

Count of Boulogne

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The **Count of Boulogne** is a historical title in the kingdom of France. The city of Boulogne-sur-Mer became the center of the county of Boulogne during the ninth century. Little is known of the early counts, but the first held the title during the 11th century.

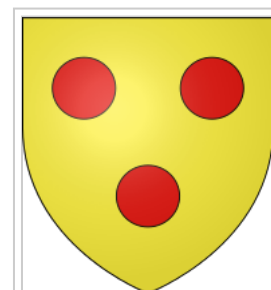
Eustace II of Boulogne accompanied William I of England (the Conqueror) during the Norman Conquest in 1066 and fought on his side at the Battle of Hastings. His son, Eustace III, was a major participant in the First Crusade with his younger brothers, Geoffrey and Baldwin (who later became king of Jerusalem). After Baldwin's death the throne was offered to Eustace, who was reluctant and declined; the throne was then offered to Geoffrey.

Count Renaud of Boulogne obtained the title by abducting and marrying Countess Ida in 1190, and later gained title to Dammartin and Aumale. An early friend of King Philippe II Augustus, he turned against the king by joining the forces of the Holy Roman Empire at the Battle of Bouvines in 1214 (where he was defeated, captured, imprisoned and committed suicide).

Boulogne came under nominal royal control in 1223, when it passed to Philippe Hurepel ("spiked hair", the son of Philippe II). Hurepel participated in the Albigensian Crusade in 1226 and later revolted in 1229 against Blanche of Castile. He was slain by Count Dietrich V of Cleves in 1234, according to sources, after accidentally killing Count Florent IV of Holland in a tournament. The county reverted to the crown and was passed to Adelaide of Brabant, wife of William III of Auvergne.

Boulogne was attacked and besieged a number of times during the Hundred Years' War, repeatedly passing between the English and French. In 1477 Bertrand VI of La Tour gave the county to Louis XI, who incorporated the county into France. Boulogne remained part of France, except for a brief period of English rule under Henry VIII.

William I of Blois (c. 1137 – 11 October 1159) was Count of Boulogne (1153–1159) and Earl of Surrey *jure uxoris* (1153–1159). He was the third son of King Stephen of England and Countess Matilda I of Boulogne.



County of Boulogne coat of arms

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List of counts

Uncertain

- ?–882? : Hernequin
- ?–?: Odakar V (the Great)
- ?–?: Inglebert I
- ?–?: Odakar VI
- ?–?: Arnoul II

House of Flanders

- 896–918: Baldwin I (also count of Flanders)
- 918–933: Adelfolf (son)
- 933–964: Arnulf I (brother; also count of Flanders)
- 964–971: Arnulf II (son of Adelfolf)
- 971–990: Arnulf III (son)
- 990–1025: Baldwin II (son)
- 1025–1049: Eustace I (son)
- 1049–1087: Eustace II^[1] (son)
- 1087–1125: Eustace III^[1](son)
- 1125–1151: Matilda I (daughter; married to Stephen of Blois, Count of Mortain, Duke of Normandy and King of England)



Coat of arms
after about 1200



Coat of arms
after about 1200

House of Blois

- 1151–1153: Eustace IV (son; also Count of Mortain)
- 1153–1159: William I (brother; also Count of Mortain and Earl of Surrey)
- 1159–1170: Mary I (sister; married Matthew of Alsace)



Coat of arms
after about 1200

House of Metz

- 1170–1173: Matthew
- 1173–1216: Ida (daughter; married Renaud of Dammartin, Count of Dammartine and Count of Aumale)
 - 1173–1180: Matthew II
 - 1181–1182: Gerard
 - 1183–1186: Berthold



House of Alsace
coat of arms

House of Dammartin

- 1216–1260: Matilda II (also Queen of Portugal, Countess of Mortain, Countess of Aumale and Countess of Dammartin)
 - 1223–1235: Philip I (also Count of Clermont-en-Beauvaisis)
 - 1235–1253: Afonso (also King of Portugal)



Dammartin coat
of arms

House of Auvergne

- 1260–1261: Adelaide (cousin; married William III, Count of Auvergne)
- 1261–1277: Robert I (son; also Count of Auvergne)
- 1277–1314: Robert II (son; also Count of Auvergne)

- 1314–1325: Robert III (son; also Count of Auvergne)
- 1325–1332: William II (son; also Count of Auvergne)
- 1332–1360: Joanna I (daughter; also Countess of Auvergne); married:
 - 1338–1346: Philip II (also Count of Auvergne)
 - 1350–1360: John I (also king of France, Count of Auvergne)



House of Burgundy

- 1360–1361: Philip III (son; also Duke of Burgundy, Count of Auvergne, Count of Artois and Count of Franche-Comté)



House of Auvergne

- 1361–1386: John II (son; also Count of Auvergne)
- 1386–1404: John III (son; also Count of Auvergne)
- 1404–1424: Joanna II (daughter; also Countess of Auvergne); married:
 - 1404–1416: John IV (also Duke of Berry)
 - 1416–1424: George
- 1424–1437: Mary II (cousin; also Countess of Auvergne)

House of La Tour d'Auvergne

- 1437–1461: Bertrand I (son; also Count of Auvergne)
- 1461–1497: Bertrand II (son; also Count of Auvergne)
- 1497–1501: John V (son; also Count of Auvergne)



After the death of John V, the County of Boulogne was integrated into the royal domain.

See also

- Sieges of Boulogne (1544–1546)

References

1. "NORTHERN FRANCE, NOBILITY". Retrieved 4 November 2007.

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