



Oystermouth Castle

Oystermouth Castle is a grand stone castle that sits on a hill in the seaside town of **Mumbles**, near Swansea. It was first built around **1106**, during the time of the **Normans**.

The Normans built castles to show their power and to protect their land. Oystermouth Castle had **thick stone walls**, **tall towers**, and a large **wooden gate**. From the top of the castle walls, guards could watch for enemies coming by land or by sea.

In the **13th century**, the castle was made bigger and stronger. More towers were added and a **beautiful chapel** was built. The chapel still has **stained-glass windows** which tell stories through coloured glass.

Today, Oystermouth Castle is a place where many people visit. Schools often organise trips there. Children can **climb the towers**, **walk along the battlements**, and imagine what life was like in medieval times. The castle also holds events such as **plays** and **history talks** to teach people about the past.

If you visit, you will learn about the people who lived there and how they protected their castle!

Glossary

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- Normans — people from Normandy in France who invaded Britain
- Protection — keeping safe from harm
- Battlements — the top of the castle walls where guards walked
- Stained-glass windows — colourful windows that tell stories
- Chapel— a small church inside the castle
- History talks — events where experts tell stories about the past.



Questions

1. Who first built Oystermouth Castle?

👉 The... built it around...

2. How did the castle help protect the people inside?

👉 It helped by...

3. What can visitors do at the castle today?

👉 Visitors can...

4. Why do you think castles were built on hills?

👉 I think they were built on hills because...