El Sereno was founded in 1905 as a suburb of Los Angeles along the former Pacific Electric Railway line that ran down the median of Huntington Drive. El Sereno sits atop the Monterey Hills that separate the Los Angeles Basin from the San Gabriel Valley, and is the easternmost district in the city of Los Angeles. It is bordered by Monterey Hills and South Pasadena on the north, Alhambra on the east, University Hills on the southeast, City Terrace on the south, Boyle Heights on the southwest, Lincoln Heights on the west, and Montecito Heights on the northwest. Principal thoroughfares include Huntington Drive; Valley Boulevard; Eastern and Alhambra Avenues; and Soto Street.

El Sereno - Los Angeles Times Neighborhood Profile