



AYRES HOTEL

HAWTHORNE ▪ MANHATTAN BEACH ▪ LAX

HOTEL FUN FACTS & PIECES OF INTEREST

- The 400-year old lobby fireplace was found in a chateau that was being torn down in France, in the French Loire Valley. It was numbered on each piece, chiseled apart and then the workers were flown here and reassembled it to maintain its authenticity. It was originally used as an outdoor fireplace for the workers & livestock to warm at when coming up from the Vineyards & fields.
- Venetian plaster wall treatments- In the Bibliotheca and Private Dining room as well as throughout the lobby this practice uses a minimum of 3 and up to 6 coats to create the glazing effect that you see. This practice was invented by specialized craftsmen. The plaster finish originated in ancient Rome and has been used throughout the centuries to modern times. The term Venetian plaster derives from the use of this finish in the palaces of 15th-century Venice. Fortunately, achieving the effect of Venetian plaster is now much simpler. Venetian plaster can be put on all flat surfaces, including ceilings.
- The Bibliotheca has a wonderful old European book collection on the shelves.
- Many Italian Renaissance sculptures throughout the hotel. Notice the copy of The Three Graces by Antonio Canova at the end of the main hallway before the elevator vestibule, one of the original is in the Musee de Louvre in Paris.
- The 3 large sculptures on the 2nd floor Veranda were so heavy when they arrived they had to hire a helicopter with a crane to lower them into place as no one could lift them. This delayed the hotel opening!
- Our Lobby piece - Late 17th century tapestry. This depicts Louis XIV as Caesar triumphantly entering Rome, the four females surrounding him depicts the 4 parts of the World-America, Europe, and Asia & Africa. Its woven in Woods, Silks and metals and many were stolen by looters in the day to melt them down for the gold spun in them. A collection of 4 from this series can be seen in the MET in New York City. The Front desk had to be redesigned to accommodate the tapestry size when it was found and the hotel was still under construction.
- The hotel is adorned with a collection of original Russian Impressionist fine art. Originally loaned to the hotel by a local gallery, the artist's family has since allowed the Ayres to purchase many pieces you see in the main hallway off of the lobby and in the restaurant. All of the artwork throughout the hotel is original pieces.
- The door outside of the Othello room (Private Dining Room) comes from Central Europe; note the carvings and Gryphon and intricate detail.
- Antiques from around the world are throughout, Armoires, trunks, chairs and more.
- The fabrics in the guestrooms are all imported. If you are in a room with Sage Green & Gold these came from Belgium. The Rust & Gold fabrics came from Italy.
- The four olive trees in the Courtyard represent Doug Ayres four children.