

Cava de' Tirreni (Italy)

Istituto Tecnologico "*Luigi Vanvitelli*"  
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This is our town Cava de' Tirreni near Salerno, in the South of Italy.



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# CAMPANIA REGION

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A beautiful historical view of Cava de' Tirreni.







The Town Hall of Cava de' Tirreni.





## LOCATION



The town is situated in a valley surrounded by green hills and by the Lattari mountains such as Monte Castello, Monte S. Liberatore, S. Martino, Monte Finestra, Monte S. Angelo, Monte Avvocata and so on, which separate the town from the sea villages of the Amalfi Coast.



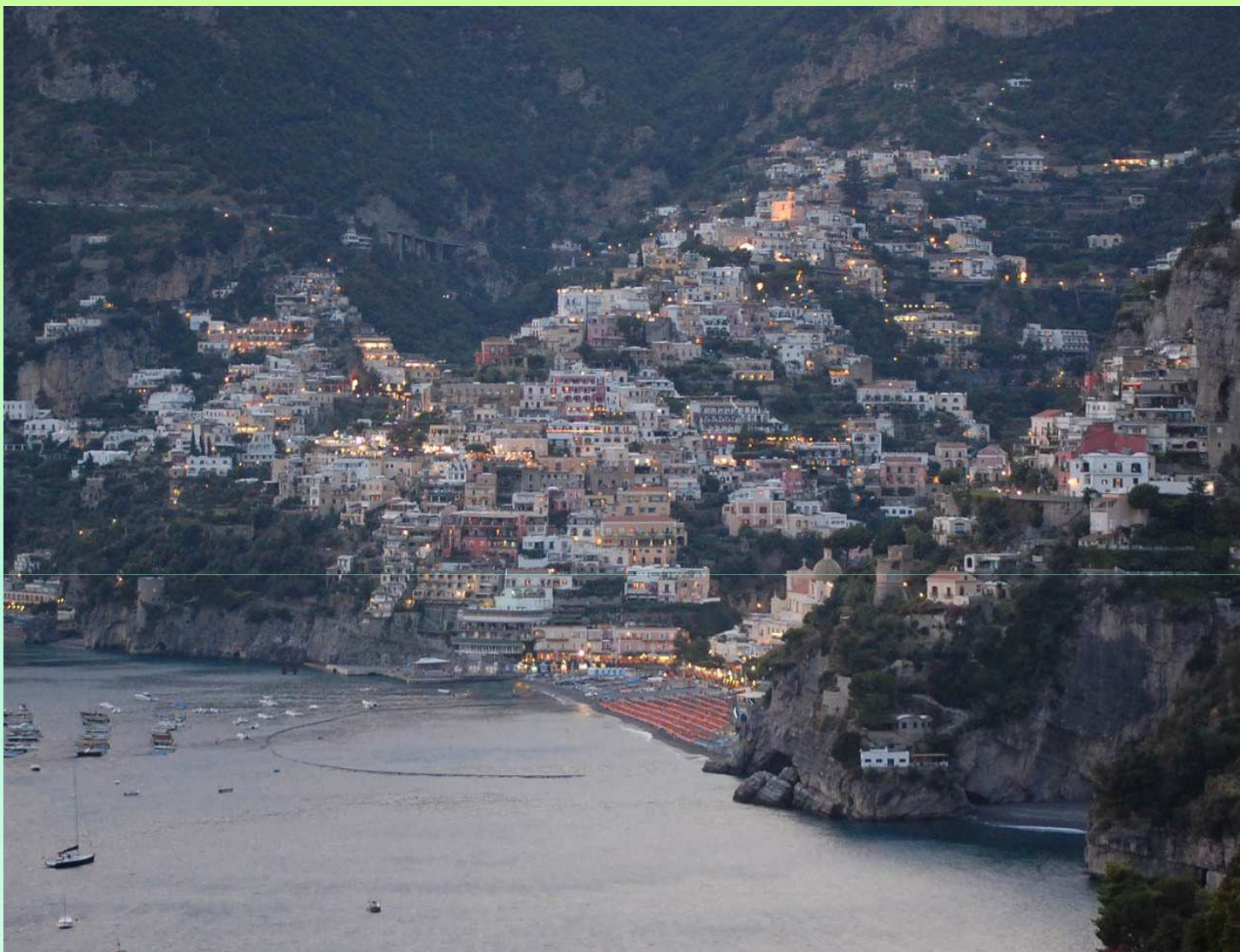


# SALERNO

Salerno , the capital of the province is located at only 5 km. from Cava de' Tirreni , on the Gulf of Salerno on the Tyrrhenian Sea.. It is the main town close to the Costiera Amalfitana and is mostly known for its Schola Medica Salernitana (the first University of Medicine in the world).







