



### **THE HALL OF THE TAPESTRIES**

This room was decorated by Ignazio Perricci, from Apulia, in 1877. He designed the sumptuous gilded wood decorations and mirrors framing the four magnificent 18th Century tapestries. The tapestries, taken from designs by the famous French painter François Boucher, depict elegant mythological scenes dedicated to the Loves of the Gods and to the Tales of Cupid and Psyche.

The vaulted ceiling was also painted in 1877 by Cesare Maccari, who drew inspiration from Boucher's sensual style and the light-hearted themes of the tapestries. The Sienna-born painter depicted Love Crowning the Three Graces against a vast azure sky.

The late 19th Century furniture was created specifically for this hall and is perfectly in harmony with the Rococo style of the room. A careful examination of the backrest at the centre of the sofa reveals the monogram VE, pertaining to King Victor Emmanuel II.

The only element that clashes with the characteristics of the hall are the frescoes around the four windows, which were painted in 1610 with grotesques and the enterprises of Pope Paul V. At the centre of the grotesques is the repeated image of a mirror reflecting a sunbeam in a forest, symbolizing the role of the pontiff, called upon to reflect divine grace throughout the world.