

## **INFORMATION SUMMARY FOR THE OCCUPANTS OF THE CASTLE OF CASTELLTERÇOL**

Welcome to the castle of Castellterçol.

In this Note you will find a summary of some practical information in order to make the most of your stay

My family has used this residence every summer –and some winters- since 1947, until the death of my parents in 1998. We have always done our best to take care of it and, at the same time, we have been incorporating some family furniture and decorations.

In the year 2000 we decided to rent out this residence to the public in order to get some income to maintain and improve the premises, something rather expensive but necessary in the case of an old building.

We would be grateful if our summer residents could also try to do their best to help conserve these premises as well as to respect the rest of the farmers, who live in the same building.

Thank you very much for your collaboration.

## **HISTORY AND SITUATION OF THE CASTLE**

According to the historian Antoni Pladevall, the first written mention of the castle was in the year 898, when a document refers to the sale of land near to the “castle that had belonged to the defunct Terçol”, one of Wilfred the Hairy’s (first Count of Barcelona) trusted men. We can therefore suppose that the original castle was built around 850.

The most important owners during the Middle Ages were the Xammar, until a member of this family sold the castle and the surrounding grounds to the Monastery of l’Estany in 1259. The remains of the main tower date from the XI to XVI centuries and the exterior walls in the XIII or XIV centuries. During the XVI century the castle was abandoned and fell into ruin. A farmhouse was built inside the walls.

After the Monastery of l’Estany, the buildings and the surrounding estate (some 40 hectares mainly forest) has belonged to several local families until my wife (North American, from Vermont) and myself acquired the property and the castle in 1987. Since the acquisition we have started the task of consolidan

ing the walls and the main tower and have opened the historical areas to the public. With the collaboration of the local group “Friends of the Castle of Castellterçol” we also organise an outdoor concert during the summer.

(see [www.castell-tersol.org](http://www.castell-tersol.org))

For about ten years since 1993 there have been excavations in the main tower under the supervision of the Catalan Department of Culture. A sample of the objects found in these excavations can be seen in the small museum.

The fields around the castle are now devoted to ornamental shrubs by the firm “Vivers Castellterçol SL”.

The traditional “Aplec” (gathering) takes place during the second Sunday of October at the chapel of St Michael (XII century) located beside the castle.

### **SOME PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

- Parking. At the space near the bridge coming from the village or around the castle. Ask the farmer.
- Outdoor illumination. There are switches in the small parking sjelter and just inside the entrance to the patio. The light switch is on a 15 minute timer.
- Mosquito nets. Advisable not to open them except for cleaning.

### **EXCURSIONS**

- From the castle you can make many excursions by mountain bike or on foot by small roads that cross the extended forests around Castellterçol. You will find some suggestions in this file and you can also consult the guide “Caminem per Castellterçol”. We have included a copy but if necessary you can also buy it at “Yuppi’s”, in the center of the village.
- Castellterçol is centrally located for one day excursions by car to locations such as Moià, with a Sunday market; Vic, market on Saturdays; the monastery of l’Estany; the monastery of Sant Benet de Bages, recently renovated, etc, as well as other interesting places. Barcelona, Montserrat and the Maresme beaches are one hour away; the Pyrenees and the Costa Brava one hour and a half.

### **CASTELLTERÇOL**

Castellterçol has about 2.000 inhabitants in winter and approximately the double in the summer months. It has a dry and healthy climate and its people are serious but friendly with outsiders. In spite of being so near the Barcelona metropolitan area, the village has kept many old traditions and has an important social and cultural life. There are several small shops. We can especially recommend the cold meat at different shops and pastries at “Casa Miró”.

Enric Prat de la Riba, the first president of the Catalan Government was born and died at the village. You can visit his house-museum in the “Plaça Nova” (main square).

## Castell-Tersol

There is a public swimming pool ( besides the road to Moia) and a rustic golf course, located near the football stadium,

Market on Saturdays at the Plaza Prat de la Riba. Sardanas, the Catalan dance, occasionally on Sundays.

In some of the annexed documents and also at the Town Hall you will find information on restaurants, bars etc. We recommend La Violeta and l'Hostal, at the entrance of the village in the Barcelona road as well as La Teula, with more home-style cooking.

Wifi zones in most of the bars and restaurants located in the center of the village.

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