

# Robert I, Count of Artois

**Robert I** (25 September 1216 – 8 February 1250), called **the Good**, was the first Count of Artois, the fifth (and second surviving) son of Louis VIII of France and Blanche of Castile.<sup>[1]</sup>

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## Life

He received Artois as an appanage, in accordance with the will of his father (died 1226) on attaining his majority in 1237 (aged twenty-one).<sup>[2]</sup> In 1240 Pope Gregory IX, in conflict with the Emperor Frederick II, offered to crown Robert as emperor in opposition to Frederick, but the French count refused to pretend to such a title.

## Marriage

On 14 June 1237 Robert married Matilda, daughter of Henry II of Brabant and Marie of Hohenstaufen.<sup>[3]</sup>

They had two children:

- Blanche (1248–1302)<sup>[4]</sup>
- Robert II (1250–1302),<sup>[5]</sup> who succeeded to Artois.

## Death

**Robert I**

*Count of Artois*



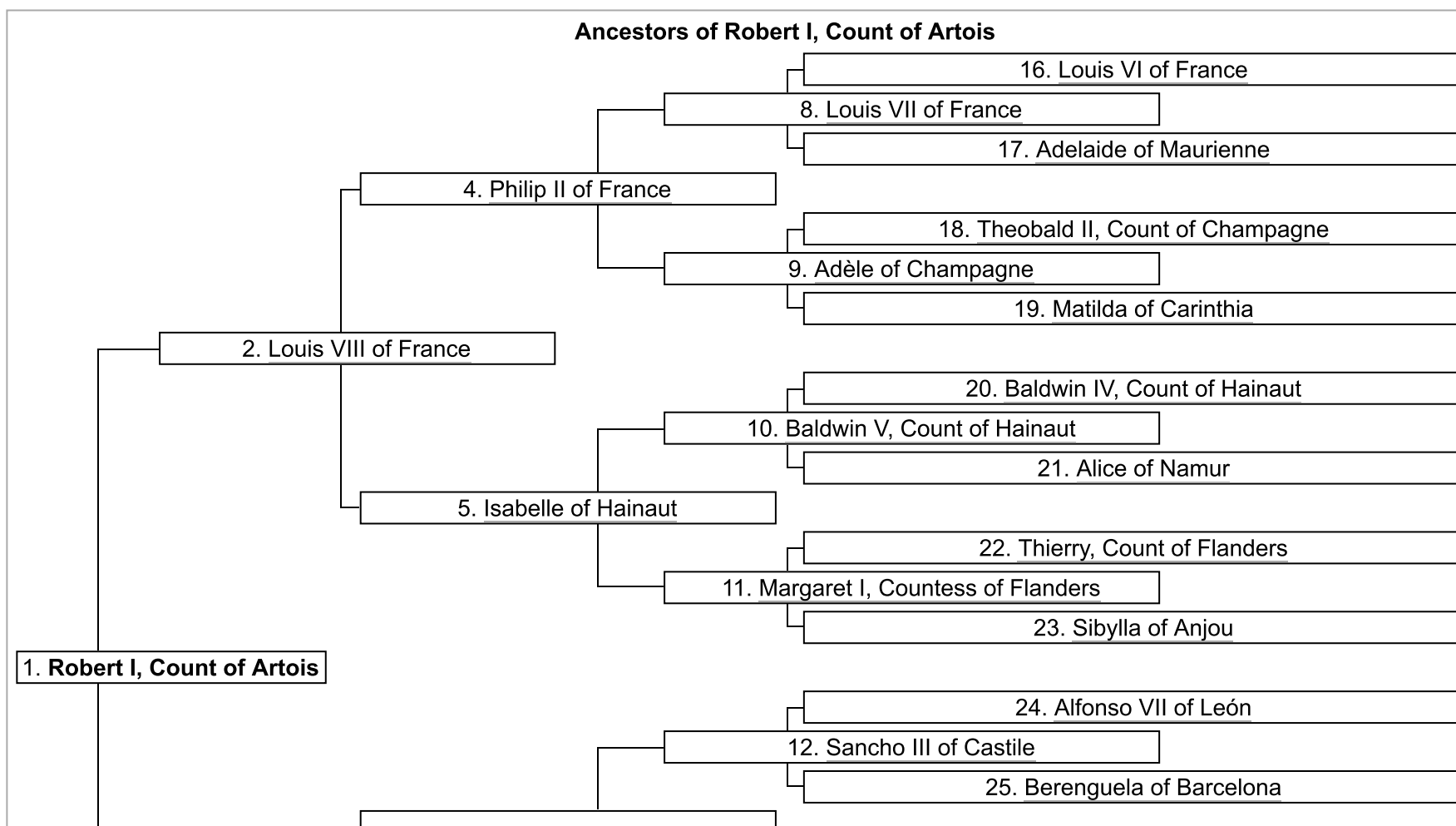
<b>Born</b>	25 September 1216
<b>Died</b>	8 February 1250
<b>Spouse</b>	Matilda of Brabant
<b>Issue</b>	Blanche of Artois <p>Robert II of Artois</p>
<b>House</b>	House of Capet
<b>Father</b>	Louis VIII of France
<b>Mother</b>	Blanche of Castile

