

## Ledesma



The Villa de Ledesma, located 35 km from Salamanca, was declared a Historical Site in 1975 and is considered an Asset of Cultural Interest.

Its strategic location, defended by the Tormes River on both sides, allowed it to have had human settlements since prehistoric times, as attested to by the menhir and boar found in the area.

In Roman times it received the name Bletisama after the consul Bleto, who was in charge of the city in the year 93 AD. The beautiful Mocho Bridge is preserved from this period.

The repopulation took place in 1161, when work began on the wall that surrounds the town and the fortress, a period from which the small Romanesque church of Santa Elena, located outside the walls, also dates.

In 1462, King Enrique IV Trastámara handed over the dominion of Ledesma to Don Beltrán de la Cueva, who became its first count and reformed the fortress.

The 15th century is the moment of maximum splendor of the town, and during it several of the most interesting civil buildings were built, such as the Town Hall or the Palace of Don Beltrán. The Church of Santa María la Mayor is also a jewel of Salamanican Gothic, in which its beautiful tombs stand out.

An interesting way to get to know this beautiful municipality better is to visit the old church of San Miguel, converted into the Ledesma Historical Interpretation Center, which offers extensive information about the cultural resources of this town that is well worth a visit.

### Good of Cultural Interest

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