



MUSEO DELLA ROCCA  
MALATESTIANA DI  
MONTEFIORE  
CONCA

## **SIGISMONDO'S TREASURE AND THE DEVIL'S TOWER**

Legends are generally rooted in reality. But what are the roots of the legend of Sigismondo's treasure at Montefiore? The treasure was long talked about after his death, and in Montefiore people continued to believe in the treasure for centuries and secretly searched hard for it, but in vain. There are no documents or written records of it, only a long series of local beliefs. Nothing has yet been found in the fortresses of Montefiore and Verucchio, the two places mentioned in 1464 as guarding Sigismondo's secret treasure. What is certain is that the treasure Sigismondo had hidden in the walls of his buildings did not consist of silver denari coins, jewellery or precious objects, but of bronze medals. Some medals were found, but only in the fortress known as the Sasso di Verucchio and unfortunately they were later stolen. Not so much as even one was found at Montefiore. From a recent written record we know that in the end the people of Montefiore had even located, or so they claimed, a precise place where the Malatesta treasure was hidden and where to look for it, in the outer parts of the fortress walls in an area known as the fratta, in a tower called, of course, the devil's treasure. And yet the treasure has never been found despite the works carried out and searches inside the tower conducted at different times. Nevertheless, for some years now, after being struck by lightning in 1952, the idea of a cache of metal valuables has helped rekindle the belief that there is a large storage room hidden there, perhaps even the treasure of the ancient lord.

**Montefiore Conca (RN) - ITALIA**

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