

NEWS FOR TOURISTS ON HOLIDAY IN THE VIBONESI VILLAGES

## Mileto, the town of Roger the Norman and Natuzza Evolo

by Pino Cinquegrana

The great art historian Bernard Berenson speaking about Mileto said "I remember that for some years it was as important politically as London or Paris. During the past, Mileto was promoted to the rank of capital of Calabria and seen by the Norman Count Roger who built the magnificent Abbazia della Trinità between 1063 and 1068.

Traces of the ancient Mileto clarify its origins traditionally linked to the Milesian of Asia driven out by Dario.

Here was coined the "Follaro" the coin used during the Norman period. It was destroyed by the terrible earthquake in 1783, and rebuilt further to west.

Of great interest is the Cathedral dedicated to St Nicholas of Bari, rebuilt after the earthquake of the 1908 in an imitation of Lombard Romanesque style. It houses



In the picture the Cathedral of Mileto

interesting works of art, including a Renaissance marble statue of St. Fortunato the patron of the town, and some tomb stones one of which so-called Maestro di Mileto (XIV century) whose sculptured works and his magic history was published by the local Proloco (local tourist office).

Of cultural interest the Archeological museum opened from Monday to Saturday, the Diocesan Museum of Sacred

Art.

Of great interest the church of St Rocco. Here lives the master potter Nicola Bertuccio the last master potter who works the red clay of Mileto very good for working jugs.

From here few kilometers is Paravati the small village where lives the mystical Natuzza Evolo.