

Disney's Grand Californian Hotel

The 750-room Grand Californian Hotel celebrates California's turn-of-the-century Romantic Arts and Crafts Movement. The design fosters within the resort visitor a sense of awe at the beauty and excitement of the native California architecture, the classic examples of which embody the 'spirit of connection' (indoor and outdoor, public and private, body and spirit).

The challenge was to apply the smaller and more intimate scale of this movement to the design of an all-sided public edifice without a 'back side' to the hotel, the potential conflict with the resort's history-based ambiance, and to build around an existing and unmovable monorail track.

The design solution is a tranquil, tree-filled courtyard allowing the signature Disney transportation system to glide between Disneyland's Tomorrowland and the western end of Downtown Disney. The proportion, sequence, detail, and connectivity of the Grand Californian's structural journey is consistent in every manner with the principles utilized by Arts and Crafts-era architects.



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location: Disneyland (Anaheim), California
total square feet: 850,000 sq ft; Public Areas 86,600 sq ft;
BOH 58,550 sq ft; Retail 10,000 sq ft; Convention Facilities;
Wedding Chapel; 3 Restaurants; Parking 900 Spaces
total cost of construction: Withheld at Owner's Request
completion date: 2001
client: Walt Disney Imagineering

awards:
1998 Gold Key - Lobby Design

publications:
Travel & Leisure
Hospitality Design
Architecture
Architectural Record
Style 1900

