ATHENS
TRAVEL TRADE MANUAL
The official & complete guide to Athens’ travel trade product
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ABOUT ACVB

At the Athens Development and Destination Management Agency (ADDMA) we make every effort to promote Athens as an attractive year-round destination for business and leisure travelers. ADDMA operates the City of Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau (ACVB) the city’s official Destination Management Organisation. The ACVB focuses on both the MICE and city break sectors through destination management development marketing services. The ACVB implements a master plan that entails actions for increasing average length of stay, smoothing out seasonality and building up the local visitors’ economy. It develops cooperation networks between the private and public sectors and strengthens connections with the international travel industry. Moreover, major tasks include branding and implementing an integrated communication and PR strategy as well as running visitor information and management services. The ACVB applies the internationally recognised best practice of ‘Members Program’ to enterprises involved in conference tourism, such as conference centres, hotels, conference organisers, audio-visual enterprises, caterers etc.

DESTINATION MANAGEMENT & MARKETING

This is Athens: “This is Athens” is the city’s official campaign, aiming to attract a wide variety of target groups by capturing Athens’ multifaceted personality. The www.thisisathens.org visitor’s portal contains a substantial volume of quality and timely information regarding the city’s tourism product. The portal features interactive maps of the city with useful information and a calendar of cultural events. It also allows users to browse according to different criteria – for example ‘Athens Top Ten’, ‘Athens in 1-to-6 days’, ‘Strolling through Athens’ Moreover, at www.thisisathens.org prospective visitors may find user generated content through TripAdvisor, on over 300 hotels in Athens. The www.thisisathens.org/acvb is a business-to-business portal catering to the MICE and leisure sectors. The ACVB runs a newsletter service to its subscribers.

GLOBAL EXPO & TRADE SHOWS PRESENCE

The ACVB participates in major international exhibitions such as ITB, WTM, IMEX and EIBTM, to network and do business with professional congress organisers, tour operators, hosted buyers, professional associations, travel media representatives, etc.

VISITOR SERVICES

The ACVB has developed a network of info-points staffed by trained personnel, guiding visitors about everything Athens has to offer, and supplying them with printed maps and visitor guides. The ACVB runs an info-point on a year-round, 7 day-a-week basis at the Athens International Airport.

TRAVEL TRADE ATHENS

www.traveltradeathens.gr

Travel Trade Athens is the signature annual trade event for the City of Athens, hosting selected international buyers focused on Athens & Greece. Hundreds of tourism professionals and travel journalists from around the world participate each year. This Athens-dedicated tradeshow includes prescheduled B2B appointments, workshops with cutting-edge presentations by leading international industry experts and an extensive menu of social programs to experience Greek hospitality first-hand and network with participating decision makers.
INTERNATIONAL AND LOCAL COLLABORATIONS

ACVB invests in building international partnerships by joining international networks and organisations such as the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), ICCA, the European Tour Operators Association, the European Cities Marketing (ECM), the Destination Marketing Association International (DMAI), the World Youth & Student Travel Confederation (WYSE) and the International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association (IGLTA). ACVB is also a member of the Association of Greek Tourism Enterprises.

THIS IS MY ATHENS
myathens.thisisathens.org

‘This is My Athens’ is a free program available to visitors to Athens. It is staffed by volunteer Athenians who are excited to show you ‘their city; and all it has to offer.

The Meeting Planners Guide is the official guide to Athens meeting, incentive, and conference and events facilities.
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FREE ENTRY
GROUP RATE
STUDENT TOURISM
EDUCATIONAL TOURISM
LUXURY TOURISM
GASTRONOMY TOURISM
FAMILY TOURISM
LOW BUDGET TOURISM
LGBTQ TOURISM
ESSENTIALS

FIND ALL THE INFORMATION YOU NEED TO KNOW FOR A MEMORABLE HOLIDAY IN ATHENS
GENERAL TOURIST INFO
Greek National Tourism Organisation
Tourist Information Office
18, Dionyssiou Areopagitou St.
Metro Acropolis
T. +30 210 3310392, +30 210 3310716
www.visitgreece.gr
Athens-Attica and Argosaronic
Hotel Association
T. +30 210 3235485
www.all-athens-hotels.com
Hellenic Association of Travel and
Tourist Agencies (HATTA)
T. +30 210 9223522 | www.hatta.gr
Hellenic Tourism Confederation (SETE)
T. +30 210 3217165 | www.sete.gr
Hellenic Federation
of Tourism Enterprises
T. +30 210 9245120 | www.poet.gr
Association of Licensed Tourist Guides
www.tourist-guides.gr
Urban Transport Organisation
www.oasa.gr
Athens International Airport
www.aia.gr
Flight information (all airlines)
T. +30 210 3530000
Aegean Airlines
T. +30 801 112 0000, +30 210 6261000
www.aegeanair.com
Greek Railway Company
www.ose.gr
Ministry of Culture
www.culture.gr
Region of Attica
www.athensattica.gr
The City of Athens
www.thisisathens.org
Hellenic Chamber of Hotels
T. +30 213 2169900 | www.grhotels.gr
Hellenic Hoteliers Federation
www.hhf.gr
Athens Development and
Destination Management Agency
www.developathens.gr | www.thisisathens.org
www.thisisathens.org/acvb

Tourism Development Company
www.tourism-development.gr

BOATS
Piraeus Port -main port of Athens-
(all destinations)
T. +30 210 4147800
Rafina Port
T. +30 22940 22840
www.rafinaport.gr
Lavrio Port
T. +30 22920 27711, +30 22920 22089
www.oll.gr

EMERGENCY NUMBERS
Police: 1033
Tourist Police: 1571
Airport Police: +30 210 3536919
Fire Emergency: 199
Ambulance: 166
Poison Control: +30 210 7793777
Aids Help Line: +30 210 7222222
Hospitals, pharmacies: 14944
SOS Doctors: 1016
Road Side Assistance – ELPA: 10400
Traffic Police of Athens: +30 210 5284000

HOSPITALS
Alexandra 80, Vasilissis Sofias Ave.
T. +30 213 2162000
Andreas Syngros S, I. Dragoumi St.
T. +30 210 7265100
Athens Psychiatric Clinic
374, Athinon St., Haidari | T. +30 213 2054000
Evangelismos 45-47 Ypsilandou St.
T. +30 213 2041000
Eye Hospital of Athens 26, Panepistimiou
& 2, Sina St. | T. +30 213 2052701
Ippokrateio 114, Vasilissis Sofias St.
T. +30 213 2088000
KAT 2, Nikis St., Kifissia | T. +30 213 2086000
Laiko 17, Agiou Thoma St., Goudi
T. +30 213 2060800
Children’s Hospital Aglaia Kyriakou
Thivon & Levadias St. Ambelokipi | T. +30 213 209000

PHARMACIES
Pharmacies can be found throughout Athens.
For overnight service, there are always pharmacies open in most districts.
For more information, call 14944.

BANKS
Major international banking institutions, credit card companies and ATMs in and around Athens are plentiful and easy to access. Banks are open to the public Monday through Thursday 08:00 to 14:30 and Fridays 08:00 to 14:00, except on public holidays. The “Open24” Bank (Eurobank) is open mornings and afternoons, as well as on Saturdays. Foreign currency may be exchanged for euros at most Greek and foreign banks and at exchange bureaus located in the city center and the Athens International Airport. Bring your passport when exchanging money as you will need it for the transaction. Traveler’s checks and credit cards issued by major companies are also widely recognized and accepted as a means of purchasing items in Athens.

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS
CALENDAR OF TRADITIONAL
AND NATIONAL HOLIDAYS
October 28
The “Ohi day” commemorates the rejection by Greek dictator Ioannis Metaxas of the Italian ultimatum asking Greece to allow World War II Italian forces to use Greek soil, or otherwise face war.
December 25 & 26
Christmas & Boxing Day
January 1
New Year’s Day
January 6
The Epiphany
Clean Monday (Ash Monday)
Moveable Holiday
March 25
Greek Independence Day
Orthodox Good Friday
Moveable Holiday
Orthodox Easter
Moveable Holiday
Orthodox Easter Monday
Moveable Holiday
Pentecost Monday
Moveable Holiday
May 1
Labor Day and the Feast of the Flowers
August 15
Assumption of the Virgin Mary

ELECTRICITY
Electric current is 230V AC (50Hz). Appliances from North America need a transformer and those from England need an adaptor.

INTERNET ACCESS
There are numerous internet cafés in Athens which are usually open all day long. There are also available wi-fi hotspots at the Airport El. Venizelos, at the Acropolis Museum, the National Hellenic Research Centre, the University Campus in Zografou and many more. Athens Wi-Fi is a wireless hotspot based on 802.11b/g (Wi-Fi). You can easily connect to the Internet while you are sitting on a bench or while enjoying your coffee. The connection is free provided that you choose the wireless network (SSID) “athensWiFi” and type the number which appears on your screen. The connection speed is quite fast and the capacity is 4Mbps.

There is also a free wireless Internet network in selected metro and train stations in Athens, such as Syntagma, Panepistimio, Acropolis, Omonia, Piraeus, Neratziotissa and Doukissis Plakentias.

MOBILE PHONES
Mobile phones automatically connect to Greek networks. You can also manually connect by choosing the option “network selection” on your mobile to get manually connected. Your roaming mobile phone operator will inform you about charges for local and international calls.

TECH SPECS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GSM</th>
<th>Band</th>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>900MHz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1800MHz</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Otherwise you can always get a Greek mobile telephone number upon your arrival that you can use during your stay. You can buy a SIM card at any mobile phone shop and top up cards from the kiosks on the streets.

TIME
Athens is in the Eastern-European time zone, which means it is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. Additionally, Athens has daylight-saving time, meaning that during spring and summer (from March to October) the clocks are put forward one hour.

CITY TRANSPORT
The best and fastest means of transport is the Metro. Running since 2000, it covers most of the city’s areas. Athenian passengers also use the older overground line of the metro system, as well as the tram, the suburban railway, buses and trolleys for their daily journeys.

Ticket Cost
The regular ticket costs € 1.40 and can be used for 90’ upon validation in any direction (except the airport) including on the Metro, bus, tram or train. Students and senior citizens over 65 are eligible for half-price tickets.

Regular € 1.40 / Reduced € 0.60 The validity period of the integrated ticket is 70 minutes from validation of the first boarding. After the expiration of the validity period, validation of a new ticket is required.

Ticket Sale Points
These tickets are sold at all public transport ticket kiosks and the automatic ticket machines in the metro and tram stations. The integrated single ticket (regular and reduced) is also sold in approx. 1,500 points throughout the Athens Metropolitan area (selected stores, kiosks, etc).

The 24-hour Daily Ticket € 4.50 for all modes of transport must be validated on first boarding and is valid for 24 hours from validation, for unlimited travel. (except airport services)

The 24-hour Daily Ticket is sold at all public transport ticket kiosks and automatic ticket machines in the metro and tram stations.

5-Day Ticket for all modes (except airport services and bus line X80) 9€.
The 5-Day Ticket must be validated on first boarding and is valid for 5 days from validation, for unlimited travel.
5-Day ticket is sold at all public transport ticket kiosks and the automatic ticket machines in the metro and tram stations.

3-Day Tourist Ticket for all modes (includes 1 round trip to/from the Airport) € 22. The 3-Day tourist ticket must be validated upon first boarding and it is valid for unlimited travel including 1 round trip to and from the Airport by express bus or the metro.

3-Day Tickets are sold at the bus and the metro ticket kiosks at the Athens International Airport as well at central metro ticket offices. (Omonia, Syntagma, Thiseio, Monastiraki, Acropolis & Piraeus stations)

LONG-DISTANCE COACHES (KTEL)
KTEL are quite common as a means of transport throughout Greece, providing regular daily services from Athens around Greece.
TRAINS
Tickets for long distance services are issued by the Greek Railways Association, known as OSE and can be bought online at www.ose.gr or at OSE ticket booths located at the central Larissis Station, from where trains depart for all destinations. The station is easily accessible through the red Metro Line, Larissa Station.

EXPRESS BUS: PIRAEUS - ACROPOLIS - SYNTAGMA IN 30 MINUTES
The “X80 line-Piraeus-Acropolis-Syntagma Express” facilitates tourists who arrive with cruise ships at the port of Piraeus to visit the Acropolis and the city center. The bus line passes from Piraeus city center, makes one stop at the new Museum of Contemporary Art on Syggrou Avenue at the level of FIX metro station, one near the Acropolis Museum on Dionysiou Areopagitou Street, and one on Syntagma Square. It runs daily from 7 a.m. to 9:15 p.m. (every 33-50 minutes). Passengers who wish to use this bus line have to purchase a three day tourist ticket or a 24-hour daily ticket.

GETTING TO THE AIRPORT
There are several ways to go to and from the airport.

Metro
Take Metro Line 3 (Agia Marina – Douk. Plakentias - Athens International Airport), which connects the Athens airport with the city center. Trains run every 30 minutes, 7 days a week from 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. The trip from/to the Airport to Syntagma station (Athens center) lasts approx. 40 minutes.

24-hour express buses
EXPRESS Bus routes directly connect Athens (city center & greater area) and Piraeus (port) with the Athens International Airport (AIA) “Eleftherios Venizelos”. The service is provided on a non-stop basis seven days a week including holidays (24/7 operation). All buses drop off passengers at the Departures Level (inbound trips to airport) and depart from the Arrivals Level (outbound trips from the airport). BUS tickets are sold at the info/ticket-kiosk (located outside the Arrivals between Exits 4 and 5), or onboard (ask operator) at no extra cost.

There are four routes:
X93: Kifissos KTEL (long-distance buses) Station – Airport Direct Connection to the intercity bus (KTEL) terminals KIFISOS and LIOSION. Link to suburban rail station at: KIFISIAS
X95: Syntagma – Airport Direct Connection to Syntagma Square at Athens city center. Link to Metro Line 2 at: SYNTAGMA. Link to Metro Line 3 stations at: NOMISMATOKOPEIO, ETHNIIK AMYNA, SYNTAGMA. Link to tramway routes at: SYNTAGMA
X96: Piraeus – Airport Direct Connection to Piraeus central passenger port terminals. Link to metro line 1 stations at: N.FALIRO (ISAP N.FALIRO), PEI-RAIAS. Link to suburban rail station at: PEI-RAIAS. Link to tramway routes at: PLATEIA GYLFADAS, EDEM, FLISVOS
X97: Eliniko Metro Station – Airport Direct Connection to ELLINIKO metro station. Link to Metro Line 2 stations at: AG.DIMITRIO-DS, DAFNI
One-way travel time estimates: X93 (65’ minutes), X95 (60’ minutes), X96 (90’ minutes), X97 (45’ minutes). Allow sufficient time to travel as traffic conditions may cause delays. Estimates are given for reference only. Journey time depends on traffic conditions. Passengers are advised to allow sufficient time for their transfer from/to the airport.

Suburban railway/ Proastiakos
The suburban railway (Proastiakos) connects the Athens Airport with the Athens Central Railway Station (Larissis Station) and the Achaman Railway Center, and through them to the National Railway network. The suburban railway departs every 15-25 minutes from the Athens Airport railway station to Plakentias station, where you can change trains and continue to the city center (Metro Line 3 to Egaleo), using the same ticket. Current timetables:
Airport – Kiato / Kiato – Airport Kiato – Patras bus connections Piraeus – Athens – Halkida line
Taxi
Taxis are available at the designated Taxi waiting area located at Exit 3 of Arrivals Level. A taxi from the airport to the city center (inner ring) costs a flat rate of €35 from 5:00 a.m. to midnight, and €50 from midnight to 5:00 a.m. The charge is determined by the time of arrival at the destination and includes all applicable surcharges and extras.

EMBASSIES IN ATHENS
ALBANIA: 7, Vekiareli St., 15237 Filothei, T. +30 210 6876200, +30 210 6876222
BULGARIA: 35 A, Stratigou Kallari St., 15452 Paleio Psychico, T. +30 210 6748105-8
CHINA: 10-12, Dimokratias St., 15452 Paleio Psychico, T. +30 210 6745430-4
CYPRUS: 2A, Xenofontos St., 10557 Athens, T. +30 210 3734800, +30 210 3734870
EGYPT: 3, Vasilissis Sofias Ave., 10671 Athens, T. +30 210 216 0002701
FRANCE: 7, Vasilissis Sofias Ave., 10671 Athens, T. +30 210 3391000
GERMANY: 3, Karaoli Dimitriou St., 10675 Athens, T. +30 210 7285111
ITALY: 2, Sekeri St., 10674 Athens, T. +30 210 3672033
ISRAEL: 1, Marathonodromon St., 15452 Paleio Psychico, T. +30 210 6705500
JORDAN: 2, Kleanthous St., 10674 Athens, T. +30 210 3220200
LIBERIA: 10, Kleanthous St., 10674 Athens, T. +30 210 3220200
LIBYA: 10, Kleanthous St., 10674 Athens, T. +30 210 3220200
NETHERLANDS: 3, Marathonodromon St., 15452 Paleio Psychico, T. +30 210 6745430-4
ROMANIA: 2, Sekeri St., 10674 Athens, T. +30 210 3672033
SOUTH AFRICA: 3, Vasilissis Sofias Ave., 10671 Athens, T. +30 210 216 0002701
UNITED KINGDOM: 7, Vasilissis Sofias Ave., 10671 Athens, T. +30 210 216 0002701
JAPAN: 46, Ethnikis Antistasseos St., 15231 Halandri, T. +30 210 6709900  
KOREA: 2, Mesogeion Ave., 11527 Athens, T. +30 210 6984080  
NETHERLANDS: 5-7, Vassileos Konstantinou Ave., 10674 Athens, T. +30 210 7254900  
PAKISTAN: 6, Loukianou St., 10675 Athens, T. +30 210 7290214  
RUSSIA: 28, Nikiforou Litra St., 15452 Paleo Psychiko, T. +30 210 6725235  
SPAIN: 21, Dionysiou Areopagitou St., 11742 Athens, T. +30 210 9213123  
SWITZERLAND: 2, Iassiou St., 11521 Athens, T. +30 210 7230364-65-66  
TURKEY: 11, Vassileos Georgiou B' St., 10674 Athens, T. +30 210 7263000  
UKRAINE: 2, Stephanou Delta St., 15237 Filothei, T. +30 210 6800230  
UNITED KINGDOM: 1, Ploutarchou St., 10675 Athens, T. +30 210 7272600  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: 91, Vasilissis Sofias Ave., 10160 Athens T. +30 210 7212951  

For more information visit the official site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs:  

**DESTINATIONS_DIRECT FLIGHTS TO ATHENS**

### EUROPEAN
- Alexandroupolis
- Amsterdam
- Astypalea
- Barcelona
- Bari*
- Belgrade
- Bergamo
- Berlin
- Birmingham*
- Bologna
- Bordeaux*
- Bratislava
- Bremen
- Brussels
- Bucharest
- Budapest
- Catania*
- Chania
- Chios
- Chisinau
- Cologne*
- Copenhagen
- Dublin*
- Dubrovnik*
- Dusseldorf
- Edinburgh
- Eindhoven*
- Frankfurt
- Geneva
- Genoa
- Gothenburg*
- Hamburg
- Hanover
- Helsinki*
- Heraklion
- Ikaria
- Ioannina
- Istanbul
- Izmir
- Kalamata
- Kalimnos
- Karpathos
- Manchester
- Kastoria
- Kavala
- Kefallonia
- Kerkyra (Corfu)
- Kiev
- Kithira
- Kos
- Kozani
- Krakow
- Krasnodar
- Larnaca
- Leros
- Lille
- Limnos
- Lisbon
- London
- Luxemburg
- Lyon*
- Madrid
- Malta
- Manchester
- Marseille
- Mikonos
- Milan
- Milos
- Mitilini
- Moscow
- Munich
- Nantes*
- Naples
- Naxos
- Nice
- Nuremberg
- Oslo*
- Palermo*
- Paphos
- Paris
- Paros
- Pisa*
- Podgorica
- Prague
- Preveza/ Aktio*
- Rhodes
- Riga*
- Rome
- Samos
- Santorini
- Sitia
- Skiathos
- Skiros
- Sofia
- Split*
- St. Petersburg*
- Stockholm
- Strasbourg
- Stuttgart
- Syros
- Tallinn
- Tbilisi
- Thessaloniki
- Tirana
- Toulouse*
- Venice*
- Vienna
- Warsaw
- Yerevan
- Zagreb*
- Zakynthos
- Zurich

### NON EUROPEAN
- Abu Dhabi
- Alexandria
- Amman
- Bahrain
- Beijing
- Beirut
- Cairo
- Doha
- Dubai
- Haifa
- Jeddah
- Kuwait
- Montreal
- New York
- Philadelphia*
- Riyadh*
- Singapore*
- Tehran
- Tel aviv
- Toronto
AEGEAN AIRLINES
31, Viltanioti St., 145 64 Kifissia
T. +30 210 6261700
F. +30 210 6261900
contact@aegeanair.com
www.aegeanair.com

Aegian Airlines, your partner for Conventions and Congresses. Since June 2010, Aegian Airlines is member of the strongest global airline network, Star Alliance. The Star Alliance network was established in 1997 as the first truly global airline alliance to offer worldwide reach, recognition and seamless service to the international traveller. No other airline network offers more flights, more destinations, better connections and no other airline network has more experience in working together across cultures, borders and time zones for the benefit of the worldwide travellers.

ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
GR 190 19 Spata, Greece
T: +30 210 3531000
F: +30 210 3530001
info@aia.gr
www.aia.gr

Athens International Airport S.A. (AIA) was established in 1996 as a pioneer international Public-Private Partnership with a 30-year concession agreement. AIA is a privately managed company, with the Greek State holding 55% of shares, while the private shareholders collectively hold 45%. During its 16 years of successful operations the airport served more than 239 million passengers through 2.9 million flights. AIA offers its airline partners one of the most innovative and integrated incentives programmes, to ensure the sustainability and growth of both domestic and international traffic. In the non-aeronautical sector, AIA boasts advanced and extensive development initiatives from the high-quality consumer-related products offered at its commercial terminals to its real estate assets. AIA’s IT & Telecommunications system and business activities are stellar examples of technological and business expertise. True to its industry, AIA exports the company’s pioneering know-how to aviation partners around the world.

TRANSPORT FOR ATHENS
15, Metsovou St., 106 82 Athens
T. +30 210 8200999
F. +30 210 8212219
oasa@oasa.gr
www.oasa.gr

The Athens Public Transport system is the largest public transport system in Greece and ranked among the best in Europe. It is efficient and provides reliable transportation services to citizens and visitors in the wider Athens metropolitan area. The Athens Public Transport System consists of metro, tram and an extensive bus and trolleybus network, which provides easy access to all major points of interest (e.g. Acropolis, Plaka, Museums, etc.), many hotels and major convention centers.
The centre of economic, industrial, political and cultural life in Greece, metropolitan Athens is a bustling and cosmopolitan metropolis with an urban population of 3.3 million and a metropolitan population of about 3.8 million people. While the classical era heritage is still evident in the city—portrayed through a number of ancient monuments and artworks, a huge variety of Roman and Byzantine monuments, a small remaining number of Ottoman monuments, and significant modern landmarks can also be found. The Greek Parliament (19th century), the Athens Trilogy (Library, University, Academy) and the new (2004) Athens Olympic Sports Complex are only some of the city’s modern architectural landmarks. In 1834, driven by the echo of its classical past, the city became the capital of the modern Greek state. During the two centuries since it developed into an attractive modern metropolis with unrivalled charm and great interest. Within the urban landscape you’ll find oases of old-style neighborhoods and small parks, ancient archaeological sites, and some of the most impressive artefacts in the world.
CITY CENTRE

Whenever you find yourself in downtown Athens –day or night– you will realise that it’s a city with many different vibes across its many districts, always buzzing with life. Undoubtedly, Syntagma Square is the city’s financial and trade centre, busy around the clock. At the northwest of the square you will find the historical districts of Plaka and Thisio, as well as Makrygianni and the Acropolis. To the square’s west you will come across Monastiraki and its outdoor Flea Market and the district of Psyrri with all its nightclubs and entertainment hotspots brimming with youngsters and visitors. A little further on, there is the district of Gazi, a favourite hangout for the young and the young at heart with upbeat bars and good restaurants. To the north-east of Syntagma there is Athens’ historical centre, with its beautiful buildings, streets and memories of the old city (see chapter Old City of Athens). Walk north-east from Syntagma Square to find the district of Exarcheia, an old Athens neighbourhood with a distinctive bohemian flair: Definitely a meeting-point for intellectuals and students. Nearby, you will find posh Kolonaki, with its beautiful parks and attractive buildings. It’s the ideal area for shopping, where you can find the most expensive commercial shops in addition to popular cafes and luxury restaurants to enjoy before or after you go to the shops.


SUBURBS

During your stay in Athens you can also visit areas outside the city center. Athens suburbs are perfect for walking or relaxing at a confectionery, café or bar. The suburbs of Athens are divided into four zones: The northern suburbs, the southern suburbs; the eastern suburbs, and the western suburbs.

Northern suburbs

Very quiet residence areas with beautiful villas, rich vegetation and wide streets, the northern suburbs were developed in the late 1920s, on the model of English garden cities. They traditionally used to be the residential area
of wealthy families who opted to live close to nature and away from the bustle of the cities. While in Athens, it’s worth a visit to Kifissia, one of the city’s most elegant suburbs. Enjoy a pleasant walk and see the impressive luxury 19th century villas of Kifissia. Vibrant shopping streets and popular shopping centres, as well as beautiful cafés and restaurants, have turned the area into a hotspot. Some of the best patisseries and coffee houses in town are also here. Pay a visit to the Archaeological Collection, located in a 1930s house, as well as the Goulandris Natural History Museum. There are two open-air cinemas for hot summer nights, as well as Syggrou Forest, adjacent to Kifissia and Maroussi. Go for a walk, relax and enjoy Greek nature just a breath away from the city centre. There is also an annual Flower show, which takes place in Kifissias Grove (Alsos). In Maroussi don’t miss the chance to see the Athens Olympic Sports Center (OAKA) where all the major events of Olympic Games 2004 took place. The central street that connects Athens with the aforementioned suburbs is Kifissias Avenue, which is also the main road linking the city centre to the suburbs.

Southern suburbs

The southern suburbs of Athens are located on the coast of the Saronic Gulf from Piraeus to the southernmost suburb of Varkiza, forming the well-known Athens Riviera. If you relish a walk or lunch by the sea, then Athens Riviera is THE place to be. Polished hotels, a multitude of stores, boutiques, marinas, restaurants, bars, cosmopolitan clubs, major attractions and the buzz of life make up its scenery. The undoubted centre of the southern suburbs of Attica is Glyfada, the heart of trade and finance, also bringing together all the big names in Athens’ shopping, gastronomy and nightlife scenes. It’s one of the most elegant districts of Athens where the pulse of the Athens nightlife beats. You can also swim in crystal clear waters, or if you are a golf enthusiast you will be thrilled with the Glyfada Golf Club, the city’s modern 18-hole course! The southern suburbs of Paleo Faliro, Kalamaki, Alimos and Ellinikon are also on the seafront, favourite summer destinations for swimming and fun. Faliro and its marina, a mega-yacht destination, infuses a cosmopolitan flair to the area while Flisvos Park is ideal for leisurely strolls and carefree bike rides.


