



FACT SHEET / 2021

HISTORY

Commissioned	1933 as a joint venture between Southern Pacific, Union Pacific and Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railroads.
Opened	May 1939 with a star-studded three-day celebration.
Construction Cost	Reported to have cost \$11 million to build (estimated at \$1.2 billion today).
Station Ranking	The largest train terminal in the Western United States.
Designed By	Father and son team Donald and John Parkinson (known for their work on Bullocks Wilshire and Los Angeles City Hall).
Architectural Style	An innovative blend of Spanish Colonial, Mission Revival and Art Deco architecture now commonly referred to as Mission Moderne.
Landscape Architect	Tommy Tomson, known for his work on the infield of Santa Anita Park and Park La Brea.
Transportation	At opening, the Station serviced thirty-three trains with an estimated 7,000 passengers per day.
Place in History	Designated as a Los Angeles Historic-Cultural Monument in 1972 and placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980.

UNION STATION TODAY

Union Station is a bustling 52-acre transportation center in the heart of downtown Los Angeles serving 110,000 commuters daily.

Transportation: With 14 tracks for heavy rail and an additional four tracks for light rail servicing more than five hundred trains, the station is the primary regional hub for Amtrak and Metrolink's five-county commuter train service and serves as a transferpoint for Metro's Red, Purple and Gold Lines. Linked to the Patsaouras Transit Plaza, Union Station offers essential transit connections to destinations throughout Los Angeles via 1,800 buses per day (including Metro Commuter, MegaBus, Fly Away and Greyhound).

Parking: 3,000 parking spaces located at Metro headquarters.

Metro Acquisition: In April 2011, Metro completed the acquisition of the Union Station Los Angeles property, including thirty-eight acres and 5.9 million square feet of development rights.

Next Great Public Space: In 2016 Union Station began its historic transformation into a vibrant destination for art, entertainment and culture.

Historic Restoration: In 2020 - 2021, key restoration was complete in the Ticket Concourse, Waiting Room and entry vestibule; additional areas of restoration continue throughout the Station.

Oscars Debut: In 2021, the 93rd Oscars were held at Union Station, taking place in the North and South Patios, the Waiting Room and the Ticket Concourse, where the Academy Awards ceremony took place.

WAITING ROOM

Function: An extraordinary historic space that serves as a waiting area for Metrolink and Amtrak passengers.

Size: 11,200 square feet; 140 feet long; eighty feet wide.

Features

- Six stunning art deco-inspired brass chandeliers each weighing more than 3,000 pounds.
- Original terracotta floor tiles.
- Intricate 11-foot-wide floor runner made from a variety of inlaid stone.
- 286 iconic art deco chairs carved from mahogany.
- 3-foot-high wainscoting created from stunning geometric tiles created by Gladding McBean and made of Belgium marble and polished travertine.
- Vintage sound-dampening acoustic tiles made from ground corncobs.
- Towering 40-foot-high windows with their original Venetian blinds.
- Beamed ceiling with hand-painted tiles.

Eateries

- Traxx: Classic New American cuisine served at this elegant restaurant in the heart of the Station.
- Traxx Bar: Creative cocktails and small plates served in a historic corner of the Station that was once the telephone room.

Amenities: Kiosks for gifts and goods from local merchants and artisans.

TICKET CONCOURSE

Function: Once the main ticketing concourse, the hall now serves as a vibrant event space.

Size: 11,200 square feet; 140 feet long; eighty feet wide.

Features

- 62-foot-high ceilings have created a space large enough to fit a five-story building.
- 115-foot-long ticket counter made of American black walnut and featuring thirty ticket windows.
- Towering 40-foot-high windows made of diffused glass.

- Eighteen brass angels adorn the ironwork around each window.
- Hand-painted steel beams and acoustic tiles line the ceiling.
- Fifteen brass and glass doors open to the station's original staging area.
- More than a thousand hand-painted art deco tiles dress the walls.
- Six 10-foot-wide chandeliers designed by Phoenix Day drop ten feet from the ceiling.

PASSENGER CONCOURSE

The passenger concourse is the operational heart of the station and is home to Amtrak and Metrolink ticketing facilities, car rentals and food venues.

Eateries

- Cilantro Fresh Mexican Grill
- Starbucks
- Subway
- Trimana
- Wetzels Pretzels

Amenities: Classic shoeshine station.

UNION STATION EAST

The modern east end of the Station was designed by the firm of McClaren/Vasques to connect Union Station to the Patsaouras Transit Plaza and is home to several extraordinary pieces of Metro art.

Features

Magnificent 87-foot-high etched-glass ceiling designed to mimic geometric patterns found throughout the Station.

Eateries

- Starbucks Pick Up
- Wetzels Pretzels Cart

Artwork

“River Bench” by artist May Sun: Water representing the LA River trickles onto Chinese artifacts excavated from this site.

“A Train” by artist Bill Bell: Interactive artwork featuring twelve pulsing light rods that produce more than three hundred fleeting images designed to be viewed in periphery by passersby.

A magnificent 80-foot-long mural painted by artist Richard Wyatt celebrates diversity and depicts powerful images of Los Angeles settlers.

SOUTH PATIO

Playing to the strengths of the California climate, the South Patio was designed as a formal garden through which travelers exit the Station.

Features

- Paved entirely in Spanish brick with a 16-pointed star motif at its center.
- Hedges set in a geometric pattern surrounded by seasonal flower beds.
- Stunning views of the iconic Union Station clock tower.

Eatery

- Homebound Brew Haus: A brewery channeling the raucous spirit of the great Bavarian beer hall.

Originally designed by: Mary Coulter, a Santa Fe Railway architect known as the inventor of Southwestern design.

Features

- Three massive Moorish-style arches.
- An inlaid cement tile floor designed to replicate a Navajo blanket.
- An immense horseshoe-shaped bar.
- Six deco-style chandeliers drop from hand-painted beamed ceilings.

NORTH PATIO

Designed as a place of quiet contemplation amidst the frenetic energy of the station.

Features

- Original art deco fountain designed by Parkinson and Parkinson in cast concrete and glazed tile.
- A 76-year-old historic rubber tree shades the Traxx restaurant patio.
- An avocado and tangerine orchard.
- Flowering Jacaranda trees.

NORTH ARCADE

Bike Hub: The Metro Bike Hub offers 24/7 secure bike parking spaces with controlled access for registered users.