# Positano

## A lovely view of the Amalfitan Coast

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# A brief historical and cultural outline of Cava

Cava de' Tirreni named "Little Switzerland" for its mountains, its abundance of water and its landscape is an ancient historical town with about 60,000 inhabitants living in the city centre and in twenty surrounding villages.

The first inhabitants were the Tyrrhenians, a nomadic Etruscan tribe, whose presence can be documented from archaeological finds preserved in the Benedictine Abbey Museum and the Municipal Museum.





In Roman times Cava was a famous holiday resort for rich Romans. Remains of temples and Roman villas, were found in the ancient villages of Vetranto and San Cesareo.

It was inhabited by the Longobards, proved by the presence of ancient Towers built for the Game of the Pigeons (9th to 11th centuries).

The history of the town is related with the Benedictine Abbey in Badia di Cava, built in the XI Century.







The name Cava means “cave” and the most famous cave was the “Arsicia” which was the place where the Benedictine Abbey was founded.





# The Benedictine Abbey

At the beginning of the XI century a little group of monks, decided to settle here and in this place the Benedictine Abbey of the Holy Trinity was built.

It became one of the most religious and cultural centre in Italy.



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# The Monastery of the Abbey

In the monastery there are:

- the Longobard cemetery;
- the library which preserves 50.000 volumes with incunabula;
- the archives with 15.000 parchments dated back to VIII Century;
- the Codex Diplomaticus Cavensis, a Visigoth Bible of IX Century, the Lex Longobardorum of 1000.







A photo of the Benedictine Abbey







The Church yard







# The Benedictine Museum of Badia

It preserves marbles carved from II to XVI Century, for example some sculptural fragments by Tino da Camaino; paintings by Luca Giordano, Francesco De Mura, Andrea da Salerno e Giovan Francesco Penni; Gothic jewelleries and objects of art: potteries and objects of ivory.





## The Cloister of the Monastery

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Inside the Abbey: the Pulpit



# Some Churches in Cava



St. Francesco Church completely rebuilt by donations  
after the terrible earthquake of the year 1980.





# The Cathedral



Its construction started in 1517 with a Papal bull. It was finished in 1571 and consecrated in 1662. Modified various times, it was strongly damaged by the earthquake in the year 1980. Today it has been completely restored and it has reached its original splendour....



# The City Centre:

## The Borgo Scacciaventi, an ancient lane.....

During the Renaissance, the “Borgo Scacciaventi”, represented the religious, administrative and commercial heart of the town.

Nowadays it is the centre of trade and handicraft during the day and of pubs, American bars and restaurants at night.



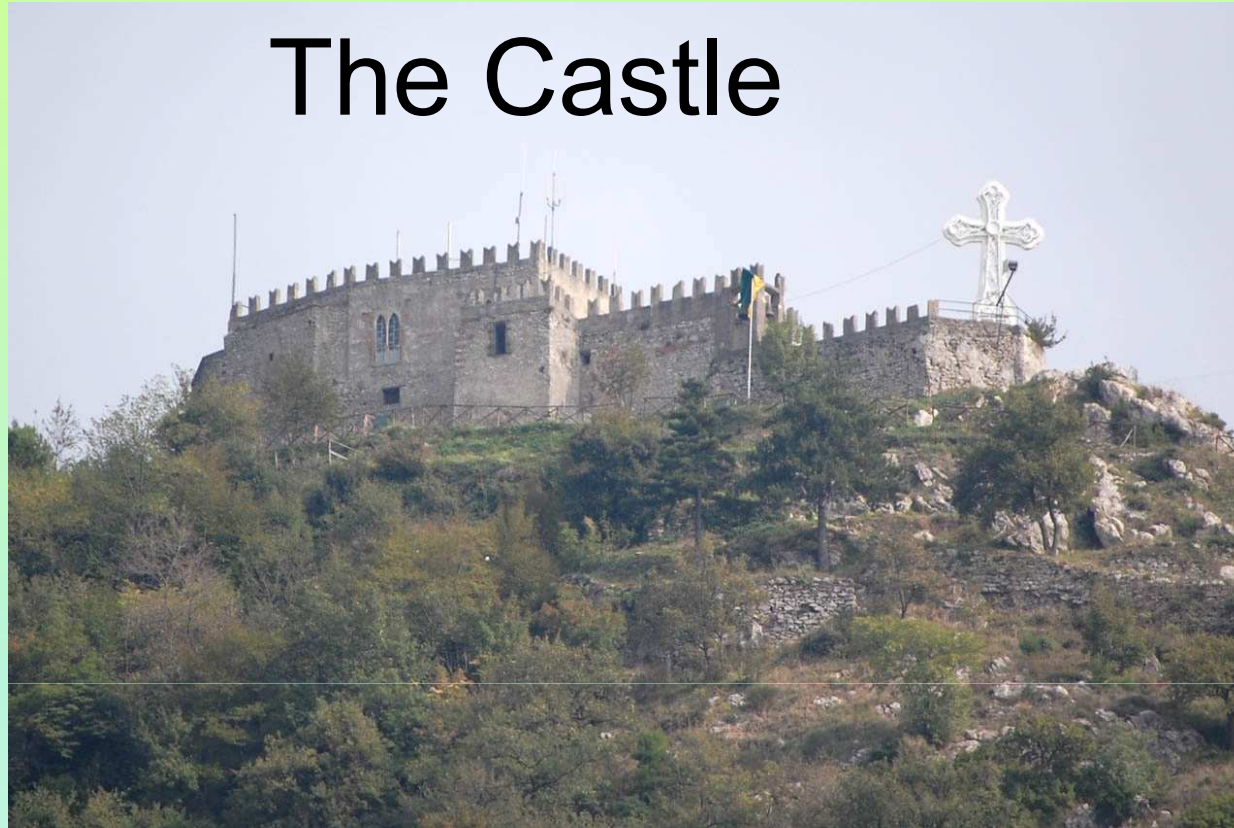


# The City Park

The beautiful City Park , once called "the Grove“, was inaugurated in 1929.  
It is full of secular trees, a rich vegetation and a lot of flowers.



# The Castle



The Castle is situated on a hill in the centre of the valley and dominates the town....It was built in the VIII century and donated by the Longobard Duke Ruggiero at the end of XI Century to the town of Cava. Its name is "S. Adiutore" because, according to a legend dated back to V Century, a Saint Bishop called Adiutore, escaped from Africa and took cover in a cell on this hill. The Castle was destroyed in 1943 and was re-built in 1970.





# Cava : City of Folklore”

On 26° June 2011 Cava received the prestigious title  
of city of Folklore  
by the Italian Federation of Popular Traditions for its  
numerous folkloristic events and for the high number  
of participants in parades.



# Important events in Cava: The Montecastello Ceremony

In 1656 among many calamities, there was a plague in Italy. It was brought to Naples by Spanish soldiers and it was diffused in Cava de' Tirreni where the disease caused many victims.

According to the tradition, it was thanks to a pilgrimage by people to worship the Blessed Sacrament into the Chapel of S. Adiutore Castle, that the plague was defeated....







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For this reason every year in the 8° of Corpus Domini the Montecastello Ceremony is celebrated on the Thursday or the Sunday following the Holy Trinity. Since the next year, in 1657, the procession of Corpus Domini became as a penitence going as far as the top of the Castle.

The Ceremony was also enriched by the presence of Cavesi with their special guns called “pistoni”.

At the end of this beautiful show it is possible to see illuminations, fireworks and the phantasmagorical fires of the fortress.





## Fireworks from Montecastello

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# The Competition of the Trombonists

Every year in the first week of July, at the stadium “Simonetta Lamberti” in Cava the “Competition of the Trombonists” takes place.

It is a deeply felt folk show which reminds the battle of Sarno, when in 1460 five hundred Cavesi soldiers helped King Ferdinand I of Aragon, called Ferrante, who was going to be defeated by the Angevin King John....



.....After that, King Ferdinand sent a “White Parchment”, with his signature to thank the Cavesi for their loyalty.

On the White Parchment ,Cavesi could have written and asked everything to the King but they did not write anything and the Parchment is still white and untouched in the Town Hall.



The parade of trombonist groups belonging to different hamlets, during the competition....







..... During this historical evocation, the eight groups of trombonists with thousands of participants in period costumes, compete one group at time, in resounding battery gun fires....





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Today the “White Parchment”, represents the pride of Cavesi and the ambitious award for the “Competition of Trombonists”.

The awards “Very Loyal Town” and the legendary “White Parchment” are given to the winner of the competition....

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.....The “Sbandieratori” waving flags during the competition of Trombonists





The End

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