Western suburbs

This part of metropolitan Athens has its own unique character and cultural identity. In Egaleo and Eleusis you can get to know important cultural attractions such as the Monastery of Dafni, the Museum of Eleusis, and the ruins of the Temple of Dimitra, where the Eleusinian Mysteries were held. In Peristeri, Nikaia and Korydalos you will find yourself among streets with shopping centres and squares with ample cafés and terraces, quaint taverns and charming bars. You can come closer to nature with a walk in the Dimidius Botanical Gardens in Chaidari. While in Illion enjoy a stroll through the Antonis Tritsis Environmental Awareness Park, or explore the area’s quaint taverns and charming bars.

Western suburbs municipalities: Chaidari, Agia Varvara, Egaleo, Peristeri, Petroupolis, Illion, Agioi Anargyroi, Kalametero, Aspropyrgos, Eleusis, Mandra, Megara and Fyli.
Eastern suburbs

To the eastern side of Attica, you can visit significant historic sites as well as many great beaches. Athens International Airport in Spata and two important ports of Greece, Rafina and Lavrio, can also be found in this part of Attica. Rafina is after Piraeus, the main port to the Cyclades, while Lavrio port is the closest connection to Kea (Tzia) and Kythnos. Visit Marathon, a town situated only 40 km northeast of Athens, where you can combine a visit to historic sites with a swim to several sea resorts of the east coast of Attica. Discover the tomb where the Athenians buried their soldiers after the battle of Marathon in 490 BC, which is also the start of the Olympic Marathon venue. A visit to the Lake and the Dam of Marathon is a very interesting part of the day trip. Until recently the lake was the main water supply of Athens. Nearby you can take in Nea Makri, a town that has over the last 20 years almost become a suburb of Athens due to the fact that many Athenians have slowly started to move there from the centre of the city. A few km from Spata, lies the Ancient site of Vravrona with the Sanctuary of Goddess Artemis and the Archaeological Museum of Vravrona, which presents an extensive and important collection of finds. Continue further south to Attica’s southern most point, Cape Sounion. The impressive Temple of Poseidon offers one of the most spectacular sunsets in Greece, which will weave a powerful spell over you. The coastal road continues through beautiful beaches such as Legrena and Thimari as well as marvellous tourist areas such as Anavyssos, Lagonissi, Saronida that ends up in Varkiza, Vouliagmeni and Voula, three top-level summer hotspots that you simply cannot afford to miss! Attractive beaches to swim in, relax or exercise, bustling nightlife, elegant cafés, restaurants and luxurious hotels will definitely satisfy all your needs.

Eastern suburbs of Attica municipalities

Voula, Vouliagmeni, Vari, Varkiza, Dionysos, Koropi, Lavrio, Marathonas, Markopoulo, Peania, Pallini, Rafina, Pikermi, Spata, Artemida and Oropos.
PIRAEUS

Piraeus is the main port of Athens, the biggest port in Greece, and one of the most important ports of the Mediterranean: A major shipping, industrial and transportation centre of the country. It presents all the main characteristics of a port, such as a large market and good food options. City life focuses on the three parts of the port: The central area, the Zea marina, and Mikrolimano, which stands out as having the best food, the most buzzing nightlife, and a special view over the Saronic Gulf. You can find some major attractions in downtown Piraeus such as the Municipal Theatre of Piraeus, the Archaeological Museum, the Maritime Museum, the Ancient Theater of Zea (4th – 3rd cent. BC), the churches of Agios Spyridonas and Agia Triada, Korai Square, and the majestic port of Zea. Drop by the metro station, a magnificent eclectic building with an arched dome (1929) that was greatly influenced by the European stations of that time. Just behind the bustling port of Piraeus, you’ll find the Central Food Market, where you can shop to your heart’s – and stomach’s – content. You will find the freshest fish and seafood and an amazing variety of Greek cheeses, salamis, country sausages, vegetables, and fruit and other staples of the local diet such as fava beans, green peas, lentils, walnuts, almonds and pomegranates, herbs, spices, dried fruit and vegetables. Continue just a few steps over to Gounari Street for a delicious bougatsa, peinirli, piroshki, and cheese or spinach pie. Note that every Sunday there is a market in Dragatsaniou Street and Mavromichali Street where you can find real bargains. From the Port of Piraeus you can travel to the Argosaronic Islands (also known as Attica’s islands) by hovercrafts or hydrofoils (flying dolphins).
ISLANDS

Athens is among the privileged metropolises of the world to be situated just a breath away from picturesque islands, Greece’s trademark. There are countless options for a one-day trip, a weekend or for a longer stay on the splendid islands of Attica region.

AEGINA

Aegina is the closest escape from the Attica mainland, an attractive destination that retains a laid-back atmosphere. It’s an island steeped in history, home to the Doric Temple of Aphaia -one of the best preserved temples of antiquity. Don’t forget to purchase some Aegina pistachio nuts; they taste great and make a great gift. You will find beautiful sandy beaches to swim, relax and sunbathe. The crowded by fishing boats waterfront exudes a colourful and vibrant ambiance during your stroll.

HYDRA

Hydra is one of the most picturesque islands of the Argosaronic Gulf renowned as the one made of stone with its neo-classical grey-stone mansions and narrow cobbled lanes. It is completely car free, offering very calm and peaceful holidays. The waterfront is packed with cafés, posh restaurants and quaint tavernas where you can sip your coffee or enjoy your meal. For breathtaking sea views, just follow the pebbly path leading to the fishing village of Kamini.
AGISTRI
Agistri is a tiny, yet charming island, a small paradise with azure waters, pine trees and lush vegetation. There are three large settlements to visit: Megalochori (or Mylos), Skala and Limenaria. Explore exotic beaches with crystal-clear waters and enjoy several water sports or follow beautiful walking routes through the island’s dense pine forest. At Skala, the island’s bustling port, you will find many hotels, tavernas, cafés and clubs, as well as an organised beach, perfect for relaxing and sunbathing under the hot Mediterranean sun.

POROS
Lush pine trees vegetation, crystal clear beaches, a lively waterfront with many shops, cosy cafés and restaurants, a picturesque capital with grand traditional mansions and picturesque cobbled streets, as well as a wide selection of entertainment venues are the ingredients of this quiet, yet cosmopolitan, destination that attracts visitors from all age groups.

SPETSES
Cosmopolitan Spetses is an island boasting a long naval tradition with its well-preserved grand captain mansions, still bearing the island’s glorious past. Take a romantic trip around the island in horse-drawn carriages and get to know the picturesque old harbour and the imposing Dapia harbour, where the heart of the island’s entertainment beats. During September don’t miss the ‘Armata’, an impressive reenactment of a naval battle that attracts thousands of visitors every year. Before you leave, remember to buy some delicious almond sweets.

Find your accommodation in the islands at: www.all-athens-hotels.com
METHANA
The peninsula of Méthana with its two steep volcanic slopes is actually a volcano that emerged from the sea! Here you can explore stunning volcanic landscape with dense vegetation, coastal villages and diverse flora and fauna. It's a popular spa town famous for its thermal healing springs at two sites within the Methana resort, Agios Nikolaos and Agioi Anargyroi, attracting thousands of Greek and foreign visitors every year, especially in the summer.

SALAMINA
Salamina is the largest island of the Saronic Gulf, best known for the battle of Salamis (480 BC), a turning point in the Persian Wars. It is located off the coast of the port of Piraeus and is renowned as the birthplace of Ajax and the writer Euripides. While on the island, discover the island's centuries-old cultural heritage, its natural beauty and religious monuments and taste fresh seafood and local delicacies at the scenic taverns on the waterfront.

KYTHERA AND ANTIKYThERA
Situated off the south-eastern edge of the Peloponnese, Kythera Island has always been an important crossroads for the eastern Mediterranean. Easily accessed by boat from Piraeus, the mountainous island of Kythera is the perfect summer destination for relaxing, carefree holidays in a beautiful, romantic environment. Stroll around its narrow pathways and feel the Venetian allure of the island as well as the eclectic cultural and architectural mix, obvious in every corner of this island. Between the islands of Kythera and Crete, lies the islet of Antikythera, an ideal destination for quiet vacations. In 1900, the famous Antikythera shipwreck was discovered at the depth of 50-52m, hence the island’s popularity. Among all the archaeological finds, the famous ‘Adolescent of Antikythera’ (340 BC) and the well-known ‘Antikythera mechanism’ were recovered.
HISTORIC PATHWAYS IN ATHENS

WELCOME TO ATHENS, THE HISTORICAL CAPITAL OF EUROPE, WITH A LONG, RICH HISTORY AND MODERN VIBRATIONS.

Let’s take a historic walk and explore charming old-style neighborhoods, oases away from the hustle and bustle of the city center, such as Makrygianni, Plaka, Thiseio, Kerameikos, Monastiraki, and Psyrri. In every step around this area, you will come across different archaeological monuments, museums, and art galleries. Besides that, enjoy the excellent weather, yummy food, vivid nightlife, and the open, Greek leisured lifestyle!
MAKRYGIANNI NEIGHBORHOOD

Remnants of a glorious past

Our tour starts at the **Temple of Olympian Zeus** (6th c. BC), -one of the largest temples in antiquity- and **Hadrian’s Arch** or **Hadrian’s Gate** (131 AD), the entrance to the old city. Admire this beautiful triumphal arch that was built over the line of an ancient road leading from the Acropolis and the Athenian Agora area to the Temple of Olympian Zeus, and take your time to read the inscription on the western side of the arch (facing the Acropolis): “This is Athens, the former city of Theseus” and on the eastern side (facing the Olympieion): “This is the city of Hadrian, and not of Theseus”.

From this point walk along **Dionysiou Areopagitou Street**, the pedestrian walkway created to connect the most significant archaeological sites surrounding the sacred rock of the Acropolis. Give yourself the chance to visit the **Theater of Dionysos**, one of the world’s oldest theaters where the great plays of Sophocles, Euripides, Aeschylus and Aristophanes were performed during the golden age of Greek drama, as well as the **ruins of the Asklepieion** (5th c. B.C.). Take a look at the **Stoa of Eumenes** (2th c. BC) before you enter the **Odeion of Herodes Atticus** (161 AD), which is nowadays the main venue for the summer Athens Festival performances, in the shadow of the Acropolis and under the Athenian stars!

“The Theater of Dionysos, one of the world’s oldest theaters, where the great plays of Sophocles, Euripides, Aeschylus and Aristophanes were performed during the golden age of Greek drama”
THE SACRED ROCK OF THE ACROPOLIS

*A once in a lifetime experience*

Put on your most comfortable shoes and climb up to the sacred hill of the Acropolis, the greatest and finest sanctuary of ancient Athens, dedicated primarily to its patron, the goddess Athena. The Acropolis is definitely Greece’s most famous attraction, a landmark of human history and on the UNESCO World Heritage List. For a holistic understanding of the whole site, follow up with a tour of the impressive **Acropolis Museum**, housing more than 3,000 famous artefacts from the Acropolis. If you need a break, pay a visit to the **Acropolis Museum café and restaurant** and enjoy your coffee or taste Greek local dishes taking in the panoramic views of the Parthenon Temple!
TOWARDS THISEIO
THE ANCIENT AGORA & KERAMEIKOS

On your way out of the Acropolis, you will come across a high, slippery limestone rock, known as the Mars Hill (Areios Pagos), the most ancient law court of the world. Opposite lies Philopappou Hill, renowned in antiquity as the Hill of the Muses, with its strikingly beautiful cobbled little roads and the Roman monument of Philopappos (2nd c. AD) on the top of the hill. This summit affords extraordinary views of the Parthenon and the Athenian skyline. Close by, hidden among the pine trees, is the Pnyx, where the citizens of ancient Athens used to assemble and exert their democratic rights and where Pericles and Themistocles delivered their orations. Walking further along the pedestrian road (the name of the street changes to Apostolou Pavlou), to reach the picturesque square of Thiseio, one of the liveliest corners of the city, filled with cafés and restaurants open day and night. Turning right to Adrianos Street, you will enter the Ancient Agora, the heart of public life in ancient times: Literally the birthplace of democracy. Pay a visit to the Temple of Hephaestus (460 - 420 BC) and the Stoa of Attalos that used to be the major commercial building of ancient Athens. Continue towards Ermou Street and wander around Kerameikos, the vast cemetery of the ancient city; gaze at the impressive tomb sculptures and stelae. In the center of the archeological site, discover the two most famous Gates of ancient Athens: Dipylon and Iera Pyli. Pay particular attention to the river bed of Iridanos River!
PLAKA

The neighborhood of the Gods

Stroll around Plaka, one of the most alluring and cosy districts in Athens. Renowned among the Athenians as the Neighborhood of the Gods, Plaka will cast a spell on you with its winding streets and nicely restored neoclassical houses and coffee shops, tavernas and tiny mezedopolia (small tavernas serving traditional tidbits (meze). Relax and enjoy your beverage or a meal with the right touch of romance and nostalgia of the past. You will be overwhelmed by the plethora of folk art items, works of art, traditional products, clothing and handmade articles found in souvenir shops all around. You will also encounter significant monuments and sites from antiquity and the city’s Roman and Ottoman past. The district is a real cultural mosaic: Small churches and mosques, a hammam, the Roman Agora, and the first university of Greece. Take a picture by the Tower of the Winds in the Roman Agora and walk along Tripodon Street, which has held the same name since antiquity. Finally, run against the Monument of Lysicrates that stands as a reminder of the glorious past of the street!
FROM THE PARLIAMENT TO MONASTIRAKI

The big bazaar of the city

Begin your stroll from Syntagma Square, where you can watch the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in front of the Greek Parliament. After your souvenir photo next to the immovable statuette guards, take Ermou Street, one of the busiest shopping spots in Athens, towards Monastiraki. Treat yourselves to fashion items, apparel, electronics and books. In the middle of the street you will come across one of the most prominent Byzantine monuments in Athens, the Church of Panagia Kapnikarea, dedicated to the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Turn left on Mitropoleos Street and enjoy a leisurely walk amongst restaurants and shops before ending up at Mitropoleos square with the majestic Cathedral (Mitropolis) of Athens and the historic and elegant Agios Eleftherios Church. From here, walk straight to Pandrossou Street. This is a narrow pedestrian street where you can discover all sorts of souvenir shops and a large number of stores preserving their tradition in sandal making and other leather articles. Several workshops situated on Adrianou, Normanou and Theklas streets can create your personalized order of ancient Greek-style sandals. Lots of superstars have chosen to wear Greek sandals over time. The Beatles, Jackie Kennedy, Barbra Streisand, Rudolf Nureyev, Anthony Quinn, Sophia Loren, are just some of the members of the jet set who have made Greek leather sandals famous worldwide. Will you be able to resist buying your own pair of sandals? Continue straight ahead and reach the lively Monastiraki Square. Shopping or just walking around this area of the city is an amazing experience that you do not want to miss. You will be amazed by the quality and quantity of products and you will definitely be tempted to buy something. In the tavernas around the area taste the world famous Greek souvlaki or gyros pita with a view of the reconstructed neoclassic metro station.

Cross the square, and continue onward to Ifaistou Street where every Sunday there is a flea market that spreads over side streets and sidewalks. Stroll through the quaint alleys and find all sorts of treasures, as Monastiraki is certainly THE vintage lovers’ paradise! Within minutes, you will find yourself at Avissynias Square, a favourite hangout for the young crowd of the city. Relax and have a coffee or a glass of Greek wine and ouzo with mezedes on the rooftop cafes and bars, and try out imaginative cocktails with great views of the Acropolis. A few blocks ahead, turn left at Kinetou Street which will lead you to Adrianou Street in front of the Ancient Agora.
PSYRRI

The bohemian neighborhood

Psyrri is the district companion to Monastiraki with a strong arty and bohemian flair. It is known for its vibrant nightlife with trendy cafés, ouzo bars, live music tavernas and restaurants offering Greek Mediterranean flavours. The district combines old and new points of interests full of secret corners and surprises! Discover its hidden alleys, street art and alternative art spaces and indulge yourself in the fascinating atmosphere! Shopping here is an exciting experience with sophisticated or fun fashion suggestions by talented young designers. Artisans’ workshops that sell sandals, suitcases, lampshades, old vinyls and second-hand books create a picturesque image!

ANAFIOTIKA

A Cycladic breath in the city center

While walking through Plaka you will come upon a tiny, scenic little neighborhood at the foothills of the Acropolis that will give you the impression of being on a Greek island, particularly one in the Cyclades. Welcome to Anafiotika, a little hidden gem built in the early 19th century, when master builders from Anafi Island (hence the name) came to Athens to refurbish the King’s Palace.
TIPPING YOU OFF ON THE PERFECT DAY OUT & ABOUT THE GREEK CAPITAL.

THE STREETS OF PLAKA
EARLY MORNING

rise & shine

with an iced coffee and delish local breakfast at a quaint café in the most famous historical pedestrian district.

THE PARTHENON & THE ACROPOLIS MUSEUM
LATE MORNING BEFORE THE HEAT SETS IN

definitely visit

the mother of all landmarks. Take your time to take it all in. Mouth-gaping included.

DIONYSIOU AEROPAGITOU PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY
JUST BEFORE LUNCH

city of athens info point

Stop for a breather and plan the rest of your day with Renia & the girls whose “tips” will lead you off the beaten track.

HISTORICAL CENTER
LUNCH TIME

grab a light lunch

and refreshing drink at one of the many popular, bite-size café-restaurants, eateries & food shops in Athens’ buzzing commercial district.

KOLONAKI
EARLY AFTERNOON

head to that cool museum

or gallery for your contemporary culture treat in Athens’ posh district... you know the one that Renia at our info point told you about!
time for a break

and a bit of a chill out in an “oasis” of green, shade and calm right in the heart of the city. Don’t forget to promenade towards the imposing Zappeio Exhibition Hall.

ROOFTOP RESTAURANT OF YOUR CHOICE
EARLY EVENING DINNER

enjoy an elevated
gastronomy experience

perched on one of the countless rooftop restaurants that Athens has on offer. Complete with a stunning view of the Acropolis and a compelling summer sunset.

OPEN AIR CINEMAS NEAR THE CENTER
LATER ON IN THE EVENING

have you ever watched
a film under the stars?

A not-to-be-missed opportunity for movie lovers and romantics at heart.

IN NOOKS & CRANNIES ALL OVER ATHENS DOWNTOWN
LATE EVENING

hey, no yawning now!

Explore our bustling night scene starting with award-winning cocktail drinks all the way to live music & dance happenings all over town.

use
#thisisathens
to share your own personal
athens experience!

Meet up with one of our local volunteers who will give you a taste of the real, live-in Athens. Make sure to book ahead of time; go to thisismyathens.org, before all slots fill up.

check out more info:
www.thisisathens.org
A WALK AROUND ATHENS WILL REVEAL MANY IMPORTANT ANCIENT SITES FROM THE CLASSICAL AND THE ROMAN TIMES. MUSEUMS FEATURE AWE-INSPIRING EXHIBITS ILLUSTRATING MYTHS, LEGENDS, HISTORY, DEFEAT, LIFE, LOVE AND DEATH IN THE BIRTHPLACE OF WESTERN CIVILISATION.

In this city, archaeological research and collective works never cease. Treasures from bygone eras are continually coming to light and we gain a wider understanding of the historical evolution of the Attica region with every new discovery. Athens is loaded with archaeological sites, museums, Byzantine churches, urban sculptures and libraries, and important buildings that tell a different story about this unique land. At the same time, you can get acquainted with the Greek modern and contemporary art browsing in the area’s small galleries and art spaces: A vibrant reflection of contemporary Greek life.
MUSEUMS

A KALEIDOSCOPE OF HISTORY, CULTURE AND TRADITION

ACROPOLIS MUSEUM

15, Dionysiou Areopagitou St., Athens
T: +30 210 9000900
www.theacropolismuseum.gr
Open daily: April 1 - October 31
Monday: 08.00-16.00, Tuesday-Sunday: 08.00-20.00, Friday: 08.00-22.00
November 1 - March 31: Monday-Thursday 09.00-17.00, Friday: 09.00-22.00,
Saturday-Sunday 09.00-20.00
Closed: January 1, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday, May 1st, December 25-26
Entrance fee: 5€, Reduced 3€
Free entrance: Gift shop and restaurant

Listed in the world’s top 20, the new Acropolis Museum is home to unique masterpieces, mainly from the Archaic and Classical periods. All exhibits are directly connected to the Acropolis and offer panoramic views of the monument from the museum’s halls. The exhibits once decorated the buildings that were constructed during the Acropolis’ various historical periods. Unfortunately, not all the exhibits are original. Various sculptures from Greece are now scattered across Europe, in museums like the British Museum and the Louvre.

NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM

44, Patision Ave., Athens
T: +30 213 2144800
www.namuseum.gr
Opening Days: Monday 13.00-20.00
Tuesday-Sunday: 08.00-20.00
Closed: December 25th-26th, January 1st, March 25th, Easter Sunday, May 1st
Entrance fee: 10€, Reduced 3€
Free entrance: Every first Sunday of the month, from November 1st to March 31st

The National Archaeological Museum is the largest museum in Greece and one of the most important of its kind in the world. It was originally built to secure all the 19th century excavations, mainly from the region of Attica, but also from other parts of the country. It gradually became the main national archaeological Museum, enriched with finds from various periods of Greek history. Its rich collections, listing more than 11,000 exhibits, offer visitors an inside view of the ancient Greek Civilisation from the beginnings of prehistoric times to late antiquity. The museum is housed in an imposing neoclassical building, built in the late 19th century. The design belongs to L. Lange. However, it was finally remodelled by Ernst Ziller.
The Byzantine and Christian Museum, which is based in Athens, is one of Greece’s national museums. Its areas of competency are centered on religious artefacts of the Early Christian, Byzantine, Medieval, post-Byzantine and later periods. The museum has over 25,000 artefacts in its possession. The artefacts date from between the 3rd and the 20th century AD, and their provenance encompasses the entire Greek world, as well as regions in which Hellenism flourished. The size and range of the collections and value of the exhibits makes the Museum a veritable treasury of Byzantine and post-Byzantine art and culture.

**THE BYZANTINE AND CHRISTIAN MUSEUM**

22, Vas. Sofias Ave., Athens  
T. +30 213 2139572  
www.byzantinemuseum.gr  
Opening days: Tuesday-Sunday: 09:00-16:00  
Closed: Monday, and the following holidays: 1st January, 25th March, Good Friday (open: 12:00-17:00), Easter, May 1st, December 25th-26th.  
Entrance Fee: General admission: 4 €, Discount: 2 €  
Free entrance: under 18 years old  

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**BENAKI MUSEUM**

1, Koumbari St., Kolonaki, Athens  
T. +30 210 3671000  
www.benaki.gr  
Opening days:  
Wednesday, Friday: 09.00 - 17.00  
Thursday, Saturday: 09.00 - 24.00  
Sunday: 09.00 - 15.00  
The Shop and Café-Restaurant are open during the opening hours of the Museum.  
Entrance fee: 6 € to 8 € depending on the exhibition  
Reduced: 3 € to 4 € depending on the exhibition  
Unified ticket: 20% discount on the total admission cost of the exhibitions on the day of the visit.  
The multi-dynamic Pireos Street Cultural Centre is an industrial building of the 1960’s transformed into a modern museum space, which includes a central atrium, a 400-seat amphitheatre, designed to accommodate multiple events and an exhibition-hall span of 3,000 m2. The Cultural Centre hosts cultural events and exhibitions that relate to art, music, dance, theatre, film and various conferences.
NUMISMATIC MUSEUM

12, El. Venizelou (Panepistimiou), Iliou Melathron, Athens
T. +30 210 3632057, +30 210 3612834
www.enma.gr

Opening days:
Tuesday – Sunday 08.30 - 15.30

Closed: Monday, and the following holidays: January 1st, March 25th, Orthodox Easter Sunday, May 1st, December 25-26th

Entrance fee: €6, Reduced: €3

Special ticket package: €15, Reduced: €8

The Numismatic Museum is one of the oldest public museums in Greece. It was established in 1834. Today it is housed in the Iliou Melathron, the stately residence of the archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann, the “father of Mycenaean archaeology”. The Numismatic Museum owns 500,000 acquisitions –mostly coins as well as medals, lead bullae, gems, weights, obeloi and talents- dated from the 14th century BC until today. It holds a very important collection of coins from the 6th century BC until the 5th century CE like those from the Greek Poleis and the Hellenistic and Roman periods. There also major Byzantine and Medieval collections from Western Europe, the East and the Ottoman Empire.

CYCLADIC ART MUSEUM

4, Neoplyhtou Douka St., Kolonaki, Athens
T. +30 210 7228521
www.cycladic.gr

Opening days: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 10.00 - 17.00
Thursday: 10.00 - 20.00
Sunday: 11.00 - 17.00

Closed: Tuesday

Entrance fee: 7 €, Reduced 3.5 €
Monday entrance fee: 3.5 €

Groups of 15 people or more: 5 €/person.
Free entrance: Members of the Cycladic Art Museum, disabled, archaeology students, members of ICOM and ICOMOS.

Dedicated to studying and promoting the Aegean’s and Cyprus’ ancient cultures, the Cycladic Art Museum was founded in 1986. It’s initial purpose was to house Nicholas and Dolly Goulandris’ private collection. The museum’s highlight is without doubt the Cycladic art exhibits, dating back to the 3rd millennium BC. Nowadays, the museum focuses on three major subjects: Cycladic Art, Ancient Greek Art and Ancient Cypriot Art. Don’t forget to visit the new gift shop, where you will find books and interesting exhibition volumes. Crowds tend to meet for coffee or lunch at the Cycladic Café, a unique location where Cycladic minimal aesthetics meet authentic Cycladic tastes.

THE VORRES MUSEUM

1, Parodos Diadochou Konstantinou, Paiania
T. +30 210 6642520, +30 210 6644771
www.vorresmuseum.gr

Opening Days:
Saturday & Sunday: 10:00 - 14:00
Weekdays by appointment only
and for groups of twenty (20) persons or more.

Entrance fee: 5 €, Reduced: 3 € (students)
Workshop: 5 €

The Vorres Museum is a cultural foundation that was established in 1983. The museum sprawls over six acres and is divided into two main sections: the museum of contemporary Greek art and the folk art museum, both of which house collections that cover at least 2500 years of Greek history. In the contemporary part, paintings, installations and sculptures created exclusively by Greek artists, are exhibited. The folk art section houses antiquities, icons, ceramics, popular artifacts and objects used in daily Greek life centuries ago. The Museum is situated near the airport, in Paiania, a suburb of Athens.

HELLENIC MOTOR MUSEUM

3rd Septembriou Av., Ioulianou St. & 28th Octovriou Av., Athens
T. +30 210 8816 187
www.hellenicmotormuseum.gr

Open 7-days a week:
Monday-Friday 10:00-14:00
Saturday – Sunday 11:00-18:00

Free entrance: children 0-6

Guided Tour: every Sunday 12:00 - 13:00
from 1st Oct till 30th June - upon request

The Hellenic Motor Museum is a must-see attraction, as it exhibits 120 exquisite samples of the international automobile industry, including brands like BENTLEY, ROLLS ROYCE, BUGATTI, ASTON MARTIN, BRISTOL, LAMBORGHINI, FERRARI, MASERATI.

Moreover, models of famous brands from the past that no longer exist, such as AVION VOISIN, ADLER, PACKARD, FACEL VEGA,
DELAGE, ISO, DINO, STANGUELINI, SIATA, FRAZER NASH, H.R.G., ELVA, MILLER, OFFENHAUSER, are displayed in the museum.

