The hotel originally opened in February 1907 as the Hotel Wentworth, partially completed with a temporary roof above the fourth floor. Heavy rains fell during the hotel’s first season, driving guests to alternate resort areas. Rebuilding San Francisco after its devastating earthquake and fires drained construction workers from Southern California, delaying the property’s completion. Financial problems and a disappointing first season forced the Hotel Wentworth to close its doors indefinitely.

Railroad tycoon and art collector Henry Huntington purchased the Hotel Wentworth in 1911, renaming it the Huntington Hotel. Huntington hired prominent Los Angeles architect Myron Hunt to redesign the main building and grounds. It reopened in 1914, transformed into a beautiful winter resort. The 1920s were a prosperous time for the hotel, as Midwestern and Eastern entrepreneurs discovered California’s warm winter climate. Celebrated writers, educators, religious and political leaders, royalty and sports personalities joined businessmen in their discovery of the enchanting resort.

The hotel’s reputation for fine service began with long-time general manager and later hotel owner Stephen W. Royce. His success was due to his personal acquaintance with each winter guest and special attention to their needs. Formal dinners were held each evening with dancing in the elegant Georgian Ballroom. By 1926, the hotel’s success prompted Royce to open the property year-round. At this time, California’s first Olympic-sized swimming pool was added as a special attraction for summer guests. The “golden years” ended with the stock market crash and the Great Depression of the late 1920s and early 1930s. However, by the end of the 1930s, the hotel was back on solid ground. When World War II began, the hotel was rented to the Army for $3,000 a month. Following the war, the Hotel’s fortune turned upwards once again.

In 1954, Stephen Royce sold the hotel to the Sheraton Corporation, remaining as General Manager until his retirement in 1969. The hotel continued operating until 1985 when it was forced to close because of its inability to meet earthquake structural standards. After a two and a half year major renovation, the hotel reopened in March 1991 as The Ritz-Carlton, Huntington Hotel. The Ritz-Carlton Company managed the property until January 2008, when Langham Hospitality Group purchased the property and it became The Langham Huntington, Pasadena. Since acquiring the property, Langham has invested millions into renovations and improvements including The Royce, The Tap Room, The Huntington Spa and the cottages. The Hotel is also globally certified for its commitment and dedication to sustainability.

In 2014, The Langham Huntington, Pasadena celebrates 100 years of enchanting hospitality as The Huntington Hotel.
HISTORICAL PROPERTY TOUR OF
THE LANGHAM
HUNTINGTON PASADENA, LOS ANGELES

1. HOTEL LOBBY
The hotel’s Lobby was redesigned in 1911 by architect Myron Hunt. A portrait of Henry Huntington hangs adjacent to the reservation desk.

2. COURTYARD
One of the three gardens on property and home to an antique railroad bell from the days of Henry Huntington. A special guest is selected to ring this bell at 7:05 p.m. each evening to mark the change of the day. The courtyard is also home to a family of ducks who visit each spring and was the backdrop for Desperate Housewives’ Marcia Cross’ wedding in 2006.

3. FLAVOURS OF LANGHAM
An addition to the property in 2012, Flavours of Langham is a luxury gift boutique designed to captivate the senses. The boutique offers the finest gifts, jewelry, home decor, children’s accessories and fashion apparel, including a legendary line of Langham-branded items.

4. GEORGIAN BALLROOM
An original hotel ballroom and music room dating back to 1905. In the 1940’s, a false plaster ceiling was put up to darken the room, only to be discovered by a construction worker in 1989. His hammer accidentally plunged through the wall into a hollow space, revealing portions of gold, green and lavender stained glass reflected in the light. Ten beautiful stained glass windows, original to 1899, were discovered and have been preserved to this day.

5. TAP ROOM
The name of the original hotel bar dating back to before the Prohibition Era. The Tap Room is an upscale bar and lounge serving fresh, seasonal cocktails, premium beers on tap, a unique wine selection and delectable bar bites. It features live music Thursday–Saturday evenings.

6. HORSESHOE GARDEN
Constructed between 1912–1914 by Landscape Architect William Hertrich, who also designed the gardens at the nearby Huntington Library. It is a popular spot for intimate wedding ceremonies.

7. LOBBY LOUNGE
The lobby lounge is the delightful room for afternoon tea, which is served daily. Called “High Tea at The Langham,” afternoon tea is an important tradition to the Langham Hospitality Group. As The Langham, London, was the first luxury hotel in Europe to serve afternoon tea in 1865, the tradition continues with each Langham Hotel. The Lobby Lounge is the delightful room for afternoon tea, which is served daily. Called “Tiffin at The Langham,” afternoon tea is an important tradition to the Langham Hospitality Group. As The Langham, London, was the first luxury hotel in Europe to serve afternoon tea in 1865, the tradition continues with each Langham Hotel.

8. THE ROYCE WOOD-FIRED STEAKHOUSE
Named after long-time hotel owner and General Manager Stephen W. Royce, the restaurant was renovated in 2010 and is recognized as one of the top restaurants in Los Angeles. The Royce | Wood-Fired Steakhouse has been the backbone for numerous television interviews, including E! News, Good Day LA and Lost Call with Carson Daly.

9. VIENNESS BALLOON
Originally the Green and Gold Dining Room, the name was changed after Stephen Royce acquired lovely Viennese chandeliers after the Great Depression. The set of crystal chandeliers were purchased from the same atelier that had created similar chandeliers for the palace of Ludwig II, the “Mad King of Bavaria.” Deeming it inappropriate to hang such lavish crystal during the depression period, Mr. Royce kept the chandeliers boxed away for several years. Clint Eastwood’s flags of our fathers was filmed in this room (2006) and it was also the reception site for The Bachelorette: Ashley & J.P.’s Wedding (2012).

10. PICTURE BRIDGE
Originally constructed between 1911–1914 as a redwood footbridge by architect Myron Hunt. In 1998, Stephen Royce hired local painter Frank Moore to paint scenes of California to be displayed on the bridge’s gables. He was paid $10 per painting. Currently, the panels have been removed and safely stored to prevent further weathering. The reinstallation of enhanced panels is being planned, while a full restoration project for the panels is in development.

11. POOL
The pool was built in 1926, the first year that the hotel was open year-round for guests. It was the first Olympic-sized swimming pool in California and at one time spanned beneath The Picture Bridge. The pool has since been shutting down, but it served as a destination for entertainment over the decades, including fashion shows and water sports. It has also been the site of various Hollywood film (including Clancy’s, The Parent Trap (1998), Disney’s Beverly Hills, Clintonus 3 (2011) and Saving Mr. Banks (2012)).

12. JAPANESE GARDEN
Consisted between 1911–1914 by Landscape Architect William Hertrich, who also designed the gardens at the nearby Huntington Library. It is a popular spot for intimate wedding ceremonies.

13. LANAIBUILDING
Built in 1967 when the hotel was The Huntington Sheraton, the Lanai Building offers guestrooms with balconies or patios facing the swimming pool. These rooms are particularly popular among families during the summer.

14. HUNTINGTON BALLROOM
The grand Huntington Ballroom was an addition to the hotel in the late 1980’s, when the main building was closed for renovation to meet Earthquake codes. The ballroom has hosted galas for 100 years. It was the stunning backdrop for ABC’s The Bachelorette: Ashley & J.P.’s Wedding (2012).

15. SPA /CARRIAGE HOUSE
Originally designed to park horse-drawn carriages, it was converted into The Huntington Spa in the 1980’s and is regularly listed among the top hotel spas in the United States. The spa also features Chuan Body + Soul, which offers treatments based upon Traditional Chinese Medicine.