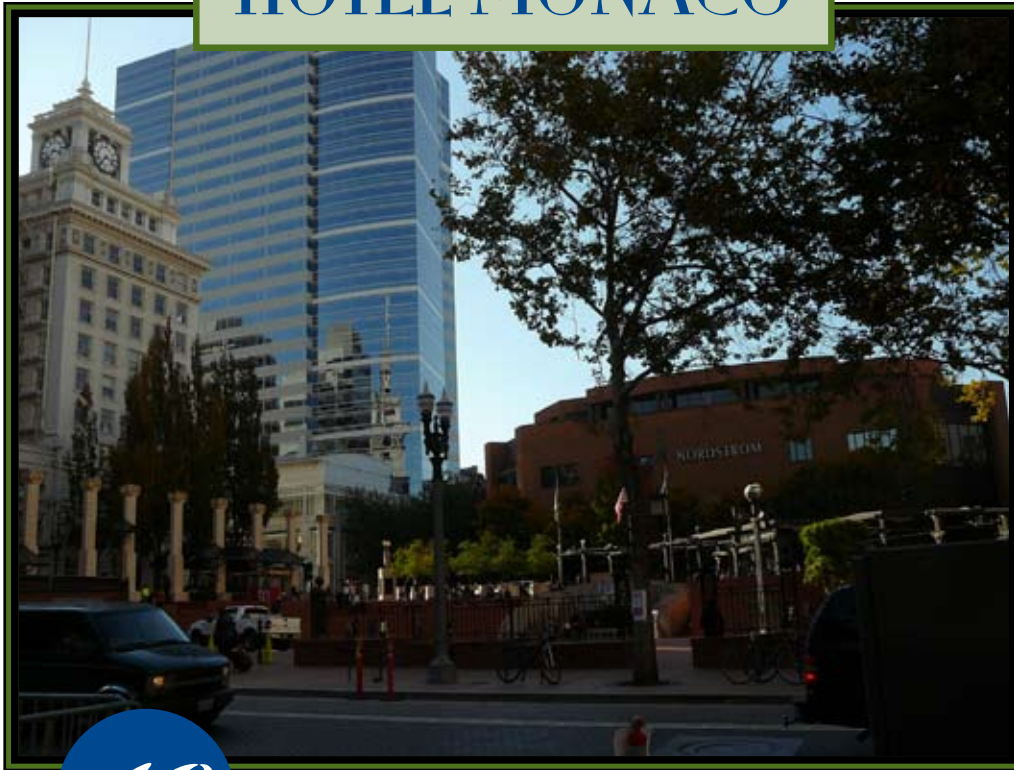


# HOTEL MONACO



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## Minute Walk

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*This quick ten-minute leg-stretcher leads you into the heart of downtown Portland. Watch for the many richly ornamented, white glazed terra cotta buildings along the way, which date from about 1905 to 1930.*

*Terra cotta is hand-carved, glazed, and fired clay, often in elaborate shapes, and often used to decorate a building's facade. Portland's gleaming white terra cotta buildings glow in the gray mist of the city's winter days.*

- ◆ **BEGIN at the front door of the Hotel Monaco, SW 5th Avenue and Washington Street. Turn left out of the door to walk west on Washington.**

In one block, at the northwest corner of 6th and Washington, is one of Oregon's most famous buildings, the Commonwealth Building. It was designed in 1948 by Pietro Belluschi and took advantage of the nation's post World War II surplus of aluminum. Its aluminum exterior was a first in the U.S. The aluminum and green-tinted windows form a "curtain wall," i.e., an exterior wall that is not load-bearing.

- ◆ **Continue on Washington one more block to Broadway.**

At the northwest corner, the towering International style Union Bank of California building (1969) contrasts beautifully with the more organic forms of the red brick and rusticated stone building (the former Imperial Hotel) in the northeast corner. It dates from 1894.

## HOTEL MONACO

10

# Minute Walk

### ◆ From Washington, turn left onto Broadway.

After crossing Alder Street, don't miss the fabulous Charles F. Berg building, midblock on the right. Its 1930 facade is lined, amazingly, by 18 karat gold trim, which sets off exuberant Art Deco designs like peacocks and sunbursts in polychrome (many-colored) terra cotta.

### ◆ On Broadway, cross Morrison Street to enter Portland's "living room," Pioneer Courthouse Square.

Walk past the Starbucks set in a corner of the square and under a wrought-iron pergola hung with flowers, to a curving red brick ramp. Descend the ramp into the square, where in its various nooks you may find chess players, orators, dancers and civic parties taking place. Restrooms and tourist information are located beyond the glass doors next to the fountain.

The square was built in 1984, replacing a parking lot, which itself had replaced a grand hotel. The hotel's wrought iron gate was re-installed on the 6th Avenue side of the square. Head east toward the Pioneer Courthouse, built beginning in 1869. It was built on the fringes of wilderness, at a time when Portland was just a few blocks clustered on the Willamette River waterfront, and critics complained it was too far away to be useful. It remains a working courthouse.



### ◆ Exit Pioneer Courthouse Square at its northeast corner, Morrison and 6th. Walk east on Morrison, along the side of the Courthouse.

On your left are charming bronze sculptures of Northwest forest and sea animals, installed in 1986 as part of the city's first MAX light rail project.

### ◆ At 5th Avenue, turn left. Walk one block on 5th to Alder.

Cross it, keep straight on 5th, and look left and up, to the ten-story, terra cotta Hotel Monaco building, with its roaring animals at the cornice. It was built in 1912 as Lipman, Wolfe & Company, a department store. Turn left at Washington to return to the HOTEL MONACO.