

Heracles – The man who wanted to be God.

For you who love art and culture and is particularly keen on relaxing during your holidays, by discovering the most characteristic places of the Capital, **Grand Hotel Plaza in Rome** has reserved for you some packages and exclusive tours, guided by **professional historians**, who will make you live the city all round.

For example, you can choose a visit to the imposing **Foro Boario**, situated only 3.8 Km from **Grand Hotel Plaza**. It was the site of the ancient *emporion*, where you can admire the ruins of Hercules' **Ara Maxima** inside **Santa Maria in Cosmedin Church**, as well as Hercules Olivario temple and the three republican temples "enclosed" in the church of San Nicola in Carcere.

Eternity is a myth: From ancient times to nowadays.

Heracles embodies the myth of the man wanting to become God.

Son to the mortal Alcmena and Zeus, disguised as Amphytryon, the woman's husband, Heracles caused Hera's rage for the adultery of the gods' father. In the useless attempt of calming the rage and the hatred of the goddess, the name of the hero will be modified from Alcide into Heracle, meaning "**Era's Glory**".

The goddess will submit him to numerous tests that Heracles, with superhuman strength and tenacity, will be able to overcome, thus reaching a century-old fame.

He will be the only one capable to "defeat" death: moved by Admeto's story, his guest, he will descend the underworld and will bring Alcesti – the woman who gave her life to save her husband's one - back to life. He will climb Olympus, becoming immortal.

His myth, one of the most represented in the ancient times, recalls the various sides of a society in which, through individual deeds, one could gain the eternity and defeat the earthly oblivion.

By choosing this tour, you will have the possibility to visit the Foro Boario area, between the Campidoglio and the Tiberina Island, the place of the **emporion**, ancient market, meeting point for the populations coming from the sea, from the Via Salaria and from the Etruria region.

The Medieval Church of **San Nicola in Carcere** is a "cannot-be-missed" stop as the tour unfolds. It encloses the ruins of the three republican temples of the Foro Olitorio, the ancient herbs market by the Tevere river, which were dedicated to **Giano**, ancient deity of passages, **Iuno Sospita**, who protected births and **Spes**, the Hope.

The three temples, were erected during the first war against Cartagine, to guarantee the safety of Rome and were destroyed during the I century b.C in order to make place to the Marcello theater. They were rebuilt southwards, by Augustus, a man who, as Heracles, was able to soar to deity, through his feats and the exceptional political abilities.

This exclusive tour is dedicated to you, passionate lover of art and history. The tour will make you revive the atmospheres of the ancient Rome in all its luxury and splendour. An opportunity that cannot be missed!

Further information:

- **Entrance to Santa Maria in Cosmedin Church**– free
Opening Hours: every day from h.9.00 to h.18.00 (or h.19.00 according to the season)
- **Entrance to San Nicola in Carcere Church** - free

Opening Hours: every day from h.10.00 to h.17.00

- **Mass hours**

Festives: h.12.00

Weekday: h.7.30 – h.8.00 – h.17.00

Once again, our team at **Grand Hotel Plaza** in Rome is ready to satisfy every single desire you might have. Grand Hotel Plaza offers you exclusive packages in the name of relax and culture. Book your package now or ask for more information to our staff. We will be delighted to find the right solution for you live the holiday of your dreams.