

William IV, Count of Toulouse

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William IV of Toulouse (c. 1040 – 1094) was Count of Toulouse, Margrave of Provence, and Duke of Narbonne from 1061 to 1094. He succeeded his father Pons of Toulouse upon his death in 1061. His mother was Almodis de la Marche, but she was kidnapped by and subsequently married to Ramon Berenguer I, Count of Barcelona when William was a boy. He was married to Emma of Mortain (daughter of Robert, Count of Mortain and a niece of William of Normandy), who gave him one daughter, Philippa. He also had an illegitimate son, William-Jordan, with his half-sister Adelaide.

He married twice, and produced two legitimate sons; neither, however, survived infancy, leaving daughter Philippa as his heiress. As Toulouse had no tradition of female inheritance, this raised a question with regard to succession. In 1088, when William departed for the Holy Land, he left his brother, Raymond of Saint-Gilles, to govern in his stead (and, it was later claimed, to succeed him). Within five years, William was dead, and Raymond in a perfect position to take power^[1] – although, after Philippa married William IX of Aquitaine, they laid claim to Toulouse and fought, off and on, for years to try to reclaim it from Raymond and his children.

He was the great-grandfather of Eleanor of Aquitaine, by his daughter's marriage to William IX of Aquitaine, and Eleanor's descendants would continue to lay nominal claim to Toulouse based on descent from William IV.

References

- Meade, Marion, *Eleanor of Aquitaine*

External links

- Medieval Lands Project on William IV, Count of Toulouse (<http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/TOULOUSE.htm#GuillaumeIVdied1094>)

Footnotes

- It has been claimed that William married daughter Philippa off to the King of Aragon, Sancho Ramirez, to prevent her from causing civil war by claiming Toulouse (e.g. Meade, Marion, *Eleanor of Aquitaine*). However, two recent historians who have made a detailed study of the issue have dismissed this claim. Ruth E Harvey, in "The wives of the first troubadour Duke William IX of Aquitaine", *Journal of Medieval History*, vol 19, 1993, p 315, concludes that, contrary to prior assumptions, William IX was certainly Philippa of Toulouse's only husband. Szabolcs de Vajay, in "Ramire II le Moine, roi d'Aragon et Agnes de Poitou dans l'histoire et la légende", *Mélanges offerts à René Crozet*, 2 vol, Poitiers, 1966, vol 2, p 727-750, states that the marriage to an unnamed king of Aragon reported by a non-contemporary chronicler is imaginary, even though it has appeared broadly in modern histories, and he cites J de Salarrullana de Dios, *Documentos correspondientes al reinado de Sancho Ramirez*, Saragossa, 1907, vol I, nr 51, p 204-207 to document that his prior wife, Felicie, was clearly still married to Sancho months before his death, thus making the marriage several years earlier to Philippa completely unsupported.

William IV, Count of Toulouse

Spouse(s)	Emma of Mortain
Issue	Philippa, Countess of Toulouse William-Jordan (<i>illegitimate</i>)
Noble family	Rouergue
Father	Pons of Toulouse
Mother	Almodis de la Marche
Born	c. 1040
Died	1094 (aged 53–54)

<p>William IV, Count of Toulouse</p> <p>House of Rouergue</p> <p>Born: 1040 Died: 1094</p>		
<p>Preceded by</p> <p>Pons</p>	<p>Counts of Toulouse</p> <p>1061–1094</p>	<p>Succeeded by</p> <p>Raymond IV</p>

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