



On the occasion of the **"Costi & Business"**, **ABI is pleased to invite you to a Guided Tour** of the **Capitoline Museums**, the most ancient public museum in the world.

The Capitoline Museums (Musei Capitolini) – History

The first art collection of the Capitoline Museums owes its existence to the donation, made by Pope Sixtus IV, of a number of ancient bronze statues, arranged on the building facade and displayed in the courtyard of **Palazzo dei Conservatori**. The original collection was then enriched with archaeological finds discovered in the urban area, closely related to the history of ancient Rome. In the mid-500s, Pope Pius V decided to free the Vatican from "pagan" images and enlarged the Capitoline collection with a significant number of sculptures. Only in 1654, after **Palazzo Nuovo** was built, did it become possible to display the great number of works collected more attractively, but **the Museum was open to the public only in 1734**.

During the 800s and 900s, the museums' collections were significantly enlarged: new exhibition spaces were organized at Palazzo dei Conservatori (the **"Octagonal Hall"** - *"Sala Ottagona"*-, **the New Wing** - *Braccio Nuovo* – and the **Lapidary Gallery** - *Galleria Lapidaria*) and the *Magazzino Archeologico Comunale* was built on the Celio hill. More recently, with the **"Grande Campidoglio"** project, a longer and more complex museum tour has been arranged, with the opening of the **Tabularium**, the restructuring of **Palazzo Caffarelli** and the acquisition of **Palazzo Clementino**.





Further renovation work concerns the transformation of the **Giardino Romano** (Roman Garden) into a large glass covered hall and the reorganization of the **Castellani Collection**, the **halls of the Roman Horti** and the section dedicated to the **Temple of Capitoline Jupiter**.

On July 2009, the **Sala del Medioevo** has been inaugurated, on the first floor of Palazzo dei Conservatori, in the sixteenth century rooms of the ancient Capitoline Archive.

The protagonist of the Sala del Medioevo is the **statue of Charles I of Anjou**, King of Sicily and Senator of Rome, attributed to the Tuscan **sculptor and architect Arnolfo Di Cambio**. The statue, that has been the subject of a major renovation in 1981, was completed in 2005.

Thousands of tourists visit the Capitoline Museums every year, thanks to their beauty, their richness, their poetical order, their exclusiveness. This is the reason why **Costi e Business 2009** gives you the opportunity to visit and appreciate them.

October Thursday 29th, 5.30 p.m.

Entrance of the **Capitoline Museums**,
Piazza del Campidoglio, 1