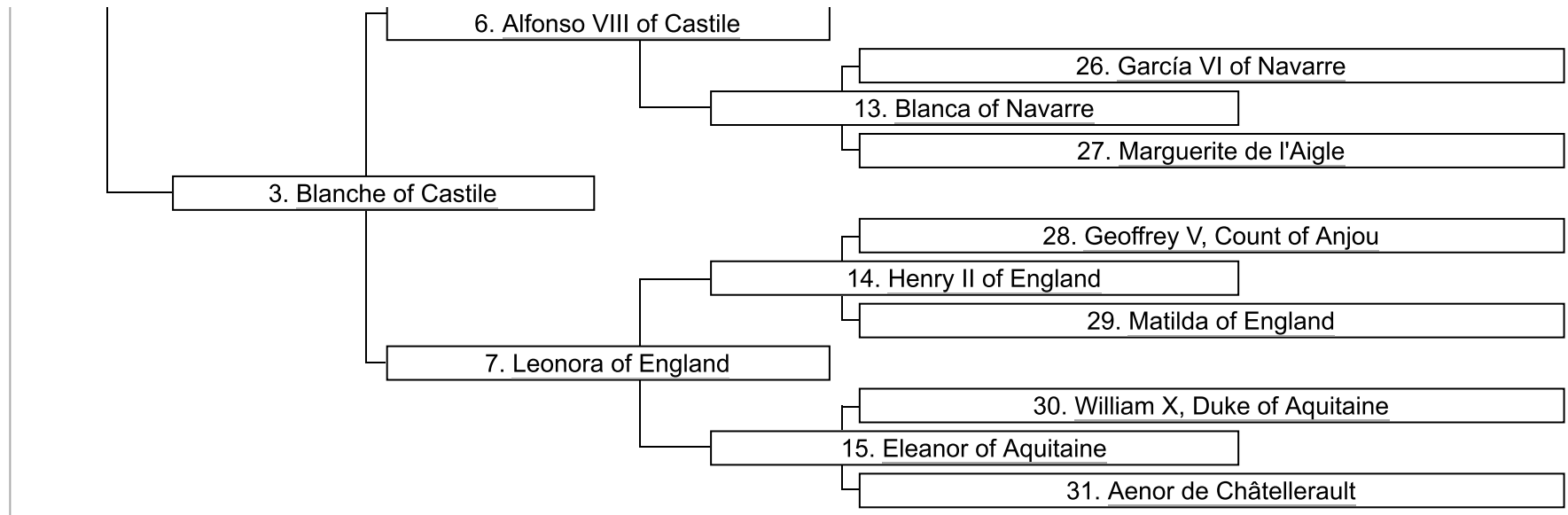
While participating in the Seventh Crusade, Robert died while leading a reckless attack on Al Mansurah, without the knowledge of his brother King Louis IX.<sup>[6]</sup> He and the Templars after fording a river, charged a Mamluk outpost in which the Mamluk commander, Fakhr-ad-Din Yusuf, was killed.<sup>[6]</sup> Emboldened by his success, Robert, the Templar knights, and a contingent of English troops charged into the town and became trapped in the narrow streets.<sup>[6]</sup> According to Jean de Joinville, he defended himself for some time in a house there, but was at last overpowered and killed.



Coat of Arms of Robert of Artois

### Ancestors of Robert I, Count of Artois





## In popular culture

Robert Artois is featured in a segment of *Horrible Histories*, season 3, episode 1.

## References

- ↑ Dunbabin 2014, p. 244.
- ↑ Wood 1966, p. 23.
- ↑ Nieus 2005, p. 166, 176.
- ↑ Gee 2002, p. 141.
- ↑ Nieus 2005, p. 166.
- ↑ Strayer 1969, p. 499-501.

## Sources

- Dunbabin, Jean (2014). *Charles I of Anjou: Power, Kingship and State-Making in Thirteenth-Century*. Routledge.
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<b>French nobility</b>		
<b>New title</b>	<b>Count of Artois</b> 1237–1250	Succeeded by <b>Robert II</b>

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