

Our small village: Aspra

Prepared by Class 1B

Aspra is a beautiful seaside village situated at the eastern end of the Gulf of Palermo, and has its own personal mountain, a coastal rock that seen from the coast looks like a "mountain" for its impressive walls. The Mountain of Aspra, in fact, dominate the country, with the peaks of Mount Irice, Cozzo San Pietro and Cozzo Tondo till a fascinating promontory whose name is Capo Mongerbino. To the west the territory of Aspra is limited by the river Eleuterio. The name Aspra comes from the Arabic language and means "rock". For many years, in fact, this village was famous for the caves of "*tufo*", a light stone, easy to work. With this stone were built many monuments and churches in Palermo and in Bagheria.

The territory of Aspra was part of the ancient estate belonging to the **Marquis of St. Isidore**; of his great estate only a few things remain today: a villa that is now a museum, the local Town Hall and the church which was donated to citizenship in 1927. In this church, the only in the country, you can admire the frescoes of the famous painter **Renato Guttuso**.

During the summer there are many visitors who come to our country to enjoy the sunset and the excellent ice cream.

Aspra was also the favourite place of the poet **Ignazio Buttitta** and the place where **Francesco Tempra**, an aviation hero, grew up.

Today the most important economic resource of the country is the fish industry, especially anchovies in salt and oil, exported in many parts of the world.

SOME PHOTOS OF ASPRA AND THE SEAFRONT



The Town Hall and the church



The frescoes inside the church



Villa Sant'Isidoro