

THE BENSON

PORTLAND

CURIO COLLECTION BY HILTON



HISTORIC STAIRWELL
PENTHOUSE TO MEZZANINE LEVEL

The Historic Stairwell is a twelve story original marble stairwell that features over 160 photos and stories of Portland, some dating back to 1847, and its many historic landmark buildings, including the venerable Benson Hotel and its transformation over 100 years.



AN AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY

Simon Benson, successful businessman and philanthropist, spent a decade of public service directed at the State of Oregon and the City of Portland, many contributions of which are highlighted in the stairwell.

PORTLAND THEN & NOW

See the change in Portland iconic landmarks, its waterfront and skyline, and how the evolution of transportation has changed the city's landscape.

THE CELEBRATORY STREET

Once called "the brightest street in the world", Broadway was a busy thoroughfare and bustling shopping area hosting several movie theaters and vaudeville playhouses.

PORTLAND'S OFFICIAL FESTIVAL

A pinnacle of Portland's historical culture; The Rose Festival. We celebrate the impact this event has had on this city for more than a century, with photos dating back to 1907.

HOTEL OF THE STARS

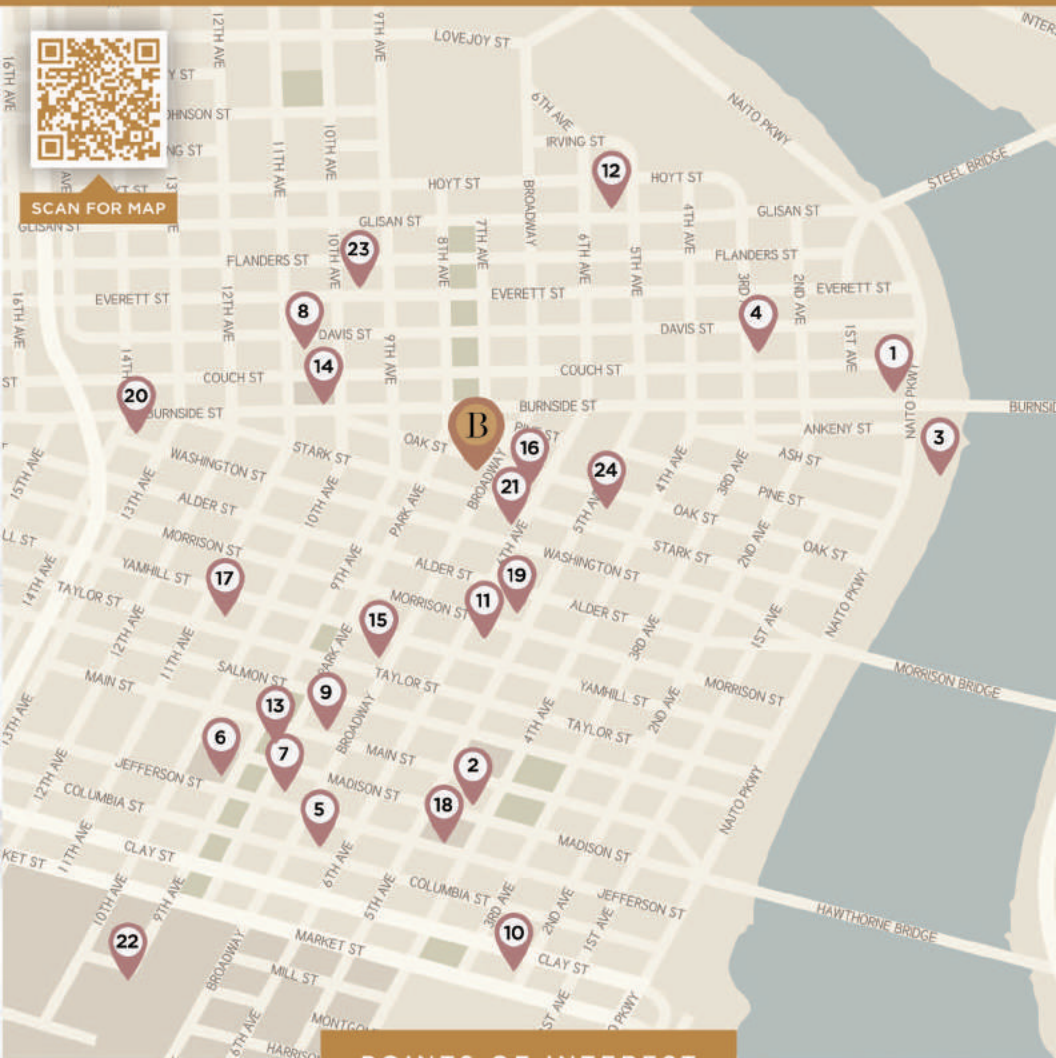
See rare photos and read stories about the film stars, musicians, athletes, and dignitaries who have stayed and marveled at the timeless beauty of Portland's landmark hotel.

