

Alba de Tormes



Description of Arms :

Ocho puntos de azur equipolados o siete de plata.

[Index](#)

Principal Title : Duchess de Alba de Tormes.

Creation : Spain, 1472.

Subsidiary Titles : Duchess of Berwick (1688) in England, of Liria y Jerica (1707), of Arjona (1427), of Hajar (1483), Countess-Duchess of Olivares (1539), Marquise of El Carpio (1559), of Coria (1472), of Eliche (1624), of Mota (1575), of San Leonardo (1849), of Sarria (1543), of Villanueva del Rio (1571), of Tarazona (1632), of Villanueva del Fresno (1544), of Barcarrota (1500), of Algaba (1658), of Osera (1626), of Moya (1480), of Almenara (1623), of Valdunquillo (1623), of Mirallo (1625), of Orani (1616) and of Castaneda (1634), Countess of Lemos (1456), of Lerin (1424), of Monterrey (1513), of Osorno (1445), of Miranda del Castanar (1457), of Palma del Rio (1507), of Aranda (1508), of Andrade (1543), of Ayala (1602), of Fuentes de Valdepero (1572), of Gelves (1529), of Villalba (1486), of San Esteban de Gormaz (1423), of Fuentiduena (1602), of Casarrubios del Monte (1599), of Galve (1573), of Santa Cruz de la Sierra (1635) and Ribadeo (1431), Viscountess of Calzada (1637), eighteen times Grandee of Spain.

Family Name : Fitz James Stuart y Silva.

Family History : This is one of the foremost families of Spain and the Duchess is well known as having more titles than the Queen of England. The fact that the duchess is eighteen times a Grandee, when most people are proud to be so once, must tell its own story. The story begins with don Fernando Alvarez de Toledo ; he was created duke in 1472. But it is to the great general, that the name owes its fame. Another don Fernando was Governor of Flanders from 1567-1573. He fought the Protestants and governed with an iron hand; he executed the Counts of Horn and Egmont. For this reason, he has always been detested in many non-Catholic countries, though everyone knows his name. In the XVIII Century, the title passed into the House of Silva and then, in 1802, into that of Fitz-James. This, in itself, requires some explanation. The prefix "Fitz" indicates that the holder is an illegitimate son - usually of someone of note. In this case it was James II, former King of England. He created his natural son, James Fitz-James, Duke of Berwick, in the peerage of England, a fact never mentioned in British annals. He then became Duke of Fitz-James, a French title. He then became Duke of Liria and Jérica, Spanish titles. The two sons of James Fitz-James divided the titles to become, Duke of Berwick (with the Spanish duchies) and Duke of Fitz-James. The latter died out in 1967, with the last holder, the tenth duke. The third Duke of Berwick married the daughter of the 11th Duchess of Alba and their child, Cayetana, succeeded to all the titles - giving precedence to the oldest, that of Alba. The main seat of the family is the Palace of Las Dueñas, already well established over 500 years ago.

Alba de Tormes

Garcia Alvarez de Toledo,
(1685-89),

Fernando Alvarez de Toledo (1507-1582),
(1687),

Maria-Teresa, 11th Duchess

= Manuel José de Silva, 9th comte de Galve (1677-1728)

Maria-Teresa (1718-1790), 12th Duchess

= (1738) James-Francis-Edward (1718-1785), 3rd Duke of Berwick, etc...

? (?-1802),
13th Duchess

her cousin : Carlos Miguel Fitz-James Stuart y Silva (1794-1835),
7th Duke of Berwick, 14th Duke of Alba de Tormes (1802)

Jacobo (1821-1881), 15th Duke of Alba de Tormes, 8th Duke of Berwick = (1844) Maria Francisca de Sales Palafox y Kirkpatrick de Cloburn (1825-1860), 9th Countess of Montijo, 17th Countess of Miranda and 13th Duchess of Penaranda del Duero

Carlos (1849-1901), 16th Duke of Alba, 9th Duke of Berwick
= Maria del Rosario Falcó y Osorio (1854-1904)

Jacobo (1878- 1953), 17th Duke of Alba, 10th Duke of Berwick
(1922-),

CAYETANA (1926-), 18th Duchess, 1st = (1948)

Hernando(1882-

HERNANDO

CARLOS (1949-),
(1968-)

ALFONSO (1950-),

JACOBO (1954-),

FERNANDO (1959-)

CAYETANO (1963-)

EUGENIA

FERNANDO-JUAN
(1990)

CARLOS
(1991)

LUIS
(1978-)

JACOBO
(1981-)

LUIS
(2001)

AMINA
(2001)

CAYETANA
(1999-)