3 minutes walking distance from metro station.

KERAMEIKOS ARCHAEOLOGICAL MUSEUM
148, Ermou St., Athens
T.+30 210 3463552
Opening days: Monday - Sunday: 08.00 - 20.00
Closed: Monday
Entrance fee: € 8, Reduced € 4
The Kerameikos is an ancient cemetery. Thus, the museum almost exclusively houses funer al exhibits. The excavations were carried out by the German Archaeological Institute and though the museum is simple and small, it is home to many important items.

ILIAS LALAOUNIS JEWELRY MUSEUM
12, Kallisperi & Karyatidon St., Acropolis, Athens
T. +30 210 9221044, +30 210 9239709
www.lalaounis-jewelrymuseum.gr

Opening Days:
Tuesday-Saturday: 9.00 - 15.00
Sunday: 11.00 - 16.00
Closed: Monday and National holidays
Entrance fee: € 5, Reduced € 4

If you and your children are jewelry or art lovers, then the Ilias Lalaounis Jewelry Museum is the place to be! It is a unique museum devoted to the art of jewellery and the decorative arts. The permanent exhibition displays 3,000 selected jewels and microsculptures and holds 40,000 designs made by the founder Ilias Lalaounis, a renowned jeweller and goldsmith. The permanent collections, enriched with private collections, include artifacts from different periods while temporary exhibitions suggest a variety of objects from the decorative arts. The highlight of the museum is an authentic jewelry workshop on the ground floor that both you and the little ones will adore. Take your time to observe the museum’s resident goldsmith at work and learn about ancient goldsmithery techniques, as well as tools and materials of the trade.

Ask for:
- your free tour
- free tickets every Saturday and all through August
- the children’s corner
- our special greek coffee
- for lalaounis vintage jewelry on sale this month

BENAKI MUSEUM OF ISLAMIC ART
22, Asomaton & 12, Dipylon St., Kerameikos, Athens
T. +30 210 3251311
www.benaki.gr
Opening days:
Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday:
10.00 - 18.00
Entrance fee: 9 €, Reduced 7 €

The Benaki Museum of Islamic Art is the only museum of its kind in Greece, featuring a unique collection of world-renowned artifacts, one of the top-ten collections worldwide. Visitors can follow the development of Islamic art up to the 19th century through over 8,000 samples of pottery, metalwork, jewellery, weaving, woodcarving, glass, bone objects, inscribed tombstones, weapons and the interior of a marble reception of a 17th Cent. Cairo mansion.

MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF ATHENS
5-7, I. Paparrigopoulou St., Athens
T. +30 210 3231387
www.athenscitymuseum.gr
Opening days: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday: 09:00-16:00
Saturday and Sunday: 10:00-15:00
Closed: Tuesday, January 1, December 25-26 and Easter Sunday and Monday.
Entrance fee: 5 €, Reduced 3 € (children, students, scouts, seniors and groups of more than four people).
Free entrance: Disabled
For school, group and tour visit, contact: +30 210 3251387 & +30 210 3231397

The Museum of the City of Athens - part of the Vouros-Eutaxias Foundation - is housed in two historic buildings. Its main theme is no other than the City of Athens. The museum houses the original 1842 template of the modern city of Athens, as well as paintings, prints, sculptures, historic furniture and other objects, carpets, musical instruments, photographs, historical documents, rare books and memorabilia.
WORLD HERITAGE SITES

ATHENS IS HOME TO TWO UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITES: THE ACROPOLIS OF ATHENS AND THE MEDIEVAL DAPHNI MONASTERY
THE ACROPOLIS

Entrance fee: 20 €, Reduced 10 €
Special Ticket Package:
Full 30 €, Reduced 15 €

A visit to the Acropolis, is definitely a once in a lifetime experience you should not miss! It is the most famous attraction of Greece, a landmark in human history, and a World Cultural Heritage Monument. Put on your most comfortable shoes and climb the sacred rock of the Acropolis, the greatest and finest sanctuary of ancient Athens, dedicated primarily to its patron, the goddess Athena. Up to the Acropolis -also known as Cecropia, after the legendary serpent-man, Cecrops, the first Athenian king- you can admire some of the most important masterpieces of architecture and art in the world such as the Parthenon Temple, the impressive Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike and the Erechtheion, the most sacred part of the Acropolis, where goddess Athena’s sacred symbol -the olive tree- grew. From here you will have a stunning view of the city. For a more holistic understanding of the archaeological site, you can take a tour of the impressive Acropolis Museum, which houses more than 3,000 famous artefacts from the Acropolis. If you need a break, take a seat in the museum’s café and restaurant and enjoy your coffee or a menu of Greek local dishes with the most shining views of the Acropolis!

DAPHNI MONASTERY

Located on the outskirts of Alsos Chaidari (Chaidari Grove), between Athens and Eleusina, The Dafni Monastery is an 11th century. Byzantine monastery founded on the site of an ancient temple. It is one of the great masterpieces of the Byzantine Empire, especially famed for its beautiful interior mosaics. Dafni Monastery was inscribed to the UNESCO list in 1990 together with Nea Moni of Chios and Osios Loukas, near Delphi, as they belong to the same typological series and share the same aesthetic characteristics. They are all built on a cross-in-square plan with a large dome supported by squinches defining an octagonal space. In the 11th and 12th centuries they were decorated with superb marble works as well as mosaics on a gold background, all characteristic of the “second golden age of Byzantine art”. Once you enter the Dafni Monastery you will realise that it is impossible for the camera lens to truly capture the spirituality, power and glory of the light emanating from the figure of Christ in the dome of the monastery’s “katholikon” (main church). One thing’s for sure; it’s a place of sheer beauty you shouldn’t miss while in Athens.
ANCIENT SITES IN ATHENS AND ATTICA

THE THEATRE OF DIONYSOS
Entrance fee: 20 €, Reduced 10 €
The Theatre of Dionysos is one of the world’s oldest theatres, used for festivals in honor of the god Dionysus, where the great plays of Sophocles, Euripides, Aeschylus and Aristophanes were performed during the golden age of Greek drama. It lies on the south slope of the Acropolis. (6th century BC)

THE ODEON OF HERODES ATTICUS
Today, the odeon is the main venue for the summer Athens Festival performances, in the shadow of the Acropolis and under the Athenian stars! It was established in 1661 AD by the magnate Athenian Herodes Atticus in memory of his wife. It was then used as a concert hall.

PNYKA (Pnyx Hill)
Literally THE birthplace of democracy and the Public Assembly of the citizens place of ancient Athenians. This is where they used to meet the discuss the city’s issues.

PHILOPAPPOS HILL
Renowned in antiquity as the Hill of the Muses with its strikingly beautiful cobbled little roads and the Roman monument of Philopappos (2nd century AD), this summit affords extraordinary views of the Parthenon and the Athenian skyline.

THE ANCIENT AGORA
Entrance fee: 8 €, Reduced 4 €
The heart of public life in Ancient times. Pay a visit to the Temple of Hephaestus (460-420 BC) and the Stoa of Attalos that used to be the major commercial building of ancient Athens.

THE ROMAN AGORA
Entrance fee: 6 €, Reduced 3 €
The agora is a unified architectural complex constructed between 19-11 BC, thanks to a donation from Julius and Augustus. It was used as the main commercial market during the Roman Times. North of the complex is Hadrian’s library (a rectangular building), built in 132 AD. During the Byzantine period and the Turkish occupation the area was covered with houses, workshops and churches, along with the Fethiye Mosque.

TEMPLE OF OLYMPIAN ZEUS
Entrance fee: 6 €, Reduced 3 €
The temple is one of the largest temples in antiquity (6th century BC), with 15 of its 104 columns still standing. According to the traveler Pausanias, it was built by Deucalion, a mythical ancestor of Greeks. Several attempts to build the temple were made until it took its final form in 31 BC by the Roman Emperor Hadrian.

THE ARCHAELOGICAL SITE OF SOUNIO
Entrance fee: 8 €, Reduced 4 €
The Temple of Poseidon, the ancient Greek god of the sea, dominates the southernmost tip of Attica, where the horizon meets the Aegean Sea. Perched on the craggy rocks of Cape Sounio, the temple is one of the most impressive ancient temples in Greece, enveloped in myth and history from antiquity until the present day. The unknown architect is probably the same one who built the Temple of Hephaestus in the Ancient Agora of Athens.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF KERAMEIKOS
Entrance fee: 8 €, Reduced 4 €
The oldest and largest cemetery in Ancient Athens, Kerameikos is located to the west of the Acropolis, outside the boundaries of the city. See the impressive tomb sculptures and stelae. Discover in the center of the archaeological site the two most famous Gates of ancient Athens, Dipylon and Iera Pyli, and pay attention to the river bed of the Iridanos River!
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF VRAVRON
Entrance fee: 6 €, Reduced 3 €
A few kilometres from Spata lies the Sanctuary of Goddess Artemis and the Archaeological Museum, which presents an extensive and important collection of finds from the site.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF MARATHON
Entrance fee: 6 €, Reduced 3 €
Marathon is well worth a visit with an archaeological site and museum that houses five thematic exhibition rooms, a patio and a large storage basement. Its collections come directly from excavations in the surrounding area and include items from the Neolithic period to the late Roman era, the most famous being from the Tomb of the Athenians and the prehistoric burial grounds that you can visit in the nearby area. Apart from the battlefield and the tomb, you can see the replica of the tropaion (trophy) erected by the Athenians following the victorious battle.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF ELEFSINA
Entrance fee: 6 €, Reduced 3 €
Elefsina is one of the most important sites in Greece, where the Eleusinian Mysteries were held. You can visit the sacred court, the Greater and lesser Propylea, the Telesterion, the triumphal arches, the Callirchoron Well, the Ploitoneion, and the Mycenaean Megaron. For a more holistic approach to these mysteries, it’s worth a visit to Elefsina’s nearby Archaeological Museum.

THE PANATHINAIC STADIUM
Entrance fee: 5 €, Reduced 2.5 €
The Panathenaic Stadium, also known as the Kallimarmaro (meaning the ‘beautifully marbled’), is a classical cultural monument of Greece. It has a long and interesting history that spans the centuries. Constructed in the 4th century B.C., it was used to host events related to the celebration of the city of Athens, the “Great Panathenaia”. In the late 19th century, the Stadium underwent major reconstructions and took its final form. Its history is directly connected to the Modern Olympic Games, from their revival in 1896 until the Athens Olympic Games in 2004. It is also the place from which the Olympic Flame is delivered to all the Olympic Games, Winter, Summer and Youth.

IMPORTANT BUILDINGS

ATHENS ACADEMY,
ATHENS UNIVERSITY
Built by the Hansen brothers of Copenhagen, Athens’ trilogy is composed by the Athens Academy, flanked by imposing statues of Apollo and Athena on either side. Don’t forget to look up and notice the impressive frescoes at its entrance depicting the myth of Prometheus.
Access: 28-32, Panepistimiou St. Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

ARSAKEION MEGARON
The Arsakeion Megaron is one of the finest examples of modern Athenian architecture, built by the renowned 19th century architect Lysandros Kaftantzoglou. This imposing building hosts the Council of State High Court. Adjacent to the Arsakeion Megaron is the Books’ Arcade, an ideal book-lovers haunt, a great shelter during a hot or rainy day.
Access: 47, Panepistimiou St. Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

ATHENS CITY HALL
A magnificent neoclassical building, situated in a breathtaking cobblestone square, bristling with cafés and busy shopping centres. (The picturesque Central Athens open-air meat market is right down the street). The square also functions as an open air antiquities museum and is surrounded by beautiful neoclassical buildings from the turn of the century. The City Hall also houses a valuable art collection.
Access: Kotzia Sq. Metro line green and red, Omonia Station
BANK OF GREECE
Designed by architects K. Papadakis and N. Zoumpoulidis, this building houses the Headquarters of the Central Bank of Greece. The official inauguration took place in 1938, under Governor Emmanouil Tsouderos.
Access: 21, Panepistimiou St., Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT
(Διώρυγα)
Overlooking Syntagma Square, it was originally the Royal Palace of King Otto and Queen Amalia. Designed in the neoclassical style by Friedrich von Gartner, the Royal Palace was completed in 1843. It was used as the Royal Residence until 1924 and since 1934 has housed the Greek Parliament. The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a monument in the forecourt of the Greek Parliament in memory of the servicemen who fell in the struggle for Greek independence. The tomb is guarded by the Presidential Guard (Evzones), in traditional costumes, whose intricately orchestrated changing of the guard at the turn of the hour attracts many visitors, who also take the opportunity to feed the flocks of ubiquitous pigeons.
Access: Syntagma Sq.
Metro blue and red line, Syntagma Station

NATIONAL THEATRE
The principal venue of the National Theater of Greece is an impressive neoclassical building, with a grand colonnaded facade and a beautiful interior.
Access: 22, Agiou Konstantinou St.
Metro red and green line, Omonia Station

OLD HOUSE OF PARLIAMENT
Once the first residence of King Otto, this neoclassical building today houses the National Historical Museum. It housed the Greek Parliament between 1843-1854 and 1875-1932. In front of the building stands the imposing equestrian bronze statue of General Theodoros Kolokotronis, one of the leaders of the Greek War of Independence.
Access: 13, Stadiou St.,
Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

OBSERVATORY
Designed by the renowned architect Theophil Hansen and inaugurated in 1842, this historic Observatory is the first of its kind in Greece and the Balkans. It has a unique cross-shaped structure, pointing to the four points of the horizon. Its resplendent golden dome can be seen gleaming in the Athens sky from quite a distance.
Access: Hill of Nymphs
Metro green line, Thisio

PRESIDENTIAL PALACE AND MEGARON MAXIMOU
The imposing Presidential Palace, which was formerly the Royal Residence, now hosts the Republic’s Presidency and is guarded by Evzones (Presidential Guards). It was designed by the renowned architect Ernst Ziller, in the 1870s. Nearby lies the neoclassical Megaron Maximou, the Prime Minister’s office.
Access: 19, Irodou Attikou St.
Metro red and blue line, Syntagma Station

ZAPPEION
Built in 1874-1878 on the order of the Greek-Romanian national benefactor Zapas, this lofty neoclassical structure was designed by the acclaimed architect Theophil Hansen. It originally housed an exhibition hall. Today it is one of the major venues to house international conferences and commercial events. Zappeion is surrounded by beautiful gardens and interesting sculptures.
Access: Amalias & Vasilissis Olgas Ave.
Metro blue and red line, Syntagma Station

TZISDARAKIS MOSQUE
It’s one of the few remaining historic buildings from the Ottoman Period overlooking the Monastiraki Square. It used to be an Ottoman mosque, built during the governorship of the Voivode (meaning ruler of the province) Tzisdarakis in Athens, in 1795. Today it houses the Museum of Greek Ceramic Art, while its minaret has been removed.

MUNICIPAL THEATRE OF PIRAEUS
The Municipal Theatre is a landmark in Piraeus city and the busiest part of the town, is located at Korai Square, between the Piraeus Port and picturesque Pasalimani. Built in the 1880s by architect Lazarimo, the Municipal Theater of Piraeus has recently been renovated and completely refurbished. The theatre is open again for the public, adding touches of glamour and shine to the city life of Piraeus and Athens.
Access: Korai Sq.
Metro green line, Piraeus Station
LIBRARIES

NATIONAL LIBRARY
In 2017, the National Library of Greece is relocating to a 24,000 m2 state-of-the-art building in the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC), enabling all existing research collections, currently located in three separate buildings, to be housed in a centralized location with the capacity to function as a venue for exhibitions of its holdings. A Business Center will provide the public with an active hub for enterprise, knowledge, and innovation, offering computer workstations, laptops, and wireless connectivity.

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CULTURAL CENTER
364 Syggrou Avenue, Kallithea

ATHENS’ MUNICIPAL LIBRARY
Founded in 1835 by the first Mayor of Athens, Anargyros Petrakis, the Municipal Library is ranked third after the National Library and the Library of the Hellenic Parliament, in terms of significance and size. It carries approximately 55,000 titles and offers two reading rooms: one for books and one for newspapers and magazines.
Access: 2, Domokou St.
Metro red line, Larissa Railway Station

GENNADIUS LIBRARY AT THE AMERICAN SCHOOL OF CLASSICAL STUDIES IN ATHENS
This is a center for the study of Greece since the end of antiquity. Opened in 1926 with 26,000 volumes from diplomat and bibliophile, Joannes Gennadius, the Gennadius Library now holds a richly diverse collection of over 120,000 books and rare bindings, archives, manuscripts, and works of art illuminating the Hellenic tradition and neighboring cultures.
Access: 61, Soudias St.
Metro blue line, Megaro Mousikis Station

EKEBI LIBRARY
(National Book Centre)
The Bibliological Library started operations in 1996 and is an intrinsic part of the activities of the National Book Centre of Greece. It is the first of its type, containing material on all subjects related to books and reading.
Access: 4, Athanasiou Diakou St., Koukaki,
Metro red line, Syggrou - Fix Station

THE LIBRARY OF THE HELLENIC PARLIAMENT
Main Library – Parliament Building
Access: Syntagma Sq.
Metro red and blue line, Syntagma Station

MUSIC LIBRARY OF ATHENS CONCERT HALL “LILIAN VOUDOURI”
The Athens Concert Hall is home to an ever-expanding library of works on music and other arts, designed and organized to international standards. The collection is enormous, and growing steadily, with a wealth of books and records featuring western music, as well as all manifestations of music in the Greek world – ancient, Byzantine, folk music, popular and art music, rembetika, archives of composers, rare collections, jazz, and examples of the music of traditional cultures of the world. There is also access to 150 digital publications and multimedia resources in various areas, rare books, concert programmes and numerous manuscripts.
Access: Vas. Sofias & 1, Kokkali St.
Metro blue line, Megaro Mousikis Station

HELLENIC AMERICAN UNION LIBRARY
Located on the 4th floor of the Massalias 22 building, the library houses over 35,000 titles in English and Greek, an online collection of over 250,000 digital books, subscriptions to major academic periodicals databases numbering 10,000,000 articles, and a rare book collection.
Access: 22, Massalias St.,
Metro line red, Panepistimio Station

FRENCH INSTITUTE LIBRARY
«Octave Merlier»
Access: 31 Sina Street
Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

LIBRARY OF E.L.I.A.
This library currently holds more than 100,000 volumes of books, magazines, almanacs and newspapers from the 19th century onwards and is considered as one of the most important - and in some subjects one of the most complete - libraries in the country.
Access: 5, Agiou Andreou St.,
Metro line blue or Green, Monastiraki Station

LIBRARY OF ATHENS SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS (ASFA)
This is the oldest and largest visual arts library in Greece.
Access: 256, Peiraios St.
Metro green line, Kalithea Station
GALLERIES

KALFAYAN GALLERIES
11, Haritos St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 7217679
email: info@kalfayangalleries.com
www.kalfayangalleries.com
Opening days: Closed: Monday, Saturday:
11.00 - 15.00, Tuesday-Friday: 11.00-19.00

Gallerists, collectors, but above all art lovers
and connoisseurs, the Kalfayan brothers
created two separate galleries: The first in
the centre of Thessaloniki and the second in
Athens. Roupen and Arsene, two brothers who
studied the archaeology of Middle Eastern
civilisations, are experts on Islamic art and
paper maintainance. Having been brought up
in a well-educated family, they became experts
and collectors of art, traveling from auction to
auction and managing to represent exceptional
talent and each of their exhibitions is considered
to be an important cultural event.

MUNICIPAL ART GALLERY
Lelonidou & Myllerou St., Metaxourgeio
T. +30 210 3243022
www.cityofathens.gr
Opening days: Tuesday: 10:00 - 21:00
Wednesday to Saturday: 10:00 - 19:00
Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00
Closed: Monday

The Municipal Art Gallery is housed in one of the
oldest neoclassical buildings in Athens. It was
founded in 2011 and since then it has obtained
approximately 3000 works of art of famous
Greek artists. The building exhibition consists
of two rooms, one in which the standard works
of art are exhibited and one in which special
culture events take place.

NIKOS HADJIKYRIAKOS
GHika GALLERY
3, Kriezotou St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 3615702, +30 210 3630818
www.benaki.gr
Opening days:
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday:
10:00 - 18:00
Closed: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and the
following holidays: 25 March, 1 May, 15
August, 28 October, Christmas Day and Boxing
Day, New Year's Day, Epiphany, Easter Day,
Easter Monday, Clean Monday, Holy Spirit Day.
Also closed in August.
The Shop:
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10:00-19:00
Monday, Wednesday: 10:00-15:00
Closed: Sunday and the following holidays:
25 March, 1 May, 15 August, 28 October,
Christmas Day and Boxing Day, New Year's Day,
Epiphany, Easter Day, Easter Monday,
Clean Monday, Holy Spirit Day.
Entrance fee: € 9, Temporary exhibition € 7
Reduced € 7, Temporary exhibition € 5

The building at 3 Kriezotou Street belonged
to the renowned Greek artist Nikos Hadjikyriakos-Ghika, who donated it to the Benaki Museum, in 1991. The Ghika Gallery attests to
the exceptional intellectual and artistic output
of Greece, throughout a particularly critical era.
The exhibition presents the work of an out-
standing generation, projecting the inter-con-
nections between its representatives and their
relations with the European avant-garde of
the time.

ATHENS ART GALLERY
4, Glykonos St., Athens
T. +30 210 7213938
e-mail: info@athensartgallery.gr
www.athensartgallery.gr
Opening days:
Tuesday - Friday: 10:00 -14:30,
18:00-21:00. Saturday: 11:00-14:30

The Athens Art Gallery was founded in 1963
and its main objective is the projection of con-
temporary visual media, while continuing its
tradition in painting, sculpting and supporting
new artists. In its long history, it has always in-
troduced the country to Greek expats and has
hosted major exhibitions such as: "De Signac
aux Surréalistes - selections from Paris' Muse-
um of Modern Art" and "Vassarely: ses maitres,
es disciples, ses amis". It has also collabo-
rated with the Greek National Gallery and
renowned galleries from abroad, such as the
Marlborough Gallery - New York, Karl Flinker
- Paris, Alexander Iolas - Paris, Galerie de France
- Paris.

ART 10 GALLERY
39, Parthenonos St., Acropolis
T. +30 210 9220181
e-mail: info@art10gallery.com
www.art10gallery.com
Opening days: Monday, Wednesday, Satur-
day: 10.00 - 15.00, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday:
10.00 - 20.00 Closed: Sunday

The Art10 Gallery nestles under the Acropolis.
Since 2008 it has been working with young
and renowned painters, sculptors, ceramists
and visual artists. The gallery promotes col-
lections through presentations and individual
or group exhibitions, thanks to continuous pro-
motion. The gallery’s activities have expanded
to frequent painting and pottery workshops,
felt decorations for children and adults, artistic
performances, storytelling, book presentations
and many other visual creations. Important tip:
check out the collection of ornaments, tagged
with the label "things". 
ARGO GALLERY
5, Neophytou Douka St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 7249333
e-mail: info@argo-gallery.gr
wwwargo-gallery.gr
Opening days: Tuesday-Friday: 10:00-14:00 and 18:00-21:00, Saturday: 11:00-15:00
Closed: Sunday, Monday

Argo Gallery was founded in Nicosia, Cyprus in 1970 by journalist, Kostas Serezis. It was officially characterised as the first serious attempt of a systematic projection of art in the newly established state. In 1976 it opened a branch in Athens and today it is located in the "Melathron Eos III" on Neophytoy Doukas Street, in the heart of Kolonaki. The building was designed by a prominent architect named K. D. Kapsampelis, who graced this road with outstanding buildings of the post-war era (1945-1974). The gallery doesn't only rely on its schedule, but also aims to promote young as well as recognised artists. It hosts various creations and never avoids innovative ideas, always open to any artistic trend if it has a story to tell.

MEDUSA
7, Xenokratous St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 7244552
e-mail: medusa7@otenet.gr
www.medusaa rtgallery.com

In 1979, at a time when the avant-garde expression of art was accepted only by a small number of people, Maria Dimitriadis founded the Medusa Art Gallery, where she began to present events, videos, photos, paintings and sculptures. In the decades since, the gallery has hosted exhibitions of Greek artists, with the participation of Greek art historians. Medusa Art Gallery spends a lot of time and effort to promote Greek artists abroad. In this context, it cooperates with organisers from international exhibitions and presents its partners to all the international biennales and museums.

EKFRASI
9A, Valaoritou St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 3607598
e-mail: info@ekfrasi-art.gr
www.ekfrasi-art.gr

The activity of the gallery Ekfrasi is characterised by the multiplicity of visual ideas, expressed through the work of distinguished contemporary Greek and foreign artists. It presents themed exhibitions of paintings, sculptures, photography, installations and videos. This gallery has been a messiah for many unknown artists, as it presented their work before they became more widely known.

ASTROLAVOS GALLERY
11, Xanthippou St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 7294342-3
e-mail: gallery@astrolavos.gr
www.astrolavos.gr
Opening days: Tuesday-Friday: 11.00 - 15.00 & 18:00 - 21:00 Saturday: 11.00 - 15.00
Closed: Sunday, Monday

Like all galleries, Astrolavos was created in order to present something different. Its basic principle is to introduce art lovers to newcomers and emerging talent. This gallery believes in organising exhibitions of various trends, since the only way to present something different is through freedom of expression. This establishment has three levels, allowing three different artists to display their work at the same time. But if you seek stability, there is a permanent exhibition of engravings, jewellery, sculptures and art objects on the upper level.

GALLERY SKOUFA
4, Skoufa St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 3643025
e-mail: info@skoufagallery.gr
www.skoufagallery.gr
Opening days: Monday, Wednesday and Saturday: 10.00-15.30, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 10.00-15.30 and 17.30-21.00
Closed: Sunday

Gallery Skoufa has operated since 1981, presenting contemporary Greek painting. It has a rich collection from the 1930s, as well as subsequent generations of Greek painters. The gallery accommodates selected pieces of art and exhibitions of emerging artists (painters, sculptors, printmakers, ceramists and more). Skoufa Gallery’s goal is to cover as best as possible the polymorphic nature of modern art.
CHURCHES

ATHENS CATHEDRAL
Dedicated to the Annunciation of Virgin Mary, Athens Cathedral was built in 1862. It is a three-aisled, domed basilica with its interior beautifully painted following the Byzantine tradition.
Access: Mitropoli Sq.
Metro red and blue line, Syntagma Station

THE OLD METROPOLIS
This is a charming little church located near the Athens Cathedral. It was built at the end of the 12th century in honor of Panagia Gorgoepikoos and Agios Eleftherios, mainly by using material from the city’s ancient monuments such as bas-reliefs from ancient and Byzantine times.
Access: Mitropoli Sq.
Metro red and blue line, Syntagma Station

AGIA IRINI
At the corner of Aiolou and Athinas Steets in Monastiraki lies the impressive church of Agia Irini. It was built in 1846 by the famous architect Lyssandros Kaftatzoglou and it was once the city’s Cathedral. The church is a three aisled domed basilica and its form is a combination of religious and neoclassical styles.
Access: Metro blue and green line, Monastiraki Station

AGIOS NIKOLAOS RAGAVAS
Located close to the Anaftotika area in Plaka, this church was built in the 11th century as part of the Ragava family palace. The church took its name from the area, which at that time, was called Ragavas.
Access: Plaka
Metro red line, Acropolis Station

AGIA EKATERINI (Plaka)
Close to the impressive Lysicrates Monument and in the middle of the square lies this beautiful church under the shadow of a palm tree and close to some Roman ruins. It dates back to the 11th-12th century.
Access: Plaka
Metro red line, Acropolis Station

SOTIRAS OF KOTAKI
Also known as Agia Sotira, this church was built in the 11th-12th century and has been through many later alterations and extensions.
Access: Kydathinaion St.
Metro red and blue line, Syntagma Station

AGIOI APOSTOLOI OF SOLAKIS
While strolling around the ancient Agora, you can visit one of the oldest churches in Athens, which was built on the ruins of a Roman nymphaeum of the 2nd century. It underwent a comprehensive restoration programme around the 1950s.
Access: Ancient Agora
Metro green line, Thiseio Station

PANTANASSA
This three aisled basilica dates back to the 10th century. It belonged to the Monastery Koimisis tis Theotokou (Assumption of the Virgin Mary), from which the whole area took its name. Before that it was monastery dependency of the Kaisariani Monastery.
Access: Monastiraki Sq.
Metro green & blue line, Monastiraki Station

AGIOI APOSTOLOI
This church that lies in Klafthmonos Street was built in the second half of the 11th century on the foundations of an older church. According to the inscription found on the western wall, this church dates back to 1065 AD. The bell tower was added later, while the imposing wall paintings date back to the 19th century.
Access: Aristidou and Evripidou St., Klafthmonos Square
Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

AGIOS GEORGIOS
This beautiful white church stands on top of Mount Lycabettus. The date of its construction is unknown.
Access: Funicular railway to the top of Mount Lycabettus
AGIOS DIONYSIOS AREOPAGITIS
The impressive Church of Saint Dionysios Areopagitis is situated in Kolonaki, on Skoufa St. and is dedicated to Athens’ first bishop and patron saint. The church’s construction started in 1923 and was designed by the renowned architect and archaeologist Anastasios Orlandos.
Access: Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

KAPNIKAREA
A Byzantine domed church of cross-in-square type, dedicated to the Presentation of the Virgin. The first building dates back to the 11th century while the church was completed in the 13th century. It took different names over the years such as Kamouchareas, Chrisokamouchariotissa, Panagia Bassilopoula, and Panagia of Penza (Prince). In 1834 when Ermou Street was constructed, there were several plans to move the church to another location, which ultimately didn’t go through.
Access: Ermou St., Metro red and blue line, Syntagma Station
EATING IN GREECE IS A TREAT FOR THE SENSES!

More and more people are learning to appreciate the delights and health benefits of the Mediterranean diet. Greek gastronomy has a recorded history of around 4,000 years, with special characteristics based on pure and unique quality goods of the Greek land: Extra virgin olive oil, fresh seasonal vegetables, greens and herbs, crispy pies and delicious roasts, fresh fish and seafood. All of these have established the Greek cuisine as one of the top cuisines in the world. If you want to find its secrets, Greek cuisine has four good quality fresh ingredients in particular: Correct use of flavourings (herbs), spices, the famous Greek olive oil, and simplicity. Throughout Athens, you will find a range of eateries representing the country’s gastronomic scene, from traditional tavernas serving good homely Greek cuisine to elegant restaurants serving up great dishes with a modern, creative twist. Moreover, Athens has many bar-restaurants and wine-bars, fast casual restaurants, and a wide choice of international cuisine to satisfy any visitor’s appetite. So when in Athens, get ready to discover that Greek cuisine has more than “moussaka”, “souvlaki” and “choriatiki” to offer. It presents a wide variety of dishes that will utterly satisfy the gastronomic desires of both vegetarians and meat lovers!
**ALERIA**

Stylish contemporary restaurant in a neoclassical villa and courtyard serving inventive Mediterranean cuisine. Located in Metaxourgeio, Aleria has succeeded in becoming one of the best restaurants in Athens as a consequence of offering a harmonious combination of an elegant and artistically designed decor with a cuisine that is world class in its inventiveness and quality. The food in Aleria combines a calm but confident control of modern cooking techniques with traditional home food, cooked with the best and freshest ingredients that the sea and land of Greece offer. You will certainly finish off your dinner with mouthwatering desserts.

Where: 57 Megalou Alexandrou St., Metaxourgeio  
T. +30 210 5222633  
Capacity: 80  
Rate Per Person / Group: from 35-45 €  
www.aleria.gr

**DINNER IN THE SKY ATHENS**

A restaurant in the sky? Yes, it can be! An extraordinary culinary proposal -in the center of Athens-welcomes you! A table for 22 people, along with our experienced chef who are preparing a 5 course menu, lifts you up to 50 meters and offers once in a life time experience over the city. Would you dare? Dinner in the Sky takes you to heaven, while the nightlife of Athens "awakens". Enjoy the city panorama as the table rotates slowly. The illuminated Acropolis gives an enchanting spectacle to Greek and foreign visitors. Bet that the selfies you take here will get the most Likes! Impress your friends, loved ones or colleagues by inviting them to a special dinner or make your stay in Athens even more interesting by combining exceptional food with spectacular views, so you can say that you really did see all of Athens! Try special, modern tastes inspired by the Greek tradition, accompanied by delicious local wines. Dinner in the Sky is on from May at Technopolis, in Gazi. Make your reservation through www.dinnerinthesky.gr and get ready to experience unique moments. Because everything seems more beautiful from above!

Where: Technopolis of Athens, Iakchou & Voutadon St., 11854, Athens  
T. +30 210 7227065  
www.dinnerinthesky.gr

**FINE DINING**

ATHENS HAS A BLOOMING GASTRONOMIC SCENE. IT OFFERS AN ECLECTIC MIX OF FOOD AND RESTAURANTS. WHETHER YOU FANCY A SIMPLE MEAL OR A EXQUISITE GASTRONOMIC EXPERIENCE, THERE IS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.
FUGA

Fuga is a member of the Trastelis Group of restaurants (Spondi and Hytra). A restaurant in the garden of the Athens Music Hall was missing from the heart of Athens. The space is airy but open and accessible to the public, regardless of the Athens Concert Hall performances. Fuga Restaurant is on the top of the verdant hillside garden and has a great city view. The Fuga cuisine is friendly and flavored according to season. Our chef creates dishes that can be easily remembered and are based on the Mediterranean and Italian cuisine.

Where: Kokkali street 1 (Athens Music Hall Garden)  
Tel: +30 210 7227065  
Capacity: Indoor up to 120 pax,  
Fuga Garden (outdoor) up to 200 pax  
Rate Per Person / Group: from 28 €/person  
www.fugarestaurant.gr

HARD ROCK CAFÉ ATHENS

Located at 52 Adrianou Street in Monastiraki, just a stone’s throw away from the historic city center with stunning views of the Acropolis, the new Hard Rock Cafe Athens is a must-see for both visitors and locals alike. The Café-Bar area features a beautiful atrium area with a sliding roof top. Guests can enjoy fresh, high-quality food from our food menu which includes a selection of our starters and salads, as well as our delicious legendary burgers and many more. Hard Rock’s cocktails are hand-crafted, just like its cuisine and as authentic as the memorabilia on the walls.

Where: 52 Adrianou St., Monastiraki  
Capacity: Atrium: 80 pax/ Terrace: 40 pax/  
1st private floor: 110 pax  
Tel: +30 2103245170  
Rate Per Person / Group: from 12 €  
www.hardrock.com/athens
The restaurant “Hytra”, whose name derives from the ancient Greek terracotta vase, first opened in 2004. In 2010, the restaurant was awarded its first Michelin star and has retained it since. In 2012 it was awarded a second Michelin star. Alongside, Hytra receives annually enthusiastic reviews evaluations and other distinctions. The same year, the restaurant relocated to the 6th floor of the Onassis Cultural Centre in Syngrou Avenue and was recently redesigned by award-winning architectural firm Divercity. “Hytra” restaurant has developed its culinary identity based on the approach and the redefinition of the rich cultural heritage of Greek gastronomy, by giving a contemporary expression in execution and the presentation of dishes.

Where: Syggrou Avenue 107-109
(Onassis Cultural Center)
T. +30 210 3316767
Capacity: 118
Rate Per Person / Group:
Gourmet:70 € - 80 €, Hytra Apla: 40 € - 50 €
www.hytra.gr

Created by Apostolos Trastelis in 1996, the restaurant is a point of reference not only in Athens, but in all of Greece. Our food is prepared with the freshest of products, and thus the menu changes according to the seasons and, of course, according to the creative imagination of our Chef. Greek, French and Italian wines feature on an impressive list. Such food deserves an appropriate atmosphere, elegant and stylish, which Spondi, a member of the prestigious “Grandes Tables du Monde” is proud to offer. The restaurant is situated in the center of Athens, 100 m behind the Panathenaic marble stadium, where the first modern Olympic Games took place.

Where: Pirronos 5, 11633, Athens
T: +30 2107564021
Capacity: Indoor: 3 rooms:
Cellar 60prs, Bar 20prs, 1st floor 22prs
Outdoor: 2 verandas:
1st veranda 20prs, 2nd veranda 55prs
Rate Per Group: Group menus start form 70 €
www.spondi.gr
VASSILENAS

Operating since 1920, the most iconic restaurant in town offers an award-winning culinary experience of creative Greek cuisine, echoing with memories of family recipes from the past.

“Vassilenas” occupies a stunningly elegant space in central Athens (within walking distance from the Athens Concert Hall and Conference Center, the Byzantine Museum and several conference hotels such as the Athens Hilton, Divani Caravel and Crowne Plaza), with a separate area for private events and a terrace. We provide flexible menu options, Greek wine tasting seminars but, most of all, the generous hospitality and authentic Greek flavors which our guests will cherish forever.

Where: 13, Vrasida Str., Athens
T. +30 210 72 10 501
www.vassilenas.gr

ARK

Situated at the Athenian Riviera, Ark is a chic multi-functional space with colonial decor, cosmopolitan aura and dominant Greek elements. A high end restaurant, a sophisticated bar and a lounge area coexist in one site, characterized by its luxurious yet effortless ambience combined with magnificent views of the sea lead to a magical setting.

The renowned chef Yiannis Baxevanis indulges with Mediterranean flavors created with delicacy and respect to the finest Greek raw materials selected by small Greek farms all around Greece.

Where: Grigoriou Lambraki 2, Glyfada 16674, Attiki
Capacity: outdoors: 200 pax
indoor: 200 pax for seated dinner
T: +30 210 8948882
Email: imoutsoyiannis@p-group.gr
Rate Per Person / Group: from 60 €
http://www.ark-glyfada.gr/
COLONIAL

Featuring a prime location within the Golf yards and just a breath away from the sea, the new Colonial Restaurant welcomes you in its refreshing friendly “colony”. The elaborate decoration highlights the beauties of the landscape through particularly naturalistic aesthetics, such as large paintings and wallpapers inspired by nature.

The outdoor garden area, with unobstructed and beautiful views to the forest, is ideal for tranquility and relaxation, as well as the restaurant’s indoor lounge, that also follows the natural aesthetic. Behind the food card is the award-winning chef Yiannis Baxevannis in collaboration with Chef Angelos Karamouzis, who focuses on the best raw materials, creating with masterful simplicity, dishes based on locally sourced ingredients but also inspired by the Mediterranean tradition.

Where: Glyfada Golf premises, Leof Karamanli, Glyfada
T. +30 210 3420002
Email contact: imoutsoyiannis@golfprive.gr
Capacity: up to 100 people (seated) indoors overlooking the Golf Gardens and 200 people (seated) in the outdoor garden.
Rate Per Person / Group: 40 euro €
www.golfprive.gr
DIFFERENT KINDS OF RESTAURANTS
Greek people love their traditional food and recipes from each and every region in Greece and its culinary specialities; all based on pure Greek products and the simplicity that brings out the greatness. Here are the places where they tend to go:

**Mezedopolio:** Here you will taste a wide range of mezedes (appetizers) with a lot of wine, ouzo or beers. The “mezedes” are usually shared on the table, so you do not have to order your own dish.

**Ouzeri:** Quite similar to a mezedopolio, but in an ouzeri they mainly serve ouzo, to drink accompanied by mezedes of seafood or fish dishes.

**Tavernas:** Friendly and casual, Greek tavernas serve traditional Greek dishes with homemade wine.

**Psistaria:** Taste the best grilled meats ever, with french fries, salads and some appetizers.

FAMOUS DISHES
In order to prepare your gastronomic journey in Athens, here’s a tiny culinary dictionary of the most famous Greek tastes so that you can make the most of your stay.

MEZEDES AND DIPS
- **Taramosalata:** A mousse salad made from fish roe blended with lemon, bread, olive oil.
- **Melitzanosalata:** A puree of grilled or smoked eggplants with olive oil, garlic and vinegar.
- **Tzatziki:** This is the most famous Greek appetizer, made from delicious creamy Greek yogurt with cucumber, garlic, and dill, blended with oil, vinegar and salt. Needless to say that it’s the “inseparable friend” of souvlaki.
- **Tyrokafteri:** A sauce made from feta cheese, hot chilli pepper, oil and vinegar.
- **Skordalia:** A sauce made from garlic, bread or potato, oil and vinegar. It makes a delicious accompaniment for fried cod croquettes.
- **Saganaki:** Saganaki literally means the “small pan”. The food that is cooked in it is fried. It is usually a crusty melted cheese served with lemon, shrimps or mussels.
- **Apaki or Syglino:** Salted and smoked pieces of pork, ideal for adding to different plates or just eating straight with a glass of wine, ouzo or raki.
- **Dolmadakia:** Little parcels of vine or cabbage leaves stuffed with minced meat, rice and vegetables - or just plain rice flavoured with herbs and spices.
- **Pastourma:** Cured meat served mainly with ouzo or tsikoudia.

MAIN DISHES
- **Ladera:** Different dishes made with fresh seasonal vegetables, olive oil, spices, and occasionally potatoes or rice. Feta cheese or Greek yogurt make a delicious accompaniment for ladera. You can taste gemista, the king of ladera, fasolakia or imam baildi.
- **Moussaka:** One of the most popular and best known Greek dishes. Imagine slices of fried eggplants layered with minced meat in tomato sauce, covered with bechamel sauce, rich in eggs and cheese.
- **Giouvetsi:** This is meat (veal or lamb) or seafood roasted in the oven, with pasta (giouvetsi) and tomato sauce. A typical Greek family Sunday lunch.
- **Kakavia:** Greek fisherman’s soup made of many different kinds of small fish (the ones not easily sold at the fish market). It’s a delicacy that you’ll find in most seafood tavernas.
- **Souvlaki:** Pita bread served with grilled meat or kebabs with tomatoes, onions, spices and tzatziki.
- **Fava:** A puree made of fava beans served with onion, lemon and oil.

SWEET AS HONEY
- **Halva:** A fudge made with sesame seed paste, sesame oil and sugar.
- **Baklava:** A kind of sweet pie with nuts, almonds, cinnamon, cloves and syrup.
- **Galaktoboureko:** A dessert of semolina custard in phyllo and with syrup.
- **Loukoumades:** Deep fried little doughnuts served with honey, syrup or ice cream.
- **Glyka koutaliou:** The famous spoon-sweets made from various Greek fruits preserved in thick sugar syrup.
- **Ryzogalo:** Rice pudding sprinkled with cinnamon.
- **Diples:** Deep fried rolls, served with honey and nuts.

DO IT LIKE AN ATHENIAN!
Athenians love going out to eat, especially on Fridays and Saturdays. They start going out for dinner at 21:00 and keep coming until after midnight. Athens is worldwide known as “the city that never sleeps” but it is also the city that never stops eating”.

So there is no need to worry if you’re late in Athens, as there is always a place to drop by when the night is over and your stomach is crying out for some food!
GREEK DELICATESSEN & PDO PRODUCTS
When in Athens, give yourself the chance to discover the unique products that Greece has to offer. A great many have been honoured with the distinction of Protected Designation of Origin: Mouthwatering cheeses, olive oils, vegetables and pulses, varieties of olives, varieties of honey and many more. When in Athens, try to taste the traditional Messolonghi avgotaracho (Greek bottarga), Tomataki Santorinis (cherry tomatoes from Santorini Island), Krokos Kozanis (red saffron from Kozani), mastic from Chios and sweet beverages such as Naxos citron drink or kumquat liqueur from Corfu.

Don't miss some of the aromatic and therapeutic herbs that grow in Greece. Either as food or as natural remedies, they have been used since the ancient times, mainly as pain-killers. Pass by Athens Central Market and find herbs like mountain tea, oregano, thyme, anise, laurel, diktamo, eucalyptus, etc.

GREEK WINES
Greece is one of the world’s oldest wine-producing regions. The earliest evidence of Greek wine dates back to 6,500 years ago! The tradition of winemaking is not only long, but also rich. In the last few years, a great number of Greek wines have been awarded and enjoy Protected Designations of Origin classification. Thrace, Macedonia, Epirus, Thessaly, Attica, Peloponnese, Crete, the Ionian Islands and almost all of the islands of the Aegean have their own liquid treasures and Protected Designations of Origin. The Greek vineyard is rich with a multitude of varieties and a limitless spectrum of choices, so try to discover and taste local Greek varieties, both traditional and new.

White varieties: Assyrtiko, Malagouzia, Moschofilero, Malvasia di Candia
Red varieties: Xinomavro, Agiorgitiko

GREEK BEERS
Over the last few years, Greece has been offering a considerable selection of beers made in small, mostly local breweries, with an incredible variety of flavours, colours and aromas. Its local character makes Greek beer truly special. Particularly popular in Greece and enjoying an ever-increasing share in the international market, Greek beer will cool you down not only on a hot summer day but it will also be the perfect accompaniment to traditional delicacies of the Greek cuisine any time of year you visit Athens. It goes well with Greek tastes, accompanying many dishes and mezedes.

CENTURIES-OLD DISTILLATIONS
In regional Greece, together with extensive knowledge on wine there is a particularly well developed tradition in the art of distillation of spirits. Ouzo, tsipouro, tsikoudia (raki), are clear, highly scented strong drinks, hallmarks of Greek celebrations on any occasion. There are traditional distilleries and modern manufacturing facilities that continue an ancestral tradition, with great knowledge and devotion. Almost every comer of Greece boasts its own version of fine distilled spirits: The sweeter, smoother ouzo of Mytilene (Lesvos), the more intense ouzo of Macedonia, the aromatic tsikoudia (raki) of Crete, ouzo and “tsipouro” in Thessaly and Epirus.

FOOD TOURS
There are delicious Food Tours in Athens that will guide you through food stores with Greek traditional products, restaurants, markets, etc. Take the chance to visit old herb shops with a wide range of herbs and spices such as dried or fresh basil, penny royal tea, lavender, mint, oregano and many more. You can also find handmade herbal olive oil soaps and essential oils.

RESTAURANTS IN ATHENS
Athens has an amazing variety of restaurants, featuring the world-famous Greek cuisine and cuisines from every corner of the world, catering to every palate and budget. Most of the contemporary and trendy restaurants near or around the center are in Psyrri, Plaka, Kolonaki, Gazi, Rouf, Mikrolimano, Kifissia and Glyfada.

GASTRONOMY
ATHENS ROOFTOP DINING

DINNER WITH A VIEW

Time to reward yourself after a long day of sightseeing. Dine in one of Athens’ restaurants with a view. They can guarantee not only high quality food but also the most spectacular views of the city. Most of them are rooftop restaurants in large central hotels and museums, or in the historic centre of the city.

Enjoy your dinner with a view in the roof top of our ACVB member Hotels:
Galaxy Bar & Restaurant (Hilton Athens) | Première (Athenaeum InterContinental Athens) | GB Roof Garden (Grande Bretagne) | Art Lounge (New Hotel) | Electra Roof Garden Restaurant (Electra Palace) | Le Grand Balcon and La Suite Lounge Bar & Restaurant (St George Lycabettus) | Acropolis Secret (Divani Palace Acropolis) | St´Astra East & St ´Astra Blue Roof Garden (Radisson Blu Park) | La Veranda (Metropolitan)

ACROPOLIS MUSEUM
A menu with the most panoramic views of the Acropolis, on the 2nd floor of the Acropolis Museum, where the selected daily dishes are inspired by local recipes.

Where: 15, Dionysiou Areopagitou St.
Capacity: 270 Indoor / 120 Outdoor | Rate Per Person / Group: € 23
www.theacropolismuseum.gr

BENAKI MUSEUM
(Main Building)
On the second floor and extended out to the terrace of the Neoclassical building, the café-restaurant offers a panoramic view of the Greek Parliament, the National Gardens and the area around Syntagma Square.

Where: 1, Kounbari St. & Vasilissis Sofias Ave.
Capacity: 120-170 Indoor/Outdoor | Rate Per Person / Group: 25-30 €
www.benaki.gr

GB ROOF GARDEN RESTAURANT
The Restaurant - awarded by the Wine Spectator magazine four years in a row - serves New Mediterranean cuisine with emphasis on quality raw materials and excellent technique.

Capacity: 110 Indoor / 70 Outdoor | Rate Per Person / Group: 70 €
www.gbroofgarden.gr

HYTRA
Clever cooking in a sleek space with Acropolis views on the 6th floor of the Onassis Cultural Center.

Where: 107, Andrea Siggrou Ave.,
Capacity: 100
Rate Per Person / Group: € 31
www.hytra.gr
AWARD-WINNING RESTAURANTS OF ATHENS

SPONDI
The best French-Mediterranean cuisine, a legendary restaurant in Athens. Excellent combination of both classic and modern elements. Also holds Golden Chef’s Hats Awards.

Where: 5, Pyronos St., Pagrati
T: +30 210 7520658, +30 2107564021
Capacity: 60
Rate Per Person / Group: from 110 €
www.spondi.gr

FUNKY GOURMET
Nouveau gastronomy meets fresh Mediterranean ingredients. It’s a stylish contemporary restaurant for innovative dishes, conceptual and abstract.

Where: 13, Paramythias and Salaminos St., Kerameikos
T: +30 210 5242727
Capacity: 48
Rate Per Person / Group: from 100 €
www.funkygourmet.com

GUIDE ROUGE MICHELIN 2017
Two stars - Excellent cooking, worth a detour

BOTRINI’S
Celebrated creative Greek-Mediterranean cuisine in a stark white contemporary space with a beautiful open terrace.

Where: 24, Vasileos Georgiou Defterou St., Chalandri
T: +30 210 6857324
Capacity: 75 Indoor / 140 Outdoor
Rate Per Person / Group: from 35 €
www.botrinis.com

HYTRA
Greek-Mediterranean dishes with a creative glance. Clever cooking with Acropolis views on the 6th floor of the Onassis arts center. Also holds Golden Chef’s Hats Awards.

Where: 107-109, Syggrou Ave. Neos Kosmos
T: +30 217 7071118, +30 210 3316767
www.hytra.gr

VAROULKO SEASIDE
Creative Greek cuisine, seafood. Also holds Golden Chef’s Hats Awards and Greek Cuisine Award.

Where: Akti Koumoundourou 52 Mikrolimano, Piraeus
T: +30 210 5228400
www.varoulko.gr
GASTRONOMY

OIKEIO
Excellent home-style European, Greek, Mediterranean cuisine, decorated like a cosy bistro on the inside, and tables on the footpath.
15, Ploutarchou St., Kolonaki
T. +30 210 7259216
Capacity: 90
Rate Per Person / Group: € 20
www.athiriarestaurant.gr

NOLAN
Fusion cuisine with Asian influences, this small, contemporary bistro stands out from the other restaurants in this busy neighbourhood.
31, Voulis St., Syntagma
T. +30 210 3243545
www.nolanrestaurant.gr

ATHIRI
A fresh version of Greek cuisine creative up-to-date Mediterranean fare in an airy high-ceilinged dining room with a leafy courtyard. Traditional and new work so beautifully together. Also holds a Greek cuisine award.
15, Plataion St., Gazi | T. +30 210 3462983
Capacity: 65 Indoor / 100 Outdoor
Rate Per Person / Group: € 25
www.athiriarestaurant.gr

GOLDEN CHEF’S HATS AWARDS (TOQUE D’OR)

BIB GOURMAND

FUNKY GOURMET
Also holds two Michelin stars. v. sup Guide Rouge Michelin 2017

BOTRINI’S
Also holds one Michelin star. v. sup Guide Rouge Michelin 2017

SPONDI
Also holds two Michelin stars. v. sup Guide Rouge Michelin 2017

VAROULKO SEASIDE
Also holds one Michelin star. v. sup ACVB Members Restaurants and Guide Rouge Michelin 2017

MATSUHISA ATHENS
Fusion cuisine with Japanese base and Peruvian as well as European influences. The best sushi in town.
Where: Astir Palace Hotel, 40, Apollonos St., Vouliagmeni
T. +30 210 8960510
www.matsuhisaathens.com

TUDOR HALL
Modern, creative Greek cuisine. It also holds a Greek Cuisine Award.
Where: King George Hotel, 3, Vassileos Georgiou Ave., Syntagma Sq,
T. +30 210 3330265
Capacity: 40 Indoor / 30 Outdoor
Rate Per Person / Group: from € 50-55
www.tudorhall.gr

CTC
Modern International Cuisine.
Where: 27, Diocharous St., Vouliagmeni
T. +30 210 7228812
www.ctc-restaurant.com

HYTRA
Also holds one Michelin star. v. sup Guide Rouge Michelin 2017

GB ROOF GARDEN
Modern International Cuisine.
Where: Hotel Grande Bretagne Hotel, 1A, Vassileos Georgiou St., Syntagma
T. +30 210 3330766
www.gbroofgarden.gr

PATIO
Modern International Cuisine.
Where: The Margi Hotel, 11, Litous St., Vouliagmeni
T. +30 210 8929160
www.themargi.gr/dining/patio

These awards are the gastronomic awards institution of Greece. The Toques D’Or (Golden Caps) are granted to the best restaurants in Greece. Established in 1992 and present in the cultural life of Greece ever since, the awards are considered a unique and most recognised award in terms of restaurant evaluation.
GOLDEN CHEF’S HATS AWARDS - GREEK CUISINE

ALERIA
Stylish contemporary restaurant in a neoclassical villa and courtyard serving inventive Med cuisine.

Where: 57, Megalou Alexandrou St., Metaxourgeio
T. +30 210 5222633
Capacity: 80
Rate Per Person / Group: from 35-45 €
www.aleria.gr

PAPAIOANNU
Showcasing the top seafood cuisine from throughout Attica region.

Where: 42, Akti Koumoundourou, Mikrolimano
T. +30 210 4225059
Capacity: 90
Rate Per Person / Group: from 40 €

TELEMACHOS ATHENS
Meat Restaurant.

Where: 10, Panepistimiou St., Athens
T. +30 210 3613300-1
www.telemachosathens.gr

FEEDέΛ URBAN GASTRONOMY
Modern Greek Cuisine.

Where: 1, Ktena St., Monastiraki
T. +30 210 3210551
www.telemachosathens.gr

KASTRI BISTRO
Modern Greek Cuisine.

Where: Domotel Kastri Hotel, 154, Eleftheriou Venizelou Ave. & Romilias, Nea Erythraia
T. +30 210 3507140
www.domotel.gr/hotel/7/Kastri-Athens

KRITIKOS
One of the best places in Athens to eat meat, with excellent meat quality and superior technique in baking.

Where: 49, Aiolou St., Kantza (Pallini)
T. +30 210 6659061
Capacity: 250
Rate Per Person / Group: from € 20-40

MILOS ESTIATORIO
Stylish contemporary restaurant serving Mediterranean cuisine with plenty of fresh fish options. One of the world’s finest Greek restaurants.

Where: Hilton Athens Hotel, 46, Vassilisis Sofias Ave.
T. +30 210 7244400
Capacity: 180
Rate Per Person / Group: from 27.45 €
www.milos.ca/restaurants/athens

ATHIRI
Also holds one Bib Gourmand Michelin star v. sup Guide Rouge 2017.

THE ZILLERS
Modern Greek Cuisine.

Where: The Zillers Boutique Hotel, 54, Mitropoleos St., Monastiraki
T. +30 210 3222277
www.thezillersathenshotel.com
GOOD TIME IN ATHENS

GREECE IS INTERNATIONALLY KNOWN FOR ITS VIBRANT NIGHTLIFE WITH ATHENS, ITS CAPITAL, HOLDING THE REINS!

Athens is an ideal destination for those who want to have fun and unwind, leaving stress and problems behind. Often described as the city that never sleeps, Athens has a unique and multidimensional nightlife, offering unforgettable moments! It is a real must-live experience with a great variety of all kinds of entertainment, whether it be dance clubs, little cozy bars, restaurants, theatre, cinemas and the famous live stages known as bouzoukia. Are you searching for bars and clubs that will be open till the morning light to dance all night long to the rhythm of both local and international music? Do you want to have dinner even after midnight, or give yourself the chance to watch a drama performance at an ancient theater? Then Athens by night is the answer!
PRINCIPAL VENUES

Athens has a rich cultural background and has many popular venues in the city centre.

TECHNOPOLIS CITY OF ATHENS
100, Peiraios St.
Access: Metro blue line, Kerameikos Station
www.technopolis-athens.com

Technopolis City of Athens is definitely the landmark of the Gazi district! It used to be the old gasworks of the capital, but has been turned into an impressive museum and a mixed-use cultural centre that houses a wide variety of cultural events, attracting annually over 1,000,000 people. Specifically, the old plant's courtyard has been adapted so as to host concerts and festivals, theatre and dance performances, children's events, film screenings, and modern art exhibitions.

MEGARON – THE ATHENS CONCERT HALL
Vasilissis Sofias Ave. & Kokkali
Access: Metro blue line, Megaro Mousikis Station
www.megaron.gr

Megaron – The Athens Concert Hall is one of the world's best-organized and most contemporary hubs of cultural activity, founded in 1991. It is a large-scale, multifunctional arts centre with an international reputation for excellent quality. Conceived as a multifunctional cultural melting pot, Megaron is fully equipped to accommodate concerts and other musical events as well as conferences. The centre has a wide variety of halls, with characteristics and facilities meeting the high standards and requirements of the world's greatest orchestras and musical ensembles. As a conference centre, Megaron is among the largest, finest and best-equipped venues in the world. A garden area of 6 acres was introduced to the public, a meeting spot for amusement and cultural outdoor events. The programme of Megaron consists of classical music and opera, as well as more contemporary compositions, world music, music by younger composers, dance, theatre, cinema, visual arts and, of course, Greek music. At the same time, Megaron Plus, the multi-themed dialogue and reflection programme hosts evening lectures where personalities from different fields present and debate topics of wide interest. Megaron is a creative center of cultural activity, learning opportunities, and social development; it is open to all and embraces diversity.

ODEION OF HERODES
Dionysiou Areopagitou St.
Access: Metro red line, Acropolis Station
www.greekfestival.gr

The Odeion of Herodes is Athens’ landmark venue par excellence. It is nowadays the main venue for the summer Athens Festival’s performances, under the shadow of the Acropolis and the Athenian stars!

MICHALIS CACOYANNIS FOUNDATION
260, Pireos St., Tavros
Access: Bus 049, 914, 815, Tavros stop
Metro green line, Tavros Station (12’ walking distance to MCF)
www.mcf.gr

This is a nonprofit cultural institution that hosts a wide range of events, including theatre, concerts and art exhibitions all year round. The top floor bar/cafe, offers an interesting and different perspective of the city.
BADMINTON THEATER

Olympic Properties Goudi (Alsos Goudi)
Access: Metro blue line, Katehaki Station
www.abcd.gr

Badminton Theater, located in the park of the municipality of Goudi, Athens, originally built to host the badminton tournaments of the 2004 Olympic Games was re-opened in 2007, after a tremendous renovation, it promises to move its citizenry forward into the twenty-first century, through education, sustainability and culture. Designed by the visionary architect Renzo Piano, the Center includes new facilities for the National Library of Greece with a significant book collection, and for the Greek National Opera. The theater, one of the most modern opera houses in the world, emanates striking aesthetics with exceptional acoustic quality. Surrounding the buildings is the Badminton Park, replete with Mediterranean planting, waterways, a Great Lawn for festivals and concerts, bike paths and children’s playgrounds.

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CULTURAL CENTER

Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre, 364 Syggrou Avenue, 176 74 Kallithea
www.snfcc.org

The new Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center is Greece’s largest cultural, educational and recreational urban complex, and globally, one of the most sustainable building complexes of its size. Situated in seaside Phaliron, 4.5 kilometres south of Athens center, it promises to move its citizenry forward into the twenty-first century, through education, sustainability and culture. Designed by the visionary architect Renzo Piano, the Center includes new facilities for the National Library of Greece with a significant book collection, and for the Greek National Opera. The theater, one of the most modern opera houses in the world, emanates striking aesthetics with exceptional acoustic quality. Surrounding the buildings is the Badminton Park, replete with Mediterranean planting, waterways, a Great Lawn for festivals and concerts, bike paths and children’s playgrounds.

ONASSIS CULTURAL CENTRE

107-109, Syggrou Ave.
Access: Metro red line, Syggrou Fix Station
www.sgt.gr

The Onassis Cultural Centre is Athens’ gem on Syggrou Avenue. Its building is an excellent sample of contemporary architecture boasting 18,000 m² of interior space. The unique configuration of the facade serves as a stage set which gives the building a sense of mystery both during the day and at night. The Onassis Cultural Centre includes two main auditoria, which are suited to a wide range of events including theatre and dance performances, concerts, film screenings, lectures and conferences. It also hosts great jazz concerts on a regular basis. On the top floor, you can dine in the restaurant, which extends out onto the rooftop terrace during the summer months and offers breathtaking views of the Acropolis, the Filopappos monument, Lycabettus hill and the Saronic gulf.

RAILWAY CARRIAGE THEATER "TO TRENO STO ROUΦ"
Konstantinoupolos Ave, Rouf
Access: Metro blue line, Kerameikos Station Station & Suburban (Proastiakos) line, Rouf Station
www.totrenostorouf.gr

One of the most well-hidden secrets of Athens, the unique Railway Carriage Theater “To Treno sto Rouf”, is an innovative, boutique, railway cultural venue, inside vintage train wagons. It consists of 10 refurbished antique cars, including an original wagon-restaurant from the 1926 Simplon Orient Express and a refurbished Breda type steam engine, which dates back to 1953.

GREEK NATIONAL OPERA

STAVROS NIARCHOS FOUNDATION CULTURAL CENTER
364 Syggrou Avenue, Kallithea
www.nationalopera.gr

In March 2017, the Greek National Opera re-located to the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC).

Covering an area of 28,000 m², the new premises of the Greek National Opera can only be compared with the most modern opera houses in the world. The high aesthetics, state-of-the-art acoustics, as well as the installations of the Main Stage (Stavros Niarchos Hall, 1400 seats) bolster a high-calibre artistic program. Furthermore, the Alternate Stage (400 seats) is a hub of research and creativity in the field of education, community and contemporary artistic creation, with special emphasis in all forms of musical theatre.
CULTURAL EVENTS & FESTIVALS

MUSIC AND DANCE IN ATHENS

Athens has a full calendar of music and dance festivals throughout the year. Distinguished artists from Greece and all over the world dazzle Athenians and visitors with their creativity and inspiration! You will be amazed by the sheer number and variety of the events, artists and different kinds of music and dance on offer, especially summer, under the blue Athenian sky.

The European Music Day, an event with French origins, is the biggest annual music event in Greece and Athens. It takes place over three days around June 21. But the city has even more to offer for music and dance aficionados.

DORA STRATOU THEATER
8, Scholiou St., Plaka
www.grdance.org

While in Athens, take the opportunity to discover Greek music and Greece’s dance tradition with a visit to the Dora Stratou Dance Theatre, a “museum” dedicated to Greek traditional dance. From Wednesday to Sunday between late May and late September, performances take place - by groups from all over Greece - in the garden theatre on Filopappou Hill, opposite the Acropolis.

TERRA VIBE
37th km Athens-Lamia Motorway, Malakasa (East Attica)
www.terravibe.gr

This is the biggest open-air venue in Athens, hosting major shows and events such as the legendary Rockwave Festival, with various parallel activities and happenings. Each year it attracts some of the biggest international bands and artists from a broad musical range like Patti Smith, Sting, Metallica, Manu Chao, Kylie Minogue, and Depeche Mode. The Rockwave Festival is one of the leading music festivals in Eastern Europe.
ATHENS TECHNOPOLIS JAZZ FESTIVAL
Technopolis City of Athens
100, Peiraios St., Gazi
Access: Metro blue line, Kerameikos Station
www.technopolisjazzfestival.com

If you are in the mood for jazz, you’re invited to a yearly celebration the “Athens Technopolis Jazz Festival”. With representative bands in the genre performing a wide range of styles, the enchanting world of jazz will be right before of your eyes!

EJEKT FESTIVAL
Nerou Square (Plateia Nerou), Falirio Olympic Complex
www.ejekt.gr

How about spending the evening at the most beautiful open-air venue of Athens by the sea? Follow the rhythm of the Ejekt Festival where pop, rock and electronic music meet up every year in July and set the Athenian night on fire! The festival presents some of the biggest and most interesting new music acts with a terrific line up each year.

PLISSKËN FESTIVAL
www.plisskenfestival.gr

This relatively new music festival in Athens that begun in December 2010 alread ranks high among the best summer festivals worldwide! With a line-up of more than 130 international artists and selected local acts, Plisskën prides itself on its genre-defying philosophy and aims to embrace music from a diverse background. Plisskën is about providing a meaningful and enjoyable music experience with respect to all its counterparts - whether they be of human or environmental nature!

PETRA THEATRE IN PETROUPOLIS
5th March St., Petroupoli

Built in the old open quarry area of Petroupolis, a western suburb of Athens, Petra open-air theatre hosts every year the International Petra Festival, an open-air festival that takes place in summer and early fall, including major popular theatrical and musical productions. Alice Cooper and Iggy Pop, famous Greek singers and some of the greatest Greek and international dance and theatrical groups have all performed on this stage in the past!
ATHENS FESTIVAL

During summer in Greece, the Athens and Epidaurus Festival, one of the most important festivals in Europe, has a wide range of open-air concerts, theatrical and dance events that enrich summer nights. Many famous performers, Greek as well as stars from abroad, have entertained appreciative audiences for more than 60 years and have left their own, unique mark on the Festival.

The Festival uses many venues in Athens, Tecnopolis, the Athens Concert Hall, The Hellenic Cosmos Cultural Center, the Benaki Museum, amongst many others. Without a doubt, though, the top venue is the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, an ancient theater from the 2nd century BC, on the slope of the Acropolis. Nothing can match experiencing an ancient Greek tragedy, a ballet or a concert amidst the atmosphere of the old marble of the Acropolis, unless you’re lucky enough to be there during a full moon.

The Epidaurus Festival takes place in the seaside area of Epidaurus in the Peloponnese, one hour and a half from Athens. The Ancient Theater of Epidaurus, built in 340 BC, is one of the oldest and most well preserved theaters. The Little Theater of Ancient Epidaurus, dating from the 4th century BC, allows views of rich vegetation that reach as far as the edge of the sea. Important original plays – both tragedy and comedy - of ancient Greek theater take place in those theaters.

In addition to live entertainment, the Festival offers art exhibitions and tributes to performers throughout the city. Don’t miss out on this aspect of Greece, amazing summer nights with unforgettable entertainment. You can book your tickets online at:

www.greekfestival.com
ATHENS MARATHON. THE AUTHENTIC

One of the most thrilling yearly events that Athens has to offer is the Marathon Race. It combines the excitement of sport, social interaction, and the collective running effort of participants from all over the world, and its history that goes back millennia. The Marathon was born by a historic event - the victory of the Greeks against the Persians during the Marathon Battle in 490 BC. However, the 42.195 km (approx 26 miles) race became the competitive event it is today during the revival of the Olympic Games in 1896.

The joy of taking part in the Athens Marathon is such that entry numbers increase every year. If you are interested in participating in the run (or power walk), just book your spot as soon as possible and prepare yourself for the great day. You will experience Athens from a different point of view, and that vivid perspective will be etched in your memory for years to come.

It usually takes place in November when the weather is still mild, and there are many ways that you can make your move and be part of. The complete distance of 42.195 kms starts from the town of Marathon with a route that passes through the ancient Battlefield of Marathon and continues along the seaside suburbs of Nea Makri and Rafina, reaching its final stop at the Panathenaic Stadium or Kalimarmaro, dating from the 338 BC, in the city center.

For those wishing to participate at a less demanding route, the 10K or 5K races are great alternatives. They start from Amalias Avenue in the Zappeion Gardens and pass through the main streets of Athens, ending at Kalimarmaro Stadium as well.

As it is a race for everyone, even children are included. Their start is from Vassilissis Sofias Avenue and completed in the Stadium with everyone else.

Special Olympic participants follow the Vassilisis Sofias route as well, ending up with the others.

It goes without saying that to be a part of the Marathon, it is important to be in good physical condition. So, if that is your goal, get moving and start your preparation fitness program.

The race could not take place without the participation and support of the more than 3000 volunteers who offer their enthusiasm, talent, work and encouraging smiles. They support runners and walkers with necessary equipment, water, ponchos, and food. So many sides of the city synchronize for this event, that it seems like all of Athens is celebrating.

The Marathon is not only a once-in-a-lifetime event for every participant, but so memorable as well for people who just want to watch it during their stay in Athens.

www.athensauthenticmarathon.gr
OPEN AIR CINEMAS

Cinema under the stars!

An essential characteristic of Athenian summer nights is the love for open-air cinemas (also known as summer cinemas). If you happen to be in Athens between May and the end of September, don’t miss the opportunity to enjoy a film Greek-style. The atmosphere is dazzling! Relax, sip on your cold drink and enjoy a movie under the Athenian sky!
OPEN-AIR FILM FESTIVAL

Established in 2011 by the Athens International Film Festival - Opening Nights and CINEMA magazine, the Athens Open Air Film Festival infuses the city with film screenings and other cultural events against a unique urban backdrop: Athens’ most characteristic monuments! No entrance fee is required. Athens brims with film screenings in parks, pedestrian zones and squares, museums and museums’ courtyards, and historical open-air movie theatres offering a summer memory that citizens and visitors of Athens can never forget. Can you miss this?

CINEMA

Athens is a cinephiles’ paradise simply because movies in Greece are not dubbed - so there is no problem following the plot! There are just a few exceptions of movies for children, but even in Disney productions it is certain that some cartoons will have subtitles. In the city centre, there are lots of renovated movie theaters, while in the suburbs and some shopping malls you will find huge theatre complexes showing the latest blockbusters. You can also find cinema clubs if you have more specific cinematography interests.

“Did you know? From June to September, some of the most breathtaking locations around the city of Athens are transformed into open-air movie theatres.”
THEATRE

Theatres in Athens normally run between October and April. The variety of shows is extraordinary; from ancient and contemporary drama and comedies to musicals, classics and many more. Spread all over the city, Athens’ theaters can be found mostly in the neighborhoods of Psyrri, Plaka, Gazi, Kolonaki and Exarcheia. Note that most productions are in Greek. You can watch notable dramatic performances in the Odeion of Herodes and the Dionysos Theater. Sure, the performances will be in Greek (or in ancient Greek) but some have Greek and English supertitles to help out. In any case, Greek theatre is all about feeling, passion and emotion rather than words (think about opera, it’s the same thing). You could also watch pioneering performances in post-industrial buildings in Psyrri and Plaka. It is certain that if you are theatre lovers, you won’t be deprived in the Greek capital!
CAFÉS

Drinking coffee in Greece is a ritual. People go out for coffee to meet friends, chat and unwind. In the old days, cafés were also the meeting places of the city’s political and literary elite. Today’s Athenians spend hours over their coffee. You can find cafés on almost every corner of the city. There are dozens of cafés around Syntagma and Kolonaki, frequented by professionals who sit for a light lunch or a quick energetic coffee on their way to the office. The cafés at Monastiraki and Thiseio offer an unbeatable view of the Acropolis and the Ancient Agora.
HAVE FUN THE GREEK WAY!

The city that never sleeps at night

To get into the rhythm of the city, enjoy an early evening promenade in the old city center, where you can enjoy some early drinks during happy hour, followed by a late dinner. There are plenty of nice restaurants and typical Greek tavernas where you can taste world-famous Greek cuisine. Keep in mind that if you don’t want to dine in a nearly deserted restaurant -or among other tourists only- plan to arrive in your chosen restaurant sometime after 9pm. There are also tavernas with live Greek music especially in Plaka, Psyrri and Monastiraki. If you are in the mood for a Greek night out following your dinner plans, there are numerous options to choose from.

NIGHTLIFE

The nightlife in Athens varies; from very lively to more sophisticated. From roof top bars with a great view to the Athens skyline and the Acropolis to large clubs by the beach and from trendy lounges in Kolonaki, Kifissia and Chalandri, to indie and intimate bars on Karytsi Square, Psyrri and Panormou Street, Athens is a city that never sleeps! Apart from a few waterfront choices, you will find most places located in the center. There are also cosmopolitan bars or lounge cafés on the top floor of numerous hotels affording panoramic views of the city.

BARS

If clubbing isn’t your thing, don’t despair! There is a huge music scene from jazz to rock and local music playing everywhere in the city. You can easily find an outdoor bar with or without a live band, and lots of people casually drinking and hanging out. It’s the perfect place to hang out and chat with friends or meet and mingle with the Athenians! There are a number of bars that carry on after most of the city’s bars have been closed up for the night. These are the famous “after-hours-bars”, catering to those who work late shifts and need a drink after work.

WINE BARS

Lately a new crop of stylish wine bars has opened in Athens that give both locals and visitors the chance to taste some great domestic varieties. This latest trend is excellent news for wine aficionados who are able to pay tribute to Greece’s 6,500 years of winemaking history during their visit in the capital. You will be introduced to some of the most exquisite local wines, mouthwatering tidbits and delicious cheese or meat platters.
CLUBS

Dancing all night long

Athens is a pretty awesome city to party in; dance music is a big deal and the clubbing scene is huge! It is widely known that music and dance is a significant part of daily life in Greece and people love dancing all night to their favorite music. There are two kinds of large venues playing either electronic / dance music on the famous bouzoukia, which are venues where Greek singers perform live. In the clubs, the music is usually mainstream music with dance, pop and RnB vibes. After a certain hour it’s highly possible that the club will switch to Greek pop, (“Laika” in Greek). On the other hand, Bouzoukia (the word derives from the word bouzouki, the traditional Greek string instrument) play popular Greek songs mostly with an oriental touch, although they have recently incorporated new, faster beats and loud mainstream pop tunes as well. If you want to dive into the Greek way of fun, keep in mind that clubs don’t open before 11.30 pm, they go all night long, and there is often a dress code to enter. Make sure you have made a reservation for a table. There are also some clubs with a separate dining area, where you can eat first and then move on to the bar.

In winter both clubs and bouzoukia are to be found in the city centre and the northern suburbs. Some of the most popular venues are on Peiraios Street and Iera Odos Street. In the summer season, most of these clubs move to the southern suburbs of Athens, by the coastline. Poseidonos Avenue is one of the major summer nightclub spots in Athens.

CASINOS

The Regency Casino Mont Parnes

The Regency Casino Mont Parnes is a casino and hotel complex located on Mt. Parnitha, one of the most exclusive and idyllic parts along the Attica basin. It was the first casino to open in Greece and was recently renovated with some of the highest international standards of facilities. At the Regency Casino Mont Parnes you can dine in style in the luxurious café–restaurant commanding a unique view of Attica Bay. You can also relax and enjoy the benefits of the Olympus Fitness Club, which is modern and fully equipped including swimming pools and one paddling pool for your kids. What’s more, a cable car will whisk you up to the mountain’s peak where the casino awaits you 24 hours a day.
SLEEPLESS... IN ATHENS!

TRENDY AND ALL TIME CLASSIC HOTSPOTS IN ATHENS’ NIGHTLIFE
GAZI
Welcome to the coolest nightspot in Athens! Popular for its bars, this trendy neighborhood caters to all tastes with its countless tavernas, meze tavernas (mezedopolia), restaurants of international cuisine and delicious “souvlaki” restaurants, music venues, fringe theatres and art galleries, pop, (hard) rock, mainstream, swing and retro, gay and lesbian bars and clubs. The district’s landmark is definitely the old city gas house which has been turned into an impressive museum and mixed-use cultural center. A wide variety of cultural events are held in the Technopolis every year: music concerts and festivals, dance, theatre and performing arts, plastic and applied arts, educational programs for children, entrepreneurship and temporary exhibitions, attracting over 600,000 people annually. The area’s success has spilled over to the surrounding areas Metaxourgeo and Kerameikos, which now boast their share of hotspots.
Access: Metro blue line, Kerameikos Station

THISEIO
This is one of the latest up and coming areas of the capital, with many hidden gems. After a long period of abandonment in the late 20th century, the area is acquiring an artistic and fashionable flair due to the opening of many art galleries, museums, and trendy restaurants and cafés. You can drop by traditional Greek cafés (kafeneia), and when the sun goes down, Metaxourgeo comes alive as some of the city’s newest and most talked about bars and clubs open their doors!
Access: Metro red line, Metaxourgeo Station

KERAMEIKOS
During the city’s “golden age” (480-409 BC), Kerameikos was the ancient potters’ neighborhood, responsible for creating many of those Greek vases now found in museums around the world. Today it is an up and coming area with trendy lofts and warehouses turned into theaters, restaurants and bars with Greek live music.
Access: Metro blue line, Kerameikos Station

PLAKA
Right at the foot of the Acropolis hill, Plaka is by far the quaintest neighborhood in Athens, popular with visitors. You won’t find big dance clubs and bars, but this alluring part of the city offers lively, traditional places to enjoy Greek culture year-round, folk music and dancing in Greek restaurants to taste Greek delicacies, as well as tavernas and cozy cafés. When walking in historic Plaka, give yourself the chance to pass by the cozy old-fashioned distillery that dates from 1909. The decor is impressive, with rainbow colored bottles covering the entire wall from top to bottom, and there you can sip some Greek liquors and wine!
Access: Metro blue and red line, Syntagma Station
MONASTIRAKI
Alternative bars and stylish restaurants lie side by side with old-fashioned cafés and Greek tavernas where you can taste the world famous Greek souvlaki or gyros pita with a view of the buzzing Monastiraki Square 24/7. At Avyssinias Square, a favourite hangout for the young crowd of the city, you can relax and have a coffee or a glass of Greek wine and ouzo with mezedes on the rooftop cafes and bars and try out imaginative cocktails with affordable views of the Acropolis. At Adrianou Street, a charming connection between the Plaka, Monastiraki and Thiseio quarters, you can have a coffee overlooking the Ancient Agora. 

Access: Metro blue and green line, Monastiraki Station

PETRALONA
Although it is so close to the busy nightlife spot of Gazi, Petralona has maintained a more family look, rather jazzy and bohemian. Once being an old working-class suburb, today the up-and-coming district of Petralona is a wonderful nightlife destination with tavernas, restaurants and traditional mezedopalia as well as cafés and bars where you can try an alternative night out around Troon street and Merkouri square.

Access: Metro green line, Petralona Station

AGIA EIRINI SQUARE
Named after the beautiful church of St. Irini (Agia Irini), the area became over the last few years one of the hottest - if not THE hottest - spots in town! Once home to Athens’ flower markets, today the square and the surrounding streets are lined with coffee-shops, eateries, and trendy bistros that will serve you inspiring cocktails and food including breakfasts, snacks, and main meals. On weekends the area is packed with young people while you’ll find events and live performances by numerous musicians.

Access: Metro blue and green line, Monastiraki Station; or Metro blue and red line, Syntagma Station

KARYTSI SQUARE
This picturesque square, with the church of St. George dominating its center, is among the favourite nightlife spots in Greece’s capital. All day long cafés and bars that satisfy all music preferences welcome you after shopping or for early drinks. One thing’s for sure, there is a place that will do for you, whether you want to dance to loud music all night long or just have a peaceful chat.

Access: Metro blue and red line, Syntagma Station

MAVILI SQUARE
This is one of the all-time classic nightlife spots in Athens, with some small jazz, funky and rocky bars and cafés that are open all day long. Although small, this lively square is one of the busiest ones, mostly on Friday and Saturday nights! During spring and summer nights, Mavili Square is one of the youngsters’ favourite hangouts to enjoy a cold beer or a glass of wine near the square’s fountain!

Access: Metro red line, Megaro Mousikis or Ambelokipi Station

EXARCHEIA
Welcome to the bohemian, side of the city. Exarcheia is a lively spot popular with students, youngsters, and artists offering lots of alternative small bohemian-style haunts and good-value restaurants and bars. Strefi Hill is where you will find most of the bars and clubs, many of which play rock music.

Access: Metro red line, Panepistimio Station

SYNTAGMA
The heart of downtown Athens has a lively nightlife scene that takes place in hundreds of bars, tavernas and clubs. Apart from hotel bars around the square that are very popular among visitors and locals, there are countless hangouts at Romvis, Kolokotroni, Thiseos and many more cobbled narrow streets.

Access: Metro blue and red line, Syntagma Station

KOLONAKI
If you wish to rub shoulders with the Athenian elite, then Kolonaki is the ultimate hangout place to go out. Being the business area of the downtown, it attracts the Athenians for an after work cocktail or dinner. There are many trendy bars and some of the best gourmet restaurants for all tastes that are open and busy until after midnight, even on weekdays. Kolonaki square and the cafés along Milioni St. are the hottest spots for people watching and fashion lovers.

Access: Metro blue line, Evangelismos Station
If you are visiting Athens during summer, then Panormou Street is the place to be. Over the years, this tiny cluster of nightlife spots and fast food joints near Panormou Metro Station has become a favourite hangout for a rather young crowd. With the nickname “Athens’ island”, this spot might not offer a view of the sea, but the whole area brings memories of island vacations with the bars and restaurants laying tables and chairs in the middle of the street or a top cool roof-terraces where you can enjoy delicious cocktails after a movie at one of the many cinemas close by. Relax and sip your favourite cocktail with some pop, rock and Latin music.

Access: Metro blue and green line, Monastiraki Station

PSYRRI
Right next to Monastiraki and Thiseio and still at the foot of the Acropolis, this “oriental” district is known for its vibrant nightlife with its narrow cobbled streets lined with scores of bars, bar-restaurants and clubs, trendy cafés and live music tavemas. Stroll around its hidden alleys and discover some of the best mezedoplia in town, serving small traditional tidbits (meze), wine, ouzo (anise-flavoured liquor) or rakomelo (Cretan raki with honey).

Access: Metro blue and green line, Monastiraki Station

MAKRYGIANNI & KOUKAKI
Right next to the Acropolis Museum, overwhelmed by 1960s blocks of flats with some neoclassical treasures among them, the Makrygianni district has been lately transformed into one of the foremost attractions for foreign visitors and Athenians alike. The area has new trendy art shops, bistros, restaurants of international cuisine and wine bars open until late at night. Further south, the residential district of Koukaki offers some excellent neighborhood eateries.

Access: Metro red line, Acropolis Station

ATHENS SEAFRONT
Paraliaki is the signature word for the Athens coastal avenue! Enjoy your food and drink by the seashore and go on to any of the large number of summer nightclubs. Overall it is a stretch of about 40 km from Neo Faliro to Sounio. All you have to do is drive along the coastal road, pick your venue and have fun.
SHOP TILL YOU DROP IN ATHENS

ATHENS IS A PARADISE FOR SHOPPING LOVERS AND WILL SATISFY EVEN THE MOST DISCERNING OF SHOPPERS.

High quality and good prices combined with variety makes shopping in the Greek capital attractive all year round. Central Athens has whatever your shopping heart might desire from high-end designer stores and shiny malls to the traditional flea markets and bustling street markets.
LUXURY

If you seek luxury in the heart of town, look no further! Posh Kolonaki is the ideal shopping area for you. Skoufa, Patriarcheio, and Tsakalof are streets lined with boutiques full of designer products of top quality and high aesthetics. If high fashion is your passion, Voukourestiou Street is the big-spenders pedestrian paradise. It is home to many luxury brands, as well as expensive jewellery stores. You can also head to Athens’ north suburb Kifissia where you will find beautiful luxury department stores housed in renovated buildings of remarkable architecture. For excellent window shopping stroll down Kassaveti, Levidou, Panagitsa, Kolokotroni and Kyriazi streets and take your stroll under centuries-old maple trees, bordering busy cafes and restaurants. If you want to go shopping by the seafront, Glyfada is the right place for you. Metaxa Street, is one of the busiest shopping streets in town.

JEWELLERY

There are numerous jewellery shops located mainly around Syntagma and Kolonaki offering a wide variety of ancient Greek jewel replicas as well as traditional and modern pieces. Most of these pieces of jewellery are handmade by local jewellers. In many Athenian shops you can also find filigree made of silver and turquoise, with an origin from Ioannina (Epirus region).

ART

If you are searching for an exquisite arty experience, Plaka and many of the museums’ gift shops in Athens will satisfy your appetite for true copies of ancient art as well as modern original works of art inspired by ancient Greek heritage. The gift shops of the Acropolis Museum and the National Archaeological Museum are not to be missed during your stay in the Greek capital. If you love the abstract style of prehistoric Cycladic Art, or fine pieces of jewellery, a visit to the gift shop of the Museum of Cycladic Art is a brilliant idea. You will also find exquisite jewellery to suit all tastes in the Ilias Lalaounis Jewellery Museum. If modern art is your thing, pay a visit to the Herakleidon Museum Gift shop where you will find remarkable objects for sale or pass by Kolonaki, a district full of art galleries with works of art by famous contemporary artists. At the Museum of Greek Folk Art you will find traditional hand-embroidery, shadow puppets, children’s toys, jewellery, scarves, books and decorative objects, inspired by the museum’s rich collection.
If you are in the mood for shoes, bags and accessories, take a look at the shops in Ippokratous, Charilaou Trikoupi and Ermou Streets, close to Syntagma Square. If you are looking for handmade bags or leather sandals, those found in the shops of Adrianou are top quality! In the Monastiraki and Psyrri districts, you will find several stores preserving their tradition in sandal-making as well as other leather articles. Several workshops situated on Adrianou, Normanou and Theklas streets can create your personalised order of ancient Greek-style sandals.

**VINTAGE**

If you are in a bohemian-vintage mood, head to the Psyrri area, where shopping is an exciting experience with sophisticated or trendy fashion suggestions by talented young designers. Artisans’ workshops that sell sandals, suitcases, lampshades, old vinyls and second-hand books, create a picturesque image! Make sure you visit the little bead shops [chandradika], and the handicraft stores on Lekka, Romvis, Leocharous, Praxitelous, Aiolou and Agiou Markou streets, in downtown Athens. Explore the numerous backstreets around Karageorgi Servias Street and the beautiful arcades, and stroll along Ifaistou Street in Monastiraki where shops remain open on Sundays. A world of colours awaits you in those beads, buttons, fabrics, papers and other fantastic materials! Avissynias Square and the surrounding area is the place to hunt for all wooden chairs, glassware and silverware, as well as all sorts of vintage objects that will add charm and character to your house. In the meantime you can have a short break for a coffee or a cocktail and allow the cinematic feel of the scenery take you on a journey through time! In Pandrossou Street and the flea markets and stores of Monastiraki and Thissio, you will discover all sorts of souvenir shops to buy gifts and souvenirs to take back with you at home, such as worry beads (komboloi in Greek) made of plastic, amber and coral beads.

**ORGANIC COSMETICS**

If you love organic cosmetics you should know there are many Greek top-quality cosmetic brands producing cosmetics from plant extracts, which over the last few years have taken the market by storm. Shampoos, hair masks, sun creams, body lotions, shower gels and essential oils of exquisite quality and fantastic fragrance will remind you of Greece every time you use them.

“The gift shops of the Acropolis Museum and the National Archaeological Museum are not to be missed during your stay in the Greek capital.”
**DEPARTMENT STORES, MALLS & VILLAGES**

Do you want to find everything in a single place, combine shopping with enjoying a meal, drink or going to the cinema? In that case, visit the shopping malls in Athens for great buys! If you happen to be downtown, try Attica and Athenian Capitol. You have more choices in the northern suburbs where you can visit The Mall Athens, Golden Hall and Avenue. If you’re in the Piraeus area, try Athens Heart or Village Shopping and More. If you head towards the southern suburbs, spend some time in the Athens Metro Mall and if you travel west, visit the River West. McArthurGlen discount village and Smart Park are just 15 minutes away from the airport by car. There is also the Airport Retail Park, which offers many choices for shopping before boarding.

Hondos Center, with 23 stores around Athens is enlisted amongst the prime and largest known cosmetics distribution networks in Europe.

**BOOKSTORES**

Get to know the trends in Greek music or literature at the major bookstores and music chains mainly found in Panepistimiou and Stadiou Streets. You can find a fine selection of translated Greek literature as well as foreign books.

**OPEN-AIR MARKETS**

Head to Athinas Street at the heart of the buzzing Athens Central Market also known as “Varvakeios”, where you can taste the real culinary rhythm of the city. Here producers sell their merchandise and Athenians and restaurateurs carefully choose their daily stock of meat, fish, vegetables, fruit and cheese. If you love open-air markets, along with Athens’ Central Market, each neighborhood has its own small open market on specific days where people buy fresh produce. You can buy some fruit to have a healthy snack in your bag for the long walks under the Athenian sun. In the city centre you can find the market of Xenokratous Street in Kolonaki every Friday, Kalidromiou Street in Exarcheia every Saturday, a flower market is on at Agia Irini Square, and many open-air organic markets.

**TAX FREE SHOPPING**

*Get your money back... while shopping in Athens*

Travelers living in non-European Union countries are entitled to claim back the VAT/GST on purchases when they are brought home. So while shopping in many of the exciting tax free shops in Athens, you can save money and make your trip even more rewarding! Simply follow the steps:
1) Shop where you see the Tax Free Shopping logo and simply ask for your Refund Cheque.
2) Show your purchases, receipts and passport at the border and then have your Global Refund Cheque stamped.
3) Collect your refund in cash at a nearby Cash Refund, or mail back the cheque to Global Refund for direct crediting of your credit card or a bank cheque sent to your address. The Currency Choice logo next to a credit card terminal means that here you can pay by credit card in your own national currency. The amount on the receipt is the sum that will be debited to your bank. Therefore, there will be no hidden fees and no unwanted surprises when you get back home.

**Useful Information**

- **VAT:** 24%
- **Minimum spending:** € 50
- **Export validation:**
  - 3 months from the issuing of the cheque
SPICES

Behind Omonia Square there is a district where you can find every herb that grows under the Greek sun and all kinds of spices. Welcome to Evripidou Street, Athens’ famous spice street. Let the smell of cumin, cinnamon, oregano, basil and mountain tea “spice up” your Athenian walk!

‘PERIPTERA’- THE GREEK KIOSKS

Are you searching for a lighter? Do you need some soft drinks, water, or tobacco? Feeling hungry and want some chips, biscuits or chocolate? Do you need a bus ticket or someone to tell you the street name or the right direction? In that case, find the nearest kiosk (periptero in Greek) present in every neighborhood. They are usually open all day long, from morning until late at night (some of them 24/7). You might think that these 2x2 metallic boxes cannot hold much, but Greek periptera have nearly everything: Milk, biscuits, chips, pens, postcards, condoms, cigarettes, press and magazines, water and sodas, soft drinks and beers, batteries and more. Around the most touristy areas, kiosks sell kitschy souvenirs, plastic sunglasses, umbrellas, leather belts, bags etc. Periptera were established after WWII, when the state decided to give them to disabled veterans to earn a living. Today they’ve been transformed into mini markets!

OPENING HOURS

The Shopping hours in Greece are not standard. Stores operate at regular hours and many close at midday, to reopen in the afternoon. As a general rule, shops open Monday to Friday from 09:00 - 21:00 and Saturday from 09:00 - 20:00. In the historical centre of Athens you may find open shops and souvenirs shops on Sunday as well.

SALES & MID-SEASON SALES

Sales are officially planned and fixed. There are two official sales each year. In summer, they start mid-July and run through August 30. In winter, sales begin mid-January and end February 28. By law, there are two 10-day mid-season sales periods, covering the first ten days of May and November.

CREDIT CARDS

Use of credit cards in Greece is popular and will be accepted in most shops, especially in tourist areas. All high-end shops as well as smaller businesses in Athens accept credit cards. However, keep cash handy for smaller shops. Bakeries, grocery stores and kiosks usually do not accept credit cards.

Enjoy your shopping in Athens!
ACCOMMODATION IN ATHENS

ATHENS OFFERS A COMPREHENSIVE RANGE OF ACCOMMODATION FROM LUXURY TO CONVENTIONAL TO TINY GUESTHOUSES TO SUIT ALL BUDGETS.

You can find hotels, rooms and apartments for rent, camping sites and youth hostels. There are about 700 hotels throughout the greater Athens area, spanning all categories, from luxurious five star resorts to cheap and cheerful youth hostels. The last 20 years has seen a huge improvement in the hotel and accommodation infrastructure of Athens in order to cater to the demands and accommodation needs of every visitor. Many newly built hotels have risen around the Athens centre and the coastal and northern suburbs. Most of the Athenian hotels in the city centre are in the areas near the Acropolis, in Plaka, around Omonia Square, in Kolonaki on the slopes of Lycabettus Hill, around the Parliament Square, and on Syggrou Avenue. If you fancy the sea breeze cross to the Athenian Riviera from Falirio to Glyfada, Kavouri, Voula, Vouliagmeni, Varkiza, Lagonisi and Sounio. If you prefer to be surrounded by the lush vegetation of the northern suburbs of Attica, book a hotel around Kifissia and Ekali. If you are looking for a hotel or campsite in Athens you can contact the Hellenic Chamber of Hotels, regardless of class and operational form (classic hotels, motels, furnished apartments, camping sites, etc.).

www.grhotels.gr
FINE HOTELS IN ATHENS
**ATHENAEUM INTERCONTINENTAL ATHENS**

89-93, Syngrou Avenue,
117 45 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 9206000
F. +30 210 9206500

www.intercontinental.com/athens
www.athenaeumicathens.com

553 rooms

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

Awarded Greece’s Leading Business Hotel time and again, the Athenaeum InterContinental combines unparalleled levels of service with upscale facilities.

Within a short distance from the city centre, the 553 contemporary rooms of the hotel provide all modern conveniences, while the two dedicated Club InterContinental floors offer exclusive complimentary services.

With a total floor space of 6000 m², the meeting facilities of the hotel feature 40 break out rooms including the Athenaeum Ballroom, the biggest column free conference venue in Athens. The award winning dining venues of the Athenaeum InterContinental Athens, as well as its outdoor pool and luxurious I-Spa, make even the shortest stay a most memorable experience.

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**ATHENS MARRIOTT**

385, Syngrou Ave.,
175 64 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 9471000
F. +30 210 9471101

www.marriottathens.com
athensmarriott@chandris.gr

366 guest rooms including suites

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

Chandris Hotels in partnership with Marriott International is pleased to announce the opening of the new Athens Marriott following a 20m euro renovation. Located on the bustling artery of Syngrou Avenue, opposite the Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre which houses the National Opera and the Library. Our newly renovated 341 rooms and 25 suites are outfitted th plush pillow top bedding, soda beds, spa inspired bathrooms and features such as wall mounted HD LED 49 inch TVs, modern workspaces and contemporary artwork. Event planners will appreciate our 8 meeting rooms all with natural daylight for up to 500 persons and our expert culinary team is ready to take your event to the next level. Enjoy your lunch or dinner at the Made in Athens restaurant with ingredients made from premium Greek products or enjoy your drink at the Roof Top bar overlooking the Acropolis, the Aegean Sea and the Opera. In between activities, stay active at our well equipped fitness center or walk to the Stavros Niarchos Park where can discover jogging paths and biking trails.

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**ATHINAIS HOTEL**

99, Vasilissis Sofias Ave.,
115 21 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 6431133
F. +30 210 6461682

www.athinaishotel.gr
info@athinaishotel.gr

84 rooms single, double and triple

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

On one of the most central and beautiful avenues of the city, in the commercial and social centre of Athens, Athinais Hotel offers a friendly and hospitable atmosphere. The friendly environment of the hotel is based on the family character of the business and the personal care of its owners. The core philosophy of Athinais is that quality doesn’t have to come at a high price. The hotel constantly tries to keep up with the needs and demands of its guests. Its goal is to make guests’ experience a reason to choose it again.

With easy access to public transportation, Athinais is close to two main metro stations and offers 84 renovated and fully equipped rooms (smoking & non-smoking) and rooms for the disabled. The hotel also offers fully equipped rooms for events, a business center, free wireless Internet and a reading area. The brasserie of the hotel “8am-11pm Café” is a perfect place for both social and business meetings which offers delicious dishes and a variety of hot and cold drinks.
DIVANI APOLLON PALACE & THALASSO
Agiou Nikolaou 10, Vouliagmeni 166 71, Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 8911100
F. +30 210 9658010
www.divaniapollonhotel.com
info@divaniapollon.gr
Superior Rooms: 194, Executive Rooms: 73, All Sea View Suites: 6, Deluxe Suites: 6, Presidential Suite: 1
Group rates: Contact sales department.
Divani Apollon Palace & Thalasso is situated in Vouliagmeni, in the sandy beach of Kavouri, 30 minutes’ drive from Athens city centre and 25 minutes drive from the airport. The hotel is the ideal venue for business or pleasure, features 280 rooms and suites with view to the sea, 4 restaurants and extensive meeting space with capacity of 4,325 delegates. Recreation includes water sports, tennis, golf nearby and a 3500 m² Spa & Thalassotherapy Centre the only facility of its kind in Athens. The Hotel is a member of the Leading Hotels of the World.

DIVANI CARAVEL HOTEL
2, Vas. Alexandrou Ave., 161 21 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 7207000
F. +30 210 7236683
www.divanicaravelhotel.com
info@divanicaravel.gr
Group rates: Contact sales department.
Divani Caravel is a proud member of the Leading Hotels of the World. The hotel offers luxury and style in the heart of Athens. It is located just minutes away from Syntagma square, just a short walk from fashionable Kolonaki with its boutiques and famous cafés and restaurants as well as all the major cultural points such as museums, galleries, theatres. The hotel is the ideal base from which to visit the key attractions of this beautiful historic city. Divani Caravel features 471 rooms including 69 executive rooms and 2 Presidential Suites, 3 restaurants and extensive meeting facilities of 4,000 m². On the roof top of the hotel with panoramic view of the city of Athens, “The Peak Health Club & Spa” and the swimming pool are operating all year around offering you a relaxing environment.

DIVANI PALACE ACROPOLIS
19-25, Parthenonos St., 117 42 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 9280100
F. +30 210 9214993
www.divaniacropolishotel.com
info@divaniacropolis.gr
170 Deluxe rooms, 60 Executive rooms, 9 Junior Suites, 1 Executive Suite
Group rates: Contact sales department.
Divani Palace Acropolis enjoys a priceless location right by the world-famous Acropolis, the perfect place to savour Athens fascinating history. Our beautiful hotel offers elegant rooms and suites, an outdoor pool with bar, and delicious dining including our summer Roof Garden restaurant with enchanting views of the ancient heritage. Top-notch meeting rooms and romantic banquet rooms make our hotel ideal for business meetings or a truly memorable event. The hotel offers 250 luxurious rooms, including 60 executive rooms and 10 suites.

The hotel is a magnificent venue for meetings, business conferences and special events. Our beautifully appointed meeting rooms are much more than aesthetically pleasing. They also boast hi-tech features and amenities, designed to support your business. Two decades of accumulative knowledge enables our highly qualified staff to assist with the successful organization of meetings, banquet or conferences.
DOMOTEL KASTRI
154, El. Venizelou Ave & Romylias
14671 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 3507100
F. +30 210 3507121
www.domotel.gr
kastri@domotel.gr
86 rooms
Group rates: Contact sales department

Domotel Kastri, member of Domotel boutique & lifestyle hotels, is a historic hotel on the northern outskirts of Athens. After its major renovation in 2015, it has been converted into a five-star contemporary boutique hotel with modern facilities, ideal for business meetings, as well as tailor-made services to suit the modern traveler. The hotel is located at the Kastri district of Nea Erythrea, close enough to the center of Athens and just a few steps away from the shopping center of Kifissia. The premium and sufficient roadway network along with the nearby public transportation, connects Domotel Kastri directly to the major points of interest of the city of Athens. The hotel and its training & conference center are built in a vast area of 15000 m² that will include carefully made gardens, functional public areas and 4 acres of pinewood.

GRAND RESORT LAGONISSI
40th km Athens - Sounio Ave.
190 10 Attica, Greece
T. +30 22910 76000
F. +30 22910 24534
www.lagonissiresort.gr
grandresort@grandresort.gr

Group rates: Contact sales department

Your Story of Success…
Prepare to write your own story of success at some of the most exceptional meeting venues nuzzled in a 72-acre private peninsula in the Athenian Riviera - only 20 minutes from Athens International airport - with stunning views to the Aegean Sea and do business in style! Rightfully recognized as one of the best Athens business hotels, the Grand Resort Lagonissi invites executive travelers to plan the most successful business meetings, corporate meeting events and conference sessions at state-of-the-art venues perfectly appointed with upscale amenities and facilities. Add to that the amazing variety of exceptional dining choices, the marvelous accommodation options and wide range of recreational and wellness proposals and experience how a business holiday can magically turn into a dream vacation on the cosmopolitan Athenian Riviera.

HOTEL GRANDE BRETAGNE
1, Vas. Georgiou A’ St. - Syntagma Sq.
105 64 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 3330000
F. +30 210 3228034
www.grandebretagne.gr
reservations.gb@luxurycollection.com
320 rooms and suites
Group rates: Contact sales department

Located in the heart of Athens, opposite Syntagma Square and within walking distance of exclusive shopping areas and museums, the Hotel Grande Bretagne enjoys an ideal location in the city centre. This eight story 19th-century building exudes wealth and refinement from the first impression and it has been given a number of significant awards. Guests can indulge themselves within the multi-awarded GB Spa as well as experience the utmost dining service in the following restaurants: The GB Roof Garden, which is ideal for a romantic rooftop meal; or the Winter Garden, which is renowned for its afternoon high tea and live entertainment. The GB Pool Bar offers healthy snack options, while the Alexander’s Bar makes guests want to linger over a classic cocktail or exquisite cognac. Finally, the Alexander’s Cigar Lounge offers a relaxed setting to enjoy premium cigars, cognacs and liquors.
**HILTON ATHENS**

46, Vasilissis Sofias Ave.,
115 28 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 7281000
F. +30 210 7281111
www.hiltonathens.gr
sales.athens@hilton.com
Total number of rooms: 506

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

This is not just a hotel. It’s a legacy in Athens. An architectural marvel, the Hilton Athens was built in 1963 and was fully renovated in 2003. The hotel boasts 506 spacious rooms and some of the best city views available. You can almost touch the Acropolis! Hilton Athens has the largest outdoor pool in the city centre and features five restaurants and two bars (Byzantino, Milos, Aethrion Lounge, Galaxy Bar Restaurant and Oasis Pool Bar & Grill).

The hotel is just 25 minutes away from the airport by direct subway. It features 23 meeting rooms with natural light for up to 1,300 people, a 24-hour business centre and an executive lounge with an Acropolis view. You can also visit the Hiltonia Spa, featuring an indoor pool, a fully equipped fitness room, a Pilates studio with natural light, and an endless array of health and beauty treatments.

**ILISIA HOTEL**

25, Mihalakopoulou St.
115 28 Athens, Greece
Tel +30 210 7244051
Fax +30 210 7241847
www.ilisiahotel.gr
Ilisia.hotel@gmail.com
91 rooms and suites

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

The Ilisia Hotel is centrally located in one of Athens finest residential, shopping and business districts. Next door to the Athens Hilton and a short walk from the Parliament, the Acropolis, embassies and museums, the Ilisia is surrounded by the city’s finest restaurants, cafes and nightspots.

Each of the Ilisia’s 91 air-conditioned, elegantly furnished rooms offers a relaxing retreat from the rigorous pace of Athenian life. Three spacious conference rooms with a capacity of 30-200 persons, equipped with visual and audio means. The hotel’s rooms are equipped with satellite TV (international channels), Internet access and most other conceivable amenities. Room service, secretarial, mail and fax services and experienced staff are all at your disposal.

**THE MARGI**

11, Litous St., Vouliagmeni
166 71, Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 8929000
F. +30 210 8960229
www.themargi.gr
themargi@themargi.gr
89 Rooms & Suites

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

Set in an exclusive environment, with state-of-the-art event facilities and a host of sophisticated services, The Margi is an ideal location for corporate gatherings, from small meetings to large-scale incentives and elegant parties. Two conference rooms and five conference suites are designed to accommodate functions in the business hotel’s cozy, well-decorated environment. The Margi Farm, 20 minutes away from The Margi, is also available for social or corporate events where you can create with your team different farm activities such as cooking classes and vegetable picking. To accompany your business events in the Athenian Riviera, discover our hotel’s unique services & facilities. Our executive chef’s celebrated cuisine is available on made-to-order menus, from healthy coffee breaks to fancy seven-course gala dinners by the pool.

Combining the above with full technological support in our meeting rooms (high-speed Internet access, built-in projection screens, cutting edge light controls), The Margi team offers an unrivalled level of meeting expertise in Athens and is ready to respond promptly to every need.
NEW HOTEL

16, Filellinon St.
105 57 Syntagma Square
Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 3273000
F. +30 210 3273100
www.yeshotels.gr
rsv@yeshotels.gr - events@newhotel.gr
79 rooms

Group rates: Contact sales department

NEW HOTEL, the latest member of the Yes! Hotels Group, is the first hotel venture by award winning Brazilian designers Humberto and Fernando Campana featuring striking interiors, quirky bespoke furniture and handmade fixtures throughout. The 79-room hotel is located in the center of Athens, off Syntagma Square, near Plaka, the Acropolis and the metro station. In all bedrooms there are art-work installations of Greek folklore themes, while the floors and bathrooms are made from solid bamboo. Junior suites and public areas host an authentic contemporary art collection. Penthouse Club Lounge is exclusively for the use of hotel guests, offering an inspiring view of Athens. NEW TASTE, the hotel’s all-day restaurant, serves traditional breads and pastries, fresh salads, grills and Greek specialties. The meeting rooms offer natural daylight and provide up-to-date audio/visual equipment. The Business Center provides all necessary equipment while the NEW SENSE wellness spot/gym, offers a feeling of well-being in body and spirit.

N.J.V ATHENS PLAZA

2, Vas. Georgiou A, Syntagma Square
105 64 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 3352400
F. +30 210 3235856
www.njvathensplaza.gr
info@njvathensplaza.gr
Total rooms 180

Group rates: Contact sales department

The NJV Athens Plaza is conveniently located in the heart of Athens in the historic Syntagma Square, and very close to the world-famous Acropolis. With over 30 years of rich history, it welcomes guests from across the globe to experience hospitality excellence at its finest. Dedicated to providing an unparalleled level of service, the NJV Athens Plaza Hotel features contemporary rooms and suites, with unique views to the Acropolis, pedestrian & classy Voukourestiou as well as Stadiou streets. As a luxury hotel in Athens, it is ideal for those who choose to be close to major tourist attractions, archaeological sites, shopping districts and museums such as the Acropolis Museum. With 162 spacious elegant rooms and 18 luxurious suites, the NJV Athens Plaza offers affordable accommodation complemented by chic decorations and state-of-the-art amenities. Guests staying at this hotel in the city center of Athens will benefit from a solid night’s rest while enjoying a tranquil environment. After a long day of exploring the area, The Parliament Restaurant will offer you the pleasure of a culinary dining experience including authentic Mediterranean dishes. When you wish to meet up with friends or enjoy cocktail hour with business colleagues, visit the Explorer’s bar, taste fine malts, excellent wines and snack on delicious finger food. At the NJV Athens Plaza, you can expect nothing but the best. “Live the absolute experience for absolute moments!”.

NOVOTEL ATHENES

4-6, Michail Voda St,
104 39 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 8200700
F. +30 210 8200777
www.novotel.com
h0866@accor.com
196 rooms

Group rates: Contact sales department

Novotel Athenes, a 4 star hotel, member of the Group ACCOR, will assist you explore business opportunities or discover the ancient Greek capital in the most inspiring setting. Be close to all the arts, entertainment and dining in Plaka-Monastiraki and Keramikos area – while just a few minutes from Metro Lines and the National Archeological Museum. Choose one of the 196 rooms and dive into the comfort of the unique bedding, Live N Dream. Entertain your palate near the Botanic Garden in NOVagora Restaurant -Bar or enjoy the magnificent view to Acropolis and Lycabettous Hill from Clair De Lune Restaurant-Bar during the summer period. From the gym to the pool, the meeting rooms to the Kidult’s lounge, connect to the world through the free Wi-Fi or through the Mac Internet and the Virtual Concierge. Allow Novotel Athenes meeting specialists to provide expert guidance for your conferences, meetings, and seminars. With 8 meeting rooms from 20-620m² with or without natural daylight, which can host up to 1265 persons, the experience teams driven by your needs and desires can offer faultless organization, highest-technology equipment and wide-ranging expert advice. It’s a lot better at Novotel!
PLAZA RESORT HOTEL

52nd km Athens - Souniou Ave.,
Athens - Anavyssos Beach, 19013 Greece
T. +30 22910 75000 | F. +30 22910 75200
www.plaza-resort.com
sales@plaza-resort.com
135 rooms & suites

Group rates: Contact sales department

Enjoy the “big blue” at the Plaza Resort Hotel, in Athens’ most exclusive coastline area, where leisure and business mingle successfully. Visit Plaza Resort and discover the ideal venue for your conferences and meetings. Offering a combination of discreet luxury, professional services, the latest technology and a relaxing environment, this international business hotel will be your guarantee of success. This elegant and comfortable hotel with its amazing setting on the sandy beach of Anavyssos offers a winning combination of hospitality and the facilities of a city hotel in a resort location. It is perfect for your professional meeting and corporate needs. Whatever your choices, Plaza Resort will provide the best surroundings and services for both the leisure and modern business traveler. The hotel is situated within walking distance of Palea Fokea, a small coastal village. Right next to the hotel, by the coast, you will find coffee shops and Greek taverns with fresh fish and many traditional delicacies. You may also visit the orthodox church located in the center of the village and attend the mass. A pharmacy store and bank are also available within walking distance. All facilities are “easy access” with no stairs or change of level are required to proceed. All areas are also easy access for people with Special Needs. The hotel’s two big conference halls and the seven smaller meeting rooms have natural daylight and magnificent views of the sea or the garden. Multifunctional and fully equipped upon request, they can be set up to different styles of configuration, according to your needs. Whether you are organizing a meeting of five persons or a conference of 500 delegates, our experienced staff will be right with you to help step-by-step in every small detail. The combination of exquisite tastes, imaginative presentations, excellent service and breathtaking views of the sunset and coastline creates the best atmosphere for a special event. Whatever the occasion is, it will be unforgettable.

RADISSON BLU PARK HOTEL ATHENS

10, Alexandras Ave.,
106 82 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 8894500
F. +30 210 8238420
www.radissonblu.com/hotel-athens
www.rbathenspark.com
info@rbathenspark.com
153 rooms and suites

Group rates: Contact sales department

This hotel is uniquely designed with an “urban nature” concept, centrally located, overlooking a park, next to the National Archaeological Museum and the Hellenic Motor Museum, and within easy access of all major points of interest. It includes Spacious Standard, Superior, Business Class rooms and ultra modern suites equipped with free Wi-Fi Internet, TV, mini-bar, safe box, coffee tray, slippers, bathroom toiletries, with a view of the park or the Acropolis. It has a multi-award-winning rooftop restaurant-bar “St’Astra”, an “Oak Room” lounge cafe and a “St’Astra Blue” roof garden restaurant during the summer. Radisson Blu Park Hotel Athens also boasts uniquely-designed meeting rooms, decorated with state-of-the-art innovative materials, fitted with the latest in audiovisual equipment, free Internet, with or without natural daylight and the ability to separate into smaller meeting rooms for 10 to 350 people.

ST GEORGE LYCABETTUS LIFESTYLE HOTEL

2, Kleomenous St.
106 75 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 7416000
F. +30 210 7290439
www.sglycabettus.gr
info@sgl.gr
154 rooms and suites

Group rates: Contact sales department

This boutique lifestyle hotel is perfectly placed in the most exclusive district of Athens, Kolonaki with 154 uniquely decorated rooms and suites, all equipped for today’s leisure and business traveller, making it its own style statement. Various floors and sections feature aspects of Greek civilisation. “Le Grand Balcon”, the hotel’s breakfast room and gourmet restaurant, and “La Suite Bar & Restaurant” offer breathtaking views of the Acropolis and Athens. Panoramic views can be seen from all floors even from the lobby level. The FRAME GARDEN RESTAURANT all-day trendy cafe-restaurant with its fresh design is available in the summer months. It also has an open-air swimming pool with a bar from May to October. The SENSIA spa and gym studio is the hotel’s latest addition to the St. George facilities.
THE SEMIRAMIS HOTEL

48, Char. Trikoupi St.
145 62 Kifissia, Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 6284400
F. +30 210 6284499
www.yeshotels.gr
info@semiramisathens.com

51 rooms including five pool bungalows, three penthouse studios, one penthouse suite

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

The SEMIRAMIS Hotel is a deluxe property and a member of YES!HOTELS and Design Hotels worldwide, designed by acclaimed industrial designer Karim Rashid. Located in the affluent suburb of Kifissia, Semiramis is just 30 minutes by car from both the airport and Athens city center.

The hotel consists of 51 rooms including five pool bungalows, three penthouse studios and one penthouse suite offering a creative space where guests can relax and be inspired. Works from Dakis Joannou’s extensive art collection can be viewed at the Semiramis’ bi-annually rotating exhibition in the public spaces. Semiramis Bar & Restaurant serves breakfast, all-day dining and seasonal cocktails indoors or in the open air by the pool’s veranda.

Semiramis offers three meeting rooms that have ample natural light during the day. Conference rooms Omni and Kismet can be merged into one larger room, offering flexibility in arranging business meetings, lunches, and high-standard presentations.

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STRATOS VASSILIKOS HOTEL

114, Michalakopoulou St.
115 27 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 7706611
F. +30 210 7708137
www.airotel.gr
svreception@airotel.gr

88 rooms and suites

**Group rates:** Contact sales department

Stratos Vassilikos has been renovated to create a new vision in accommodation and relaxation. It addresses businessmen of high standards. The hotel emerges as an innovative, cosmopolitan wonderland, offering a next-generation hotel experience, a pure and simple shape for modern design and comfort, an accurate service, professional staff and unique location. It is located in one of the most tranquil and safest areas of the city just a few steps from the underground station, Megaro Moussikis, the American Embassy, restaurants and coffee shops.

The hotel features 88 rooms including master and junior suites and five meeting rooms that can hold any type of business, convention, meeting or social event. Our specially designed meeting rooms along with our exceptional service will distinguish your business meetings in a unique way. The “Riva” restaurant, in the hotel’s atrium, is an ideal setting for professional meals and dinners or meetings with friends. The executive chef and his team will impress you with their inspired suggestions and the wine list will meet your most demanding expectations.

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www.wyndhamgrandathens.com
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5 ★ HOTELS

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www.intercontinental.com/athens
www.athenaeumicathens.com

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210-3352400
info@njvathensplaza.gr
www.njvathensplaza.gr

ATHENSWAS
210 9249954
info@athenswas.gr
www.athenswas.gr

CROWNE PLAZA ATHENS CENTRE
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info@cpaths.com
www.cpaths.com

DIVANI CARAVEL HOTEL
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info@divanipollon.gr
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metropolis@electrahotels.gr
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sales.athens@hilton.com
www.athens.hilton.com

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reservations.gb@luxurycollection.com
www.grandebretagne.gr

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reservations.kg@luxurycollection.com
www.kinggeorgeathens.com

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metropolitan@chandris.gr
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www.sgr.gr

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www.theoxeniapalace.com

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www.amaliahotels.com

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info@arthotelathens.gr
www.arthotelathens.gr

ART SUITES ATHENS
210-7473170
info@artsuitesathens.gr
www.artsuitesathens.gr

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astor@astorhotel.gr
www.astorhotel.gr

ATHENAEUM GRAND
210-9222500
info@athenaeumgrandhotel.com
www.athenaeumgrandhotel.com

ATHENIAN CALLIRHOE
210-9215353
hotel@tac.gr
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www.athensatrium.gr

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gm@athensgate.gr
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info@athenslycabetts.gr
www.athenslycabetts.gr

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info@avahotel.gr
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info@brasilhotel.gr
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**CANDIA**
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www.candia-hotel.gr

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**CITY CIRCUS**
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www.ilissos.gr

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www.douro-hotels.com

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<td><a href="http://www.theoxeniapalace.com">www.theoxeniapalace.com</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:titania@titania.gr">titania@titania.gr</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.titania.gr">www.titania.gr</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.zafoliahotel.gr">www.zafoliahotel.gr</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.arionhotel.gr">www.arionhotel.gr</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.aristoteleshotel.gr">www.aristoteleshotel.gr</a></td>
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<td>210-8855211</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hotelbalasca.gr">www.hotelbalasca.gr</a></td>
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<td>ANTONOPOULOS</td>
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<td>APOLLON (EX RIVOLI)</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.achilleashotel.gr">www.achilleashotel.gr</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.acropoliselect.gr">www.acropoliselect.gr</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:douros@otenet.gr">douros@otenet.gr</a></td>
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<td>HELLINIS</td>
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<td>INOI</td>
<td>210-8649064</td>
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<td>DORIAN INN</td>
<td>210-5239782</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dorianho@otenet.gr">dorianho@otenet.gr</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:info@goldencity.gr">info@goldencity.gr</a></td>
<td><a href="http://www.goldencity.gr">www.goldencity.gr</a></td>
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info@ionishotel.gr
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douros@otenet.gr
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www.hotel-katerina.com

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marinaalimosgrh@gmail.com
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MUSEUM
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info@museum-hotel.gr
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info@myathenshotel.com
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hotelmirada@yahoo.gr

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info@adamshotel.gr  
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www.hotel-adonis.gr

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info@aeglihotel-athens.gr  
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hotel@alterathens.gr  
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www.hotelanesi.gr

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www.backpackers.gr

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athoshtl@otenet.gr  
www.athoshtl.gr

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samothrakig@hotmail.com

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info@exishotel.gr
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info@familyinn.gr
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info@hotelfrida.gr
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info@greenhill.gr
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info@hotel-royal.gr

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salemhotel@hotmail.com
www.hotel-salem.gr

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www.hotel-semeli.gr

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info@thissioview.gr
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www.hotelcavodoro.gr

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www.faros-hotel.gr

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www.noufarahotel.eu

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www.thepark.gr

SAVOY
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www.savoyhotel.gr

TRITON
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htriton@otenet.gr
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info@elefsinahotel.gr
www.elefsinahotel.gr

KINETTA BEACH
22960-65080/5
sales@kinettabeach.gr
www.kinettabeach.gr

DO NOT FORGET
Always add +30 (Greece’s Country Code) when dialing to Greece

HOTEL LISTINGS
Hotel listings have been obtained from the Hellenic Chamber of Hotels official database.

HOTELS INDEX
AMPHITRION GROUP OF COMPANIES
46, Kyprou Street, 17236 Dafni, Athens
T. +30 211 10 90000
info@amphitrionprisma.gr
Sylvia@amphitrionprisma.gr
www.amphitrionprisma.gr

Amphitrion is a leading Destination Management Company in Greece operating for over 40 years and is specialized in providing a full range of high quality services throughout Greece (Athens, mainland & islands) for VIP, FIT and group travel at competitive rates. Moreover, we privately own a fleet of vehicles (31 motorcoaches, minivans, taxis & Mercedes limos) to cover any type of transportation need of our clients. We maintain a network of offices in Greece and abroad (Dafni headquarters, Athens, Mykonos, Santorini, Crete, USA, Japan, Taiwan).

COSMORAMA LTD
14 Sina st., Athens, Greece
T. +30 211 1989525
info@cosmorama.gr
www.cosmorama.gr

Cosmorama Ltd was founded in 2002 and operates in all the important fields of tourism including domestic, inbound and outbound travel services. Cosmorama is a full service travel management company offering luxury, corporate and leisure travel services to thousands of people across the globe who love to explore every single latitude and longitude. Hence, we strive to provide a wide range of services in order to cater each individual’s requirements.

HARITOU TRAVEL GROUP
33 Dion. Areopagitou Ave., Athens
T. +30 210 9248990
info@htg.gr
www.htg.gr

Founded in 1974 in Athens, Haritou Travel Group (HTG) is one of the longest privately owned travel and tourism organization in Greece, specializing in Incentive, group and Leisure Travel. Our expert knowledge in Greece, our many years of experience with event planning in Greece and our creativity as event planners make us the ideal choice for your trip.

JTB TUMLARE
4 Filellinon St., 105 57 Athens
T. +30 210 3215835, 210 32 15 824
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info@jtb.gr
www.jtb-europe.com / www.jtb.gr

Tumlare is a leading European Destination Management Company with a reputation of providing the highest quality of products and services. Our global network, incorporating over 30 offices in four Continents, is combined together with an extensive local knowledge and personal touch.

LOCEANE VOYAGES
65, Panepistimiou, 10564, Athens
T. +30 210 33 13 963
marieperrine@loceane.gr
www.loceane.gr

Locéane Voyages is a family run incoming travel agency founded in 1994 and headquartered in Athens. Our company is specialized in a la carte travel and customized services in Athens area and all over Greece for groups & individuals clients.

MELI TOURS
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T. +30 213 0371702
www.meli-tours.com

“MeliTours” is a Destination Management Company specialized in Greece. For over 30 years, “MeliTours” offers its unique local knowledge and expertise to its clients, providing a vast range of services, i.e. accommodation, transportation, excursions, conference venues, themed events, gala dinners, meetings, incentive schemes as well as helping with overcoming language barriers.

SUNNY GREECE TRAVEL & TOURISM
36-38 Syngrou Ave. Athens 11742
T. +30 2109237100
info@sunnygreece.gr
www.sunnygreece.com

Sunny Greece Travel & Tourism is a tour operator specializing in incoming tourism since 1980 offering professional services at very competitive rates. We have at our disposal, over 3000 hotels and various accommodations in Greece. Professional multilingual guides are also available for our guests. All motor coaches, taxis, private limousines are top quality, offering all the comforts and safety. Sunny Greece Travel & Tourism handles all aspects of the tourism industry in Greece, such as accommodations of all types, tours, cruises, car rental, groups (students, corporate incentives, pilgrimages etc.) as well as tailor made packages to supply your needs and requests.
SIGHTSEEING TOURS & EXPERIENCES

ALTERNATIVE ATHENS
28 Karamitsou St., 10454 Athens
T. +30 211 012 6544, +30 6951518589
contact@alternativeathens.com
www.alternativeathens.com

Alternative Athens is an experiential Travel Company designing and operating its own exclusive tours & experiences. Our aim is to offer travelers visiting Greece the opportunity to discover local life and venture off the beaten path with our top-rated tours and experiences in Athens and around Greece. Thanks to its innovative approach, Alternative Athens has garnered worldwide recognition with press coverage from world-class publications. Alternative Athens is also a TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence winner for 2014-2017.

ATHENS BY BIKE
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T. +30 2130420724
info@athensbybike.gr
www.athensbybike.gr

“Athens by bike” is a licensed travel agency operating bike tours in the historic city center of Athens. We offer a unique way of sightseeing in Athens that has become a trend in most European cities. We are rated as the #1 Outdoor activity in Athens from Tripadvisor travelers since 2013 and we are always in the top 5 “things to do in Athens”. We have offered genuine local experiences to thousands of visitors the last years and we have 100% positive reviews.

ATHENS OPEN TOUR
14, Voulis St., Syntagma Sq., 105 63, Athens
T. +30 210 8815207
info@athensopentour.com
www.theopentour.com

The Athens Open Tour is a Greek company which operates in the historic center of Athens and the city of Piraeus. Our company was founded in 2010 and its fleet counts 6 new yellow-blue double-decker buses. Every day, visitors of Athens and Piraeus select our services in order to visit and photograph major landmarks of our history and culture.

ATHENS URBAN ADVENTURES
12 Arachovis street Athens, Greece 10680
+30 2121053807
24/7 mobile: +306989679166
Email: info@athensurbanadventures.com
www.athensurbanadventures.com

Athens Urban Adventures allows you to explore Greece through hands-on experiential tours and activities. We are a division of Intrepid Travel and a Responsible Travel Tour Operator. We are Worldwide winners of the 2015 Responsible Travel Awards for being the Best Tour Operator in the World engaging People & Culture! We are proud to run exclusively tours for the New York Times and Lonely Planet and have an extensive network of branches all over Greece.

ATHENS WALKING TOURS
2, Heydon St. 104 34, Athens
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info@athenswalkingtours.gr
www.athenswalkingtours.gr

Athens Walking Tours was founded in 2004 and since then we have been offering to visitors innovative, fresh and memorable activities. Each and every one of our tours have been designed by experts and executed with great success by selected guides. We operate small group historical and Food & Wine walking tours in Athens and Chania. We are consistently given high ratings in all travel sites. On TripAdvisor we are highly rated, more than any other tour operator in Athens.

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www.beagreek.com

Be a Greek offers a wide range of Experiential Travel services, from various thematic experiences (archaeology, food & wine, art, culture, family, luxury etc.) to exclusive tailor-made itineraries. Whether you have 4 hours or two weeks at your disposal, Be a Greek will take care of everything. Multilingual tours, hotel booking and transportation services are available, giving you the chance to fully enjoy your carefree time spent in Greece.

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www.bigolive.org

Big Olive designs and offers academic city walks, open-air lectures & seminars as well as a selection of urban travel services to domestic and international audiences. Our team operates Bigolive.org, a GNTO-licensed tour operation and distribution platform.

CLIO MUSE
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T. +30 2103226986
hi@cliomuseapp.com
www.cliomusetours.com

In Clio Muse, we share award-winning self-guided audio tours by accredited tour-guides or professionals in the Culture and Tourism sector, via our tour-guide app for Android & iOS. Our tours’ themes range from archaeology and mythology to gastronomy and architecture. The destinations we currently cover, include Greece’s mainland & islands and selected European cities. Highlights: available 24/7, 15 languages, offline content & interactive maps, perfect for last-minute bookings of FITs.

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info@citysightseeing.gr
www.citysightseeing.gr

City Sightseeing is the World’s number one Open Top bus operator, with sightseeing tours in more than 90 locations carrying well over 10 million passengers per year. The tours provide the perfect way to see all the best sights and attractions in each city. The unique 24 hour ticket over 2 days, offering the “Hop On Hop Off” facility, means that people can explore each destination at their own leisure.

DISCOVER GREEK CULTURE
T. +30 2112153585
contact@discovergreekculture.com
www.discovergreekculture.com

Discover Greek Culture (DGC) is an inbound tour operator that provides travelers with hands-on Cultural Tourism Experiences in Greece. Founded in 2013 by trained cultural experts, DGC promotes Greek culture by showcasing the history, archaeology, art and gastronomy that set Greece apart from the rest. Its unique tours weave together the very best of the Hellenic experience for discerning travelers looking to immerse themselves in Greek culture. DGC works closely with a number of institutions, organizations and sites to secure private viewings and exclusive visits to limited-access areas. In a highly saturated sightseeing and excursion market, DGC stands apart by offering travelers the opportunity to not only discover the breadth and wealth of Greek culture, but to live it for themselves. The DGC team is comprised of experts in the field of Hellenic studies, archaeology, architecture and the arts.

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Epicurious’s local hosts provide interactive itineraries to travelers looking for genuine experiences. By participating in our tours, guests get personalized insights into Greek lifestyle, gastronomy and culture. We offer small group daily tours, private & customized tours and large group experiences, all about food & culture, photography, sailing, street art, artisans and more. Let us take you on a journey to discover hidden gems, meet authentic people and create unforgettable memories!

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M: +30 6942070899
rsv@greeking.me
www.greeking.me

Greeking.me is a young & creative travel company with the aim of helping travelers to experience Greece as if they were locals. Our services include themed walking tours in Athens, tailor-made vacation plans around Greece, mouthwatering culinary experiences & exciting workshops. We uniquely combine the cultural exploration with the local insights of the city by inventing original tours and providing our customers with outstanding guides, inspiring itineraries & authentic experiences. We are proud to have been awarded the 2017 Exclusive Tour Operator of the Year by Luxury Travel Guide and the 2018 TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence for featuring the best of Greece to our guests.

KEY TOURS
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Tel: +30 210 9233 166
F: +30 210 9232 008
reservations@keytours.gr
www.keytours.gr

Key Tours is a leading sightseeing operator for those who want to unravel the fascination of the Ancient Greek culture with all senses. We have been operating since 1963 based in the center of Athens while building partnerships globally. Key Tours has been working with hundreds of travel agents in Greece by arranging sightseeing tours, excursions and transfers for their guests. Until today we have been constantly enriching our private tours, organized trips, shore excursions and transfers, all provided by us, emphasizing to quality, value and exceptional customer service. We serve annually over 60,000 visitors, by organizing 20 scheduled excursions and numerous other tours on a private/tailor made basis. Moreover, we handle more than 14,000 airport transfers per year.

MENTOR IN GREECE
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GR Tel: +30 211 182 3849
info@mentoringreece.com
www.mentoringreece.com

Mentor was founded in late 2014, and offers tour operator services, specializing in cultural/academic tourism. Our team consists of cultural heritage managers, academic program developers, marketing and communication experts. Our mission lies in the research and promotion of ancient, Byzantine, and contemporary Greek history, culture, and philosophy through the design and implementation of experiential routes specially designed for inquisitive lifelong learners from all over the world to encourage them to experience Greece’s tangible and intangible cultural assets and heritage of our beloved Greece.

PLATINUM CRUISES
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Tel: +30 211 1866400
info@platinumcruises.gr
www.platinumcruises.gr

Platinum Cruises. Is a consortium between Ydraiki Naval Co and Evermore Cruises, the two largest shipping companies in the field of one-day cruise. Platinum Cruises offers an incomparable day cruise that travels you to Hydra, Poros, and Aegina, the beautiful islands of the Saronic Gulf. Three islands overflown with history, cosmopolitan aura, religious experience along with sounds, colors, and images that will stay in your memory for years to come.

YOLENI’S
9 Solonos str. Kolonaki, Athens
Tel: +30 212 2223626
lsamata@yolenis.com
www.yolenis.gr

Following the success of its online delicatessen, Yoleni’s created its Flagship store in Kolonaki, Athens, where visitors can explore a multitude of experiences. Yoleni’s Gastronomy hall offers a wide selection of dishes such as its well-known handmade pita, mouthwatering sandwiches, fresh salads and authentic Greek yogurt. The most striking feature is the traditional Greek deli shop, where more than 2500 Greek, artisanal products can be found.

THE MARGI FARM
Tel: +30 210 9670924
info@ourfarm.gr
margifarm.gr

The fragrance of lavender, the colors of the summer season vegetables, the animals that welcome you as you approach them, this is the The Margi Farm. Just a few meters away from Kalivia town, in a green land, The Margi Farm unfolds. Colors, scents and flavors complement one another throughout all the seasons. The farm’s cuisine philosophy is to use excellent raw material with minimal processing. Local farmers help this effort by supplying excellent raw material thus contributing to an excellent result. The farm opens its doors to the visitors, where every guest collects vegetables as well as fresh eggs, which then can cook with the chef’s help or on their own. With the unique landscape of exceptional beauty, next to the monastery table, cooking lessons, business dinners and unforgettable family events are organized.

VINS - OENOTOURISM EVENTS
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www.vins.gr

Vins - oenotourism events offers unique guided wine and tasting tours in one of the oldest wine producing countries of the world. Either on a private tour, a group visit, a luxury getaway or a corporate event our team’s passion for wine guarantees first class, tailor-made services, that will exceed your expectations. We are excited about sharing our long history and our wineries’ treasures with wine enthusiasts from all over the world.
Ant Events was founded in 2007 by a team of travel specialists in MICE field with the main aim to plan, design, coordinate and execute meetings, incentives, conferences, events, product launches and corporate travel to perfection ensuring that our clients enjoy a service of first hand local knowledge with a genuinely customer focused and culturally sensitive perspective.

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info@kiplingevents.com
www.kiplingevents.com

Over the past decade, Kipling Events has established an excellent international reputation in the organization of Conferences, Incentives, Company and Sporting Events in Greece. Clients include Multi - National Corporations, Associations and Professional Meetings Organizers from around the world.

Optimum Greece
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T. +30 2106107400
hello@optimumgreece.com
www.optimumgreece.com

Optimum is one of the leading Destination and Event Management Companies in Greece and since 1999 is committed to creating unique experiences and providing high quality of services to customers from around the globe. Our team of passionate about detail and quality experts make us stand out of the crowd. Our services portfolio can cater for all your event organization and destination management requirements; from conferences, meetings, incentives, product launches, roadshows to team building, corporate and social.

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greece@pacificworld.com
www.pacificworld.com

We are a dedicated DMC and Event Management Company operating in 36 countries and over 100 destinations in Europe, Middle East, Africa, Asia and North America. We’ve been the leading DMC for over 35 years, awarded for exceptional services in our destinations and extreme attention to details. 25 TOP DMCs (Special Events), TOP 3 Business Events Companies (CEI). We’re also a leading Special Events organizer with an in-house Creativity Center of Excellence, providing full management of conceptualization, design and planning, delivering amazing events for all budgets. Present in 36 countries, over 100 destinations around the world.

PAM
52, 28 Oktovriou Street – 106 82 Athens
T. +30 210 92 29 294
info@pam-dmc.gr
www.pam-dmc.gr

PAM is a Destination Management Company that deals with individuals and groups, in the Travel and also M.I.C.E. market. Famous for combining quality, efficiency, reliability, and personal touch, we organize your client’s stay from A to Z in Greece. Based in Athens, with an extensive network of branches in Crete, Mykonos and Santorini as well as longstanding partnerships we offer a unique personalized proactive service.

SIVA TRAVEL SERVICES
7 Ravine St., 115 21 Athens
T. +30 210 7291066
info@sivatravel.gr
www.siva.travel

Siva Travel Services began trading as a tourist organization in 1958 and has grown to become a leading Destination Management Company in Greece. Siva Travel Services’ expertise is based upon more than 50 years of experience in Leisure Travel and in the organization of Meetings, Events and Incentives.

VISTA EVENTS
41 Mesogeion Ave., 115 26 Athens
Tel +30 210 6753606
info@vistaevents.com
www.vistaevents.com

Vista Events DMC Greece is an award winning Destination Management Company, specializing in organizing all types of events, conventions, incentives, meetings and product launches throughout Greece. Vista Events DMC Greece was founded in 2001 and retains two offices, in Athens and in Pylos, Costa Navarino area. The company consists of 17 enthusiastic, multilingual, experienced and dedicated travel professionals, whose prime ambition is to provide the highest possible service and commitment to its clients within the given budget in the most creative, imaginative and professional way.

RAZZMATAZZ EVENTS
44 Menekratous Str., 11636, Athens
Tel: +30 2114014425, +30 6975689004,
+30 6951007255
info@razzmatazzevents.gr
eleni@razzmatazzevents.gr
areti@razzmatazzevents.gr
www.razzmatazzevents.gr

Razzmatazz Events is a fresh and innovative Events and Destination Management Company that can make a difference to any event, big or small, by providing a personalized approach to any need. With an extensive network of suppliers and partners, the best level of service and a wide range of choice are guaranteed. Contact them in English, French or Spanish and they will make your vision their mission.
PCO & DMC

AFEA S.A. TRAVEL AND CONGRESS SERVICES
AFEA Travel and Congress Services
39-41, Lykavittou St., 106 72 Athens
T. +30 210 3668800
info@afea.gr
www.afea.gr

AFEA Travel and Congress Services has been operating in the MICE and Corporate Travel industry for 40 years, providing customers with integrated services. AFEA meets the customer’s needs for any meeting, incentive, congress, event or corporate travel request by providing upscale and exclusive services as well as creative ideas.

ARGO TRAVEL GROUP
10, Xenofontos str. 10557, Athens, Greece
T. +30 211 1803 100
athens@argotravel.com
www.argotravel.com

The Argo Travel Group has been operating in the Travel Industry for over 60 years. Leading the Industry is our vision: to be the top service provider in Greece for the worldwide Travel Industry, while delivering quality services to both traditional and new markets. Last but not least, to develop and offer innovative travel products and solutions all around the world.

CONVIN S.A.
29 K. Varnali St., 15233, Chalandri Athens, Greece
Tel +30 210 6833600
info@convin.gr
www.convin.gr

CONVIN is a dynamic enterprise, founded by specialists in planning and managing Conventions and Incentives. As a PCO and DMC our aspiration is to reach very high standards for services offered in our field. We aim constantly for innovation, inspiration and, at the same time, for the most practical solutions in every aspect of the events we undertake.

ERA LTD
CONGRESSES • EVENTS • BUSINESS TRAVEL • INCENTIVES • TOURISM
17, Asklipiou St., 106 80 Athens
T. +30 210 3634944
info@era.gr
www.era.gr

ERA Ltd is a leading international management company offering professional services for meetings, events, conferences, association management, exhibition, sponsorship, travel and tourism.

ERASMUS CONFERENCES TOURS & TRAVEL S.A.
1, Kolofontos & Evridikis St., 161 21 Athens, Tel +30 210 7414700
g.tsatsou@erasmus.gr
www.erasmus.gr

ERASMUS S.A. is a leading Professional Congress Organizing and DMC company, based in Athens, Greece with extensive experience in the Congress and Event Management field since it was founded in 1993. It runs over 50 projects annually with a dedicated, talented and multilingual team of 25 permanent, full time staff. Services cover PCO & core-PCO assignments, Association Management, special events & incentives as well as local DMC solutions. Our goal is to become our clients’ preferred partner and transform each event into a successful and memorable experience by providing quality, tailor-made solutions.

FREI S.A. TRAVEL- CONGRESS
3 Paparigopoulou Str., 105 61 Athens
T. +30 210 3215600
info@frei.gr
www.frei.gr

FREI S.A. is recognized as one of Greece’s leading professional conference organizers, serving national and international clients in the Congress, Events and Corporate Travel & Meetings industry.

METROPOLITAN DMC & EVENT MANAGEMENT
33, Daskaroli Street, Glyfada 16675, Athens GREECE
T. +30 210 9607058/9
info@metropolitan.com.gr
www.metropolitan.com.gr

Metropolitan DMC is a team of professional event planners of 35 years standing. We are the sole DMC in Greece with membership in ADMEI, the premier resource for education, standards and practices within the Destination Management industry (www.admei.org). We design and implement bespoke experiences for meetings and incentives, corporate events and conferences, specialist groups and private VIP stays throughout Greece.

ONE TO ONE CONGRESS & TRAVEL
16 Nikis str., 105 57 Athens, Greece
T. +30 210 7254383
info@one2onesa.com
www.onetoone-congress.gr

ONE TO ONE S.A. established in May 2002 and has effectively organized by now a significant amount of Scientific Conferences and Events in cooperation with Pharmaceutical Companies, Scientific Medical Companies and Health Care Institutions, leaving its distinctive professional trace on any project assigned. Since 2008, ONE TO ONE S.A. provides a complete travel services package, both in Greece and abroad, as a certified provider of Domestic, Inbound and Outbound Tourism. Through High standard services, Ultimate Knowledge on congress area, Professionalism, and the well trained Senior Personnel, ONE TO ONE S.A. has been established as a trustworthy partner in all its respective areas of business.
ATHENS IS A TOP DESTINATION FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN.

Where else can you visit adrenaline adventure and amusement parks, educational museums, spectacular zoological parks and sandy beaches all in one day? In Athens there are plenty of activities to keep the little ones happy and busy. You’ll find both outdoor and indoor places of entertainment. So no matter what the weather is like you’ll find something interesting for the whole family.
MUSEUMS & FOUNDATIONS

HELENIC COSMOS CULTURAL CENTRE
254, Pireos St., Athens
Bus 049, stop Athens School of Fine Arts
Bus 914, stop Athens School of Fine Arts
www.fhw.gr

If you are looking for a highly educational experience then the Hellenic Cosmos Cultural Centre is what you and your children are looking for. Learn about the key highlights of Greek history, visit places and monuments that no longer exist... Just leave everything to your imagination. Situated in a former industrial complex, it hosts exhibitions aimed at showcasing the development of the arts, sciences and every aspect of society throughout the Hellenic world. Its highlight is the Tholos, a dome-shaped virtual reality theatre where you can take virtual tours back in time. It will certainly amaze you! The centre includes a coffee shop, Internet access area, a gift shop and a beautiful terrace.

GAIA CENTRE
13, Levidou St., Kifissia
Metro green line, Kifissia Station
Entrance fee: € 6, Reduced € 4
Single ticket: Gaia Centre + The Goulandris Museum of Natural History
www.gnhm.gr

A visit to the Museum of Natural History can never be complete unless you pay a visit to the Gaia Centre, right next door, where you will get acquainted with planet Earth, the diversity of its landscapes, flora and fauna, via new interactive technologies, and understand the impact of human activity on the environment. Its highlight is the Geosphere, a hemispherical dome-monitor 5 m in diameter and with a surface of approximately 40 m², showcasing the rotating planet in 225,000 high resolution images. After your visit, you can enjoy refreshments or an excellent meal at the very child-friendly museum’s garden.

HELLENIC CHILDREN’S MUSEUM
19, Vasileos Georgiou B’ St., Athens
Metro blue line, Evangelismos Station
www.hcm.gr

A small haven, where learning can be fun, awaits you and your little ones while you wander through the picturesque streets and alleys of Plaka. A wide range of activities at the Hellenic Children’s Museum, such as experiments, cooking lessons, painting and a journey through time, will certainly amaze your children and feed their imagination. Children under six years old can play with building blocks in the playroom while you can purchase original toys and handmade objects in the museum’s toyshop.

MUSEUM OF GREEK CHILDREN’S ART
9, Kodrou St., Plaka
Metro blue or red line, Syntagma Station
Entrance fee: € 3
www.childrensartmuseum.gr

Right in the centre of Athens there is a museum dedicated to children’s creativity and imagination! Children here can take part in fascinating educational programmes and get acquainted with art. You can also admire paintings and children’s creations from all over Greece while at the museum’s gift shop you can find books, postcards, posters, art games and a variety of gifts featuring children’s art from the museum’s collections.

GOULANDRIS NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
13, Levidou Street, Kifissia
Metro green line, Kifissia Station
Single ticket: The Goulandris Museum of Natural History + Gaia Centre
www.gnhm.gr

Founded in 1965 in the green suburb of Kifissia, the Goulandris Natural History Museum offers an extensive collection of botanical, zoological, entomological, geological and paleontological exhibits with many interactive displays and audiovisual performances. Its ultimate vision is to shed light on the evolution of the Earth and its living species and to raise public awareness regarding the urgent need for environmental protection. You will enjoy with your children the experience of learning more about the kingdom of plants and animals and the balance of ecosystems, through the permanent collections and the various exhibitions that take place.
**THE NEW DIGITAL PLANETARIUM OF EUGENIDES FOUNDATION**

387, Syggrou Ave. Palaio Faliro

*Entrance from 11 Pentelis street*

Bus 550, Evgenideio stop / Bus B2, Interamerican stop / Bus A2, Iasonos stop / Bus 126, Trapeza stop / Bus 229, Onasios stop

**Entrance fee:**
- Planetarium shows: €6 (Adults), €4 (Children, 20+ Groups).
- Dome Films: €8 (Adults), €5 (Children, 20+ Groups).

**www.eef.edu.gr**

The New Digital Planetarium

The New Digital Planetarium having already produced 21 digital planetarium shows and an equal number of Study Guides and having so far attracted an estimated 3,500,000 visitors, the last decade. The main mission of the New Digital Planetarium is to communicate the achievements in science and technology to the wider public, to inspire its visitors by demonstrating the nature of scientific inquiry and to cultivate their sense of curiosity and wonder about the natural world.

**Interactive Science and Technology Exhibition**

The Interactive Science and Technology Exhibition is a unique destination that combines learning and entertainment for adults and children of age 9 years. It comprises 65 interactive exhibits, spread over an area of 1200 m2 and grouped in three distinct sections, one per floor, with the following subjects: “Matter and Materials”, “Communication: Sound and Image” and “Biotechnology”. The Exhibition is interdisciplinary and presents both basic scientific concepts and recent technological developments. The exhibition offers an alternative, experimental and entertaining, approach to science and technology learning, complementing the traditional methods used at school.

**HELLENIC MOTOR MUSEUM**

33-35, loulianou & 74-78, 3rd Septemvriou St., Victoria Station

**Entrance fee:** 8€ - Reduced 5€

children 0-6 free entrance

**www.hellenicmotormuseum.gr**

Hellenic Motor Museum is a must-see attraction, as it exhibits 120 exquisite samples of the international automobile industry, including brands like BENTLEY, ROLLS ROYCE, BUGATTI, ASTON MARTIN, BRISTOL, LAMBOGHINI, FERRARI, MASERATI. Moreover, models of famous brands from the past that no longer exist, such as AVION VOISIN, ADLER, PACKARD, FACEL VEGA, DELAGE, ISO, DINO, STANGELINI, SIATA, FRAZER NASH, H.R.G., ELVA, MILLER, OFFENHAUSER, are displayed in the museum.

**TECHNOLOGICAL MUSEUM PHAETHON**

36th km Athens-Lamia Motorway, Kalamas

**Entrance fee:** 10€, Children 5€ (upon request)

**www.phaetonmuseum.gr**

Located at the 32nd km of the Athens-Lamia Motorway, the Phaethon Museum is an original and interesting place to visit for car and technology aficionados. Here you can learn about classic automobiles, watches and technology in general. The museum is divided into five sections: A department for classic cars, with 100 exhibits, a watch department and departments of physics, electronics and telecommunications. You will admire classic vehicles such as Rover, Mercedes, Jaguar, Lancia and many more.

**B&M THEOCARAKIS FOUNDATION**

9, Vasilissis Sofias Ave. & 1, Merlin St., Athens

Metro blue or red line, Syntagma Station

**Entrance fee:** 6€, Reduced 3€

**www.thf.gr**

The non-profit, charitable, B. & M. Theocarakis Foundation for the Fine Arts and Music is located opposite the Greek Parliament, where the cultural, political and commercial heart of Athens beats. The B. & M. Theocarakis Foundation organizes events and carries out activities, such as temporary thematic exhibitions, chamber music concerts, educational programs, seminars, workshops and lectures. Its mission is to engage people in an interdisciplinary dialogue with the visual arts and music, both within and beyond Greek borders, emphasizing the emergence and development of the modern from the 19th to the 21st century. A vibrant cultural centre.
GREEN CORNERS IN ATHENS

Whether in the most famous spots of Athens or tucked away in well-hidden areas, lush gardens and parks adorn the city’s neighbourhoods and form pleasant green havens in the hustle and bustle of the city centre. Whether you want to take a peaceful stroll, relax or offer your children a pleasant environment to play, or lay a tablecloth or blanket for an unofficial and very pleasant meal, the gardens of Athens are definitely to be visited during your stay in the Greek capital!

THISSIO PARK
Metro green line, Thiseio Station
Welcome to the south-western most part of the Ancient Agora archaeological site! This is one of the locals’ favourite spots and one of the most frequented city places! You can combine a leisurely stroll with an educational visit to the archaeological site. If you love biking, you can enjoy a bicycle ride to the majestic pedestrianised Dionysiou Areopagitou and Apostolou Pavlou streets.

FOREST OF TATOI
Bus 503, 537, stop Agia Triada (terminal stop)
Just a stone’s throw away from the centre of Athens lies the beautiful forest of Tatoi, which was once the summer retreat of King George and Queen Olga, before being converted to the royal family’s permanent residence in 1948. Walking in the forest you will be stunned by the lush vegetation; Aleppo pine trees, tall cypresses, poplars, plane trees, beech trees, Greek strawberry trees, olive trees, and citrus trees adorn the Tatoi forest, which is protected by the Natura 2000 network as an area of outstanding natural beauty. Don’t miss the 10 m. waterfall that offers an unrivalled sense of serenity and enjoyment. Tatoi is ideal for hiking, mountain biking, jogging and family picnics in the countryside. You can also tour the buildings and the royal cemetery, or take a trip to the artificial lake of Kithara (or Lake Beletsi), where you can enjoy a stunning view of the entire Attica basin.

SYGGROU ESTATE
Kifissias Ave.
Bus A7, 550, stop KAT
Metro green line, KAT Station
Perfect for nature lovers and inquiring minds, the Syggrou estate is a must-see for your family. It’s an absolute oasis of the residents for the northern suburbs of the city, with hidden treasures to be discovered. The Syggrou Estate is perfect for uphill workouts, jogging, trekking, cycling and walking. Its highlight is the unique-in-Greece neo-gothic Orthodox Church of St. Andrew and the mansion of the Syggrou family, designed by Ernst Moritz Theodor Ziller. Note that there are seven entries in total, with the central one being from the side of Kifissias Ave.

FLISVOS MARINA
Bus 217, 550, A1, B1, B2
www.flisvosmarina.com
Located only 6 km from the centre of Athens, Flisvos Marina provides easy access to many cultural and leisure attractions available in the renovated Olympic city. Flisvos Marina provides a diversity of recreation and relaxation opportunities, such as walking and cycling activities in a friendly and peaceful environment. Flisvos Marina’s park has been designed with careful environmental planning, by planting 1,000 trees and 3,500 sqm of lawn. Swimming Pool, Open-Air Cinema, playgrounds, cafes, high end shops, and restaurants are located in this area, where you can enjoy quality family time.
NATIONAL GARDENS
Metro blue or red line, Syntagma Station

Created and designed by Queen Amalia in the 19th century, the National Gardens are the ultimate children’s paradise in the centre of the city, home to more than 500 different species of plants, trees, birds and animals. There is also a Botanical and a Children’s Museum, a zoo, and a playground along with scattered ancient monuments and statues.

PEDION TOU AREOS
Metro green line, Victoria Station

Next to the National Archaeological Museum you can find a lovely recently renovated park for a pleasant walk during the day. Created in 1934 to be a training ground for military units, today Pedion tou Areos is the biggest park in Athens, a locals’ favourite spot for walking with or without their pets, relaxing, or having fun. Children can play while you can follow a breathtaking path among the plane trees. Stroll around and take a look at the numerous impressive statues of heroes of the Greek War of Independence. You can also lose yourself in the specially designed “Minoan Labyrinth” or sip your coffee in one of the park’s picturesque cafés.

DIOMIDOUS BOTANICAL GARDEN
403, Iera Odos St., Athens
Bus A16, B16, 801, 811, 836, 866, X63, Diomedous stop
Bus 845, 876, Γ16, Psychiatreio stop
www.diomedes-bg.uoa.gr

Located in the western suburbs of Athens, the Botanical Garden extends over a vast area of 1,800 hectares with more than 3,500 different species of plants from all over the world. It is a paradise of flowers and plants, an ideal place for an invigorating scenic stroll for your family. In the dedicated botanic section with pharmaceutical plants, you will come across many different herbs, such as thyme, louisa, passiflora, and lavender. You can also introduce your children to some plants well-known from ancient Greek mythology such as Aphrodite’s sacred myrtle, the olive tree, the sacred symbol of Athens and acanthus, the ornament of the Corinthian-style columns.

ANTONIS TRITSIS ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS PARK
23, Spyrou Moustakli St., Ilion
Bus A10, B10, B12
Suburban railway (Proastiakos): Ano Liosia Station
www.parko Mattis.gr

Welcome to the largest green zone in Attica, the huge park of Antonis Tritsis, located at Pyrgos Vassilissis, in Ilion. It’s the region’s precious gem that encompasses ponds, canals, a rich flora and a refuge of hundreds of species of birds and mammals. A specially designed system ensures continuous recirculation of fresh water between the park’s six lakes. This abundance of water has helped promote and preserve the park’s rich biodiversity. In the park, you can do some trekking, jogging, biking and even horseback riding, or alternatively just relax with your children in the cafés and bars around.

ECOKTIMA ON MT. PARNITHA
Skourton village, Dervenochoria, Mt. Parnitha
www.ecoktima.com

What better way to spend a day with your kids than out in the country, growing your own vegetables? When in Athens, don’t miss out on a chance to visit the Ecoktima farm on Mount Parnitha, where you can rent a plot of land and plant your own organic vegetable patch. What is really amazing is that you can watch your plot develop online at any time of the day or night and the crop can be harvested by the farm’s tenant and delivered to your door. Ecoktima has guesthouses, a herb garden, farm animals, a vineyard and horses that you can hire for a ride in the countryside. The amenities of the farm also include play areas for your children, a chapel, a teaching area and a lovely gift shop.
TRAVEL LIGHT WITH YOUR BABY!

If you decide to travel in Athens with your baby, sit back and relax. There are companies that will provide you with all necessary equipment to reassure that you travel light by hiring all the essentials for a comfort stay.

ATTICA ZOOLOGICAL PARK
Yalou, Spata
Bus 319
www.atticapark.com

There is nothing better than spending the day with your children at the largest zoo in Greece, away from the city’s hustle and bustle. Amazing animals from all over the world will enchant and impress the whole family and leave you with unique memories. Get to know more than 2000 animals from two hundred species, one of the 3 largest collection of birds in the world, reptiles as well as representatives of the best that the Greek fauna has to offer: Wolves, bears, wild cats and foxes, a number of African mammals like giraffes, zebras, antelopes and some rare animals like snow leopards Komodo dragons and lions. Among the highlights of the park are the African penguins, the playful dolphins and the adorable seals. The amenities of the museum include a cafeteria, a souvenir shop, picnic areas and a playground.
ENJOY THE JOYRIDE

With nearly 3,000 years of continuous history, a tour around Athens with your children may seem daunting. Don’t discourage yourself; in Athens there are plenty of relaxed ways to tour all the must-see attractions around the city. **Double-decker hop on hop off buses** trace the history and culture of Athens from ancient times to the present day, as well as **happy urban trains** with no tracks that your kids will adore. These are toy-like street trains that pass down the narrow streets of Athens’ historic centre. You can also ride the **segway**, a two-wheeled, self-balancing electric vehicle with a top speed of 20km/h. It’s the most innovative personal means of transport to discover the capital’s scenic pedestrian walkways. Finally, the ride up Mount Lycabettus on the **cable-car railway** (teleferique) is always a hit with kids. During summer, it operates every 20 minutes.

ENTERTAINMENT

PARKS

**ALLOU! FUN PARK**
Kifissou and Petrou Ralli Ave. Agios Ioannis Rentis
Bus B18, Γ18, trolleybus 21, stop KAN KAN
Bus 703, 829, 801, 802, 803, 804, 845, 703, 909, stop Γ’ Nekrotafeio
www.allou.gr

Welcome to the largest amusement park in Athens. Let your adrenaline flow! The entertainment is about to begin! Offering a wide choice of entertainment and fun for all preferences, Allou! Fun Park attracts crowds especially on weekends all year round. The Star Flyer, the Crazy Mouse and Big Apple, the House of Fear, La Isla, a beautiful Carousell, the Bongo flying elephants and the Youpi Tower are just some of the games offered. It’s the ideal place for those who like to combine endless fun, food and enjoy a beautiful green and secure environment, as Allou! Fun Park is checked by Inspection and Certification organization TÜV HELLAS.
YOUTH & STUDENTS IN ATHENS

ATHENS IS A COOL PLACE FOR TEENS AND YOUNGSTERS TO EXPRESS THEIR ENERGY AND APPETITE FOR FUN AND ADVENTURE.

Whatever they choose to do in Athens, teens and youngsters will never get bored and will likely make lots of friends for a lifetime. Here are some suggestions on how teenagers and students can enjoy this city. (See also Family in Athens).
PAINTBALL
There are several companies offering paintball facilities near Athens. Paintball Hellas, just outside of the northern suburb of Kifissia (Parnitha Paintball Club).

Bouncing Betty in Kantza
www.bbpaintball.gr
Sniper Club in Pallini
www.paintballclub.gr
Greek Paintball in Malakassa
www.paintball-malakasa.gr

THE ESCAPE ROOM
Adrenaline, Dead Ends, Riddles, Breaking Points... Many different companies in Athens have developed this interactive live game, called "The Escape Room". It is about completing a mission during which a team of players is "locked" inside a room for about an hour. During this hour the players explore mysteries, push their limits, question the normality of the scenes, search for clues and hidden objects, striving to solve the riddles, and finally escape the room. The characteristics and the difficulties of the different rooms are revealed as the plot unfolds, satisfying every player's fantasy. All the available Escape Rooms are gathered at the website: www.thescape.gr

GO KART FUN
There are a number of popular Go Kart centres around Athens.

GO KART CENTRE
AGIOS KOSMAS
For those who love cars and speed, the Go Kart Centre Agios Kosmas is the most suitable place. Here, you will have the chance to spend moments of adventure escaping stress and amusing yourself.
Where: Poseidonos Ave., (on the opposite side of the former airport of Athens)

BICYCLE RIDING
There are lots of surrounding mountain hills as well as coastal promenades to escape Athens' hustle and bustle and enjoy a bicycle ride. There are also many rental companies to help out with tours and trails for groups, large and small.

BLANOS SPORTS PARK
Just 30km from the city centre, Blanos Sports Park is an activity complex with an impressive indoor ice skating rink, bowling lanes, a billiard hall, fun park, a restaurant and café-bar.
www.blanospark.gr

INDOOR AND OUTDOOR CLIMBING
An impressive wall climbing structure (that can accommodate close to 30 climbers) as well as other adventure apparatus such as the Bungee Trampoline can be found in the suburb of Pallini at The Wall Sport Climbing Center.
www.thewall.gr

HORSEBACK RIDING
You will find various Horseback Riding Clubs around Athens in Varibobi, Gerakas, Cholargos, Maroussi, Goudi.

ICE SKATING
There are features several ice rinks throughout the Athens region. The most popular ones are at Flisvos Marina
www.flisvosmarina.com
Golden Hall
www.goldenhall.gr
Athens Heart
www.athensheart.gr
Blanos Sports Park
www.blanospark.gr

A DAY AT THE BEACH
Beach parties, watersports, cool cafes and restaurants, lounge chairs and umbrellas are just a few of the activities and amenities that can be found on Athens' beaches.

SHOPPING FOR STUDENTS
The best areas for value-for-money shopping are by far Ermou Street and the Monastiraki neighbourhood. In Ermou Street you'll find trendy retail chains and small boutique shops, while in Monastiraki you will discover great finds at great prices. Don't forget to visit the open flea market, which takes place at weekends in the same district. You'll certainly find incredible bargains! You can also do your shopping around Psyrri and Exarcheia. These two areas feature shops by young Greek designers. During sales you are given the chance to acquire a design piece at a bargain price! If you are searching for international brands, pay a visit to Athens' shopping malls, for great buys! If you happen to be downtown, try Attica or Athenian Capitol. You have more choices in the northern suburbs where you can visit The Mall Athens, Golden Hall and Avenue. If you're in the Piraeus area, try Athens Heart or Village Shopping and More. If you are in the southern suburbs, spend some time in the Athens Metro Mall. If you travel west, visit River West.

ERASMUS IN ATHENS
Being an Erasmus Student in Athens is a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Apart from the high educational standards of the city, Athens offers a great range of activities by the sea or on the mountains including extreme sports, a dazzling nightlife with a great variety of entertainment options of nightclubs, bars, restaurants and discos, big summer music festivals, a mouthwatering cuisine, beautiful sites, nice shopping and great bargains, lots of cultural entertainment, museums and libraries.
You don't need to worry about anything as in Athens there is an Erasmus Student Network (ESN), a non-profit international student organisation. ESN operates on a pure “Students Helping Students” principle, helping exchange students make the most of their life-altering Erasmus experience as well as encouraging and helping Greek students plan their Erasmus period abroad. Its mission is to represent international students, thus providing opportunities for cultural understanding and self-development under the principle of Students Helping Students.
Official Erasmus website: www.esngreece.gr

ATHENS CIRCUIT
This is a wonderful circuit, the first car track ever created in Greece, in Megara. It covers 2,000,000 m² and has hosted various national and international car and motorbike exhibitions.
Where: 41st km Athens- Korinthos Motorway, Megara
www.athenscircuit.gr
UNIVERSITIES IN ATHENS AND THE ATTICA REGION

National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
www.en.uoa.gr

Athens University of Economics and Business
www.aueb.gr

National Technical University of Athens
www.ntua.gr

Athens School of Fine Arts
www.asfa.gr

Harokopio University of Athens
www.hua.gr

Panteion University
www.panteion.gr

University of Piraeus
www.unipi.gr

Agricultural University of Athens
www.aoa.aua.gr

ADMISSION TO THE MUSEUMS
Students from EU countries are entitled to free admission to museums. Students from non-EU countries may be able to enter with a reduced admission fee. Young people, under the age of 18, are entitled to free admission after showing their identity card or passport.

FARES AND TICKETING FOR STUDENTS
Students of Greek Public Academic Institutions (universities and technical colleges) are entitled to reduced fares by displaying their student ID. Students from academic institutions abroad, aged up to 25 years, are entitled to reduced fares with the display of their student ID or passport.

Young people aged 13-18 are entitled to reduced fares with the display of their ID card.

ATHENS IS FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM FRIENDLY!
When in Athens if you need free Wi-Fi access to upload the beauties of the city to your social media accounts or if you need to download an app, don’t worry. Free Wi-Fi access can be found at many cafes in Athens. The airport Eleftherios Venizelos provides free access for a limited time, as does the Piraeus port.

STREET FOOD
Fast food, popular with teens, is always cost-friendly and doesn’t have to be unhealthy if you choose something appropriate. Greek Souvlaki is one of the healthiest choices, in Athens. You will find the best souvlaki in Monastiraki. There are also lots of coffee and sandwich chains that offer a great variety of sandwiches and stay open until late at night. After clubbing young locals can have crepes or hotdogs at Creperies or canteens in the centre of Athens, which are open all night long.

NIGHT TRANSPORTATION IN ATHENS
Operating Lines 24/7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Line Number</th>
<th>Line Name</th>
<th>Depot</th>
<th>Comments – Indicative Service Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>040</td>
<td>Peiraias - Syntagma</td>
<td>Filellinon (Syntagma)</td>
<td>Monday - Sunday: 24 hour service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500</td>
<td>Peiraias - Kifisia</td>
<td>Karaiskaki Sq.</td>
<td>On the route of Metro Line M1 (Kifisia - Peiraias) Monday - Sunday: 00:30 – 04:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>790</td>
<td>Glyfada - Peristeri</td>
<td>Glyfada Sq.</td>
<td>On the route of Metro Line M2 (Agios Antonios – Agios Dimitrios) Monday - Sunday: 00:30 – 04:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X14</td>
<td>Syntagma - Kifisia</td>
<td>Othonos (Syntagma)</td>
<td>Monday - Friday: 20:00 – 05:30 Saturday &amp; Sunday: 24hour service</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Ano Patisia – Pagrati – Nea Elvetia</td>
<td>Ano Patisia</td>
<td>Monday - Sunday: 24hour service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T4*</td>
<td>Syntagma – Neo Faliro</td>
<td>Syntagma</td>
<td>Sunday - Thursday: 05:00 – 01:00 Friday &amp; Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T5*</td>
<td>Syntagma - Voula</td>
<td>Syntagma</td>
<td>Sunday - Thursday: 05:00 – 01:00 Friday &amp; Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T3*</td>
<td>Neo Faliro - Voula</td>
<td>Neo Faliro</td>
<td>Sunday - Thursday: 05:00 – 01:00 Friday &amp; Saturday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is a 24/7 service to Athens International Airport “Eleftherios Venizelos” by AIRPORT EXPRESS bus lines. For all information about public transportation you can always call 185 or visit www.oasa.gr
OVER THE RECENT YEARS, ATHENS HAS BECOME A FAVOURITE CITY FOR GAYS AND LESBIANS WHO WANT MORE THAN JUST “GAY” NIGHTLIFE.

Since 2005, Athens has joined in the celebration of LGBTQI rights with an annual Pride Parade. The city won the title of “Best