

Beaufort Castle

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Beaufort Castle Latest News

Amid the West Asia conflict, Israel has pushed itself deeper into Lebanon recently, capturing the historic Beaufort Castle and the surrounding strategic ridge.

About Beaufort Castle

- Beaufort Castle — known locally as **Qalaat al-Shaqif** or the “**Castle of the High Rock**”, is a **medieval fortress** situated **atop a commanding hill near the city of Nabatieh** in **southern Lebanon**.
- It is located just **14.5 km from the Israeli border**.
- Originally **built by Crusaders in the 12th century**, the castle has **changed hands multiple times** throughout history, passing through **Crusader, Muslim, Mamluk, and Ottoman control**.
- It is one of the best-preserved examples of medieval castles in the Near East.
- Its impressive architecture, with a high castle and a low castle, demonstrates its **defensive role in the Middle Ages**.

- It **overlooks** vast stretches of **southern Lebanon**, the **Litani River valley**, and **parts of northern Israel**, making it a **position of considerable strategic value**.
- The castle has also been at the **centre of fighting in the past**.
 - In **1982, amid the Lebanon War**, **Israel captured** Beaufort Castle from the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) and **held it until it withdrew from Lebanon in 2000**.

Source: FP

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