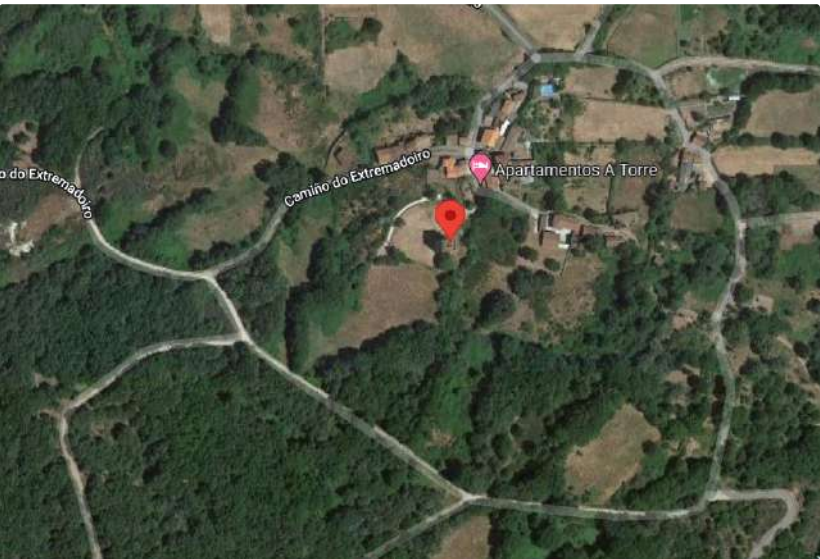
The ensemble still maintains its imposing tribute tower, 23 meters high and quadrangular in plan. The main door is on the second floor, and access is via a modern stone staircase. The interior is divided into three floors plus a basement. The floors would be covered with a wooden roof and accessed by stairs made of the same material.

### Location

Torre, 24, 32643, Porqueira, Ourense

Coordinates:

42.01346331473073, -7.849108873172898



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### Legends / Linked Stories

After ceasing to be the council's headquarters, it passed into private property. In the neighborhood they say it was on the point of disappearing as the stones with which it had been built were for sale.

According to Xesús Taboada Chivite, "González de Ulloa tells us that the King of Galicia, Dom Garcia (I), was here and that, pursued by his brother, he passed to the Moors of Portugal".

### Gallery



### Information of interest

Its state of conservation is excellent. The external visit is free. To access the interior, authorization must be requested from the Municipality of Porqueira through the telephone number: 0034 988 466 102.

### Bibliography

Boga Moscoso, Ramón: *Guía dos castelos medievais de Galicia. Itinerarios, arquitectura, historia, lendas e información práctica*. Xerais, 2003.

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