We can enjoy a sample of urbanism and traditional architecture in the town of Peracense; well preserved and very interesting, where dominates the red colour of Rodeno stone. Among the civil buildings, we can stand out Don Pepe House and Don Pascual House; both are 18th century mansions. We can also add other elements such as the old communal bakery, the snowfield and the Sierra Menera fountain.

It’s also interesting to visit the Parish Church of San Pedro, dating from the 18th century, which has a basilica form with 3 naves. The tower, 30 meters high, has 2 different types of stone: the lower part is made of squared stones, and the upper part has rounded corners. It’s decorated with pilasters and rosettes.

San Ginés hill, magnificent watchtower that dominates much of the Iberian Mountains of Teruel, is 1,605 meters high and on the top we can find San Ginés Hermitage; who is patron of the town and where a popular pilgrimage is celebrated every August 25.

We can also discover ruins of a turret, which for a time was used as a visual support to Peracense’s castle.

In the Tocones place, between Peracense and Almohaja, we can visit the ancient oak, which is 14 meters high and it has a cup with a diameter of 16 meters.

PERACENSE'S CASTLE

PATHS OF THE CASTLE

ROUTE 1
- Gentle climb among the dense rock rose shrubbery to the lookout

ROUTE 2
- A trip around the base of the castle under its spectacular rocky outcrops

ROUTE 3
- A perimeter path that offers magnificent views of the castle from unique points in the surrounding area, such as the deserted medieval town, the “Gallow Stone”, “Maleno Cave”, the ruins of Villeta chapel and the old Rodenas pathway.

How to come…

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NOTES:
(*) Adults should supervise children at all times.
(*) Peracense’s Town hall is not played the role responsible for the accidents by recklessness of the visitors.
The Aragonese town of Peracense – in the region of Jiloca – is especially known for its castle, definitely, one of the best places of tourist interest in the province of Teruel and Aragón southwest.

Peracense’s castle is one of the most spectacular Spanish fortresses, which uses the topography to form an almost impregnable defensive position. It sits on a heavily rugged, red sandstone rocky mass (known as Rodeno stone), which forms the southern boundary of Sierra Menera; forming a singular natural environment, next to the nearby hill of San Ginés. The use of Rodeno stone to build fortresses enables a fully integrated set in the landscape. Its average altitude is 1,365 meters above sea level.

As a historical review, it notes that the space now occupied by the fortified precinct has been inhabited by successive times by different cultures. We were aware of settlements during the Bronze Age, about 3,300 years ago, and in the Celtiberian Period. This occupation will continue during the middle Ages; first in the Islamic Period, and thereafter, with the Kingdom of Aragón. It will be at this time, when the strategic importance of Peracense’s castle increases because of its boundary position; between the kingdoms of Castilla and Aragón, and among the manors of Albarracín, Molina de Aragón, Teruel village community and Daroca’s village community. The nearby hill of San Ginés was the common limit to all of them until 1833.

Unlike other castles in the environment, Peracense’s castle wasn’t abandoned after the Catholic Monarchs. It was used first as a prison, and later, during the 1st Carlist War, as headquarters of a liberal army detachment.

The restoration works and the archaeological excavations started in 1987, by the Government of Aragón. These have led to the recovery of this fortified set, and to the finding of several objects that belongs to the long history of this castle.