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Amadeus of Bonnevaux

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Amadeus of Bonnevaux († 14 Jan 1150?)

1. Name variants: A. of Clermont, A. of Hauterives, A. l'Ancien
2. Places: Hauterives, Cluny, Bonnevaux, Dauphiné
3. Biography: A., who as Lord of Hauterives in the Dauphiné had family connections with the counts of Albon, the counts of Maurienne-Savoy, and even the Hohenstaufen, entered the monastery of Bonnevaux around 1119. He did so with 16 *milites* and his son of the same name, who was later to become Bishop of Lausanne. As A. was unimpressed by the education offered to his son in Bonnevaux, he moved with him to Cluny, from where, however, A. returned to Bonnevaux after a certain time. There he was involved in the founding of the filiations Mazan, Montpeyroux, Tamié and Léoncel. Although A. always remained a simple monk, he acted as a mediator between Cistercians and nobility because of his aristocratic background. A letter from Bernard of Clairvaux around 1140 shows that A. was to negotiate with King Roger II of Sicily about the settlement of Cistercians there. A. died in Bonnevaux and was buried in the cemetery. Quite soon after his death, A. was venerated as a *beatus* in Bonnevaux. Around 1160, an unnamed monk from Bonnevaux wrote a vita of A. at the request of Burnon of Voiron, prior of Bonnevaux.
4. Cultus:
 - a. Relics: Amadeus' grave still exists at the apse in the ruins of the Bonnevaux monastery church.
 - b. Liturgical commemoration: 14 Jan (ZIMMERMANN, Kalendarium Benedictinum 1, 85)
 - c. Patronage: –
 - d. Attributes: –
5. Fontes: Vita venerabilis Amedaei Altae Ripa († c. 1150). Auctore monacho quodam Bonaevallensi synchroño et oculato, ed. M.-A. DIMIER, in: Studia monastica 5 (1963), 265–304 (French translation: Un grand seigneur dauphinois, humble moine cistercien. La vie du Vénérable Amédée d'Hautcrive, moine de Bonnevaux, par un moine de Bonnevaux, témoin oculaire, ed. M.-A. DIMIER, Bourgoin-Jallieu, 1968); Epp. S. Bernardi, Sancti Bernardi Opera, eds. J. LECLERCQ / H. ROCHAIS / C. H. TALBOT 7–8, Rome, 1974–1977, 447.
6. Literature: DHGE 2, 1147; A. ZIMMERMANN, Kalendarium Benedictinum 1, Metten, 1933, 85; M.-A. DIMIER, Le père de S. Amédée de Lausanne, Amédée l'Ancien, in: Collectanea cisterciensia 21 (1959), 6–10.
7. Illustrations: –

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