RESIDENCE OF THE PRESIDENTS

Having hosted nearly every U.S. President since William H. Taft, The Benson has earned this distinction. Tour the gallery of every Commander in Chief that has stayed at The Benson.

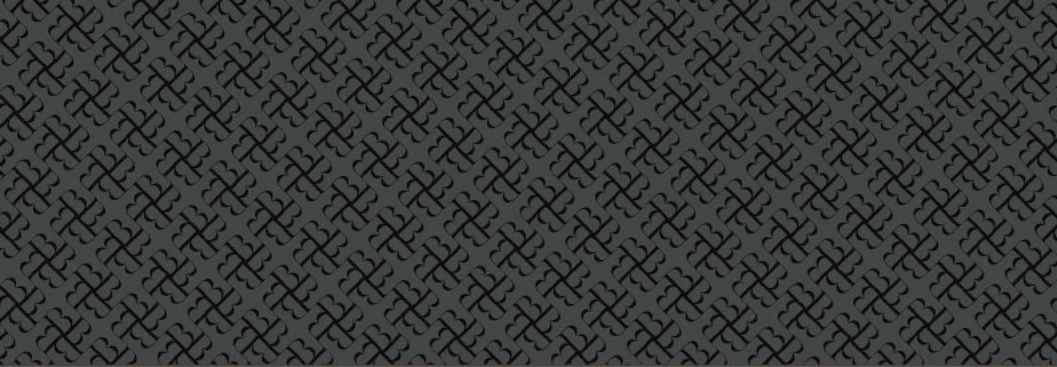


SCAN FOR MAP



POINTS OF INTEREST

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. WHITE STAG SIGN | 9. ARLENE SCHNITZER | 17. CENTRAL LIBRARY |
| 2. PORTLANDIA STATUE | 10. KELLER AUDITORIUM | 18. PORTLAND CITY HALL |
| 3. PORTLAND WATERFRONT | 11. PIONEER COURTHOUSE | 19. MEIER & FRANK BUILDING |
| 4. SHANGHAI TUNNELS | 12. UNION STATION | 20. CRYSTAL BALLROOM |
| 5. LADD CARRIAGE HOUSE | 13. FIRST CONGREGATIONAL | 21. WELLS FARGO BUILDING |
| 6. PORTLAND ART MUSEUM | 14. POWELL'S BOOKS | 22. SIMON BENSON HOUSE |
| 7. OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY | 15. JACKSON TOWER | 23. LOVEJOY COLUMNS |
| 8. THE ARMORY | 16. U.S. NATL BANK BUILDING | 24. FOOD CARTS |



*We welcome you to visit the
Historic Stairwell, and to learn
more about the storied history of
our hotel, the city of Portland,
and its many iconic treasures!*

A special acknowledgement to the following individuals for their involvement and dedication to The Benson Historic Stairwell:

JILL HODGE *Custom Frame Design*
DAVID STEVENS *Stevens Integrated Solutions*
THOMAS ROBINSON *Local Historian*
ALEX BLENDL *Local Historian*
CAROLINE HART *Freelance Writer & Artist*
and the
OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

B

