

TUFILLO

Tufillo is a small village, located at an altitude of 557 m. The old medieval part goes from the main church of Santa Giusta to the Church of San Vito. The square, Piazza Fuori Porta, is considered the heart of the town and the centre of social life by all the local residents. The Palace of the Marquis of Bassano, next to the Church of Santa Giusta is now the headquarters of the municipal offices. Tufillo is a nice and quiet town, immersed in a peaceful and friendly atmosphere.

HISTORY

The town of Tufillo has a very complex history. Its prehistoric origins are confirmed by the discovery of many handmade artefacts and remains of buildings in Monte Farano, which is the old site where Tufillo was built. There was there a sacred zone dedicated to pagan worship. The most important object found in that area is "The Key of the goddess Herentas", or Venus, the goddess of beauty and love. In the Archaeological Museum it is possible to see a copy of the Key and all the objects found in the area of Tufillo.

According to the legend, the inhabitants of Tufillo moved from Monte Farano to a lower hill after a terrible invasion of ants in Roman times. The town was then developed between the XII and XIII centuries to the present day.

THE CHURCH OF SANTA GIUSTA

Situated in the middle of the town it is the main Church of Tufillo. It was built in the 16th century and its splendid Romanesque portal is considered a must see monument. In the Church there is a wooden altar dedicated to Sant Antonio Abate which dates back to the 18th century, and also many ancient frescoes.

THE CHURCH OF SAN VITO

The town's patron saint is San Vito and his feast day is celebrated on the 15th of June. The church is situated in the lower part of the village and it is a very important place of faith for all the Tuffillesi.

THE MAIN FOUNTAIN

Situated in Fontana Grande street, it is a beautiful old fountain built in the 1761. It was used by the locals before and during the WW2 to get fresh water for cooking, washing clothes and watering animals.

TRADITIONS

Tufillo is rich in old traditions with pagan origins mixed with catholic beliefs.

The San Giuseppe festival on the 19th of March arose to allow the poorest families in the town to get a piece of fresh white bread at least for one day. Every year, on that morning, the most ancient families of Tufillo bake big quantity of white bread and give a piece of it to all the inhabitants.

THE FARCHIA

On Christmas Eve, the main Piazza, just in front of the Church, is filled with an amount of wood which is burned to light the most important night in the year. "La Farchia" consists of a long big bundle of wood, which is around 20 meters long, and built by all the men of the village. Around 10pm on Christmas Eve, the men leave from the Church of San Vito and transport the heavy Farchia to the main Church of Santa Giusta, singing and celebrating the success of arriving in time for mass.

TRADITIONAL FOOD

The most known traditional food of Tuffillo is the PIZZ'A FIGLITT, a special pizza bread seasoned with sweet red paprika and sometimes filled with pork crackling.

An other traditional dish are THE CAVATELLI, and handmade pasta seasoned with a fresh tomato and sausage sauce. It is also famous for the Cavatelli Festival, perhaps one of the most important events of Tuffillo, which takes place on the 11th of August.

LU CANGARON is a kind of cheese salami. A pork casing is filled with a mixture of cheese eggs almonds livers and raisins; then it is boiled and sliced. It is the traditional "mardi gras" dish.