

The Alvor Castle was built on a plateau located near a small cove where the streams flow into Aaron's Fibre and Alvor.

Defending not only the fishing village of the same name, from pre-Roman origin (Ipses) as an important sector of the coast but also the likely access to the interior through the waterways listed. It is subquadrangular plant construction, built in stone masonry and that would have been entered into the elbow.

Occupies an area about 960 m2 (see map).



In the original fortification Muslim oriented northeast-southwest, survives the port of entry, with 2.50 m wide, and the two hinges of pipes arranged around 2.60 m from the ground today.

The fortification was built with stone blocks, irregular, especially limestone conquífero Miocene site, although incorporating elements of red sandstone (sandstone Silves) argamassados  $\square$  with lime, rubble and fragments of pottery.

The southwest side of the wall measuring 1.70 m thick, in the highest zone, and about 6.00 m tall. There remains, inside, near the entrance door, part of the ladder, with about

0.50 m wide, which gives access to ride round. To the southeast there is also the remains of thick wall, with an apparatus similar to the fortification, which could have belonged to the Barbican and in the same direction, the foundations of a tower.

Muslims live in fort garrisoned by installing the core population, on the outside, the area near the beach, where the main economic activities unfold.

The castle was mentioned by the Alvor crusader who participated in the conquest of Silves in 1189, as being dependent on that city, having been partially destroyed and its inhabitants killed (Pepper, 1982, p. 160, 161).

## **Ruins of Alvor Castle**

Written by Administrator Thursday, 19 April 2012 18:44 - Last Updated Thursday, 21 June 2012 16:10



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