Octavian Augustus vowed to build a temple honoring Mars, the Roman God of War, during the battle of Philippi in 42 BC. After winning this battle he had avenged the assassination of his adoptive father, Julius Caesar, with the help of Mark Antony and Lepidus.

His principatus started in 27 BC, when he became Augustus and planned to build a new forum with the temple dedicated to Mars Ultor.

The Forum of Augustus was built to both house a temple honouring Mars and Venus, and to provide another space for legal proceedings. Wax tablets found in Pompeii and Ercolano have recently enabled archaeologists to discover that this Forum was a place hosting trials and probably also storing tablets and scrolls, as legal records.

Experience the Forum Augusti in its former glory through virtual reality, as you discover the story of Augustus and the function of the Forum in the daily lives of Roman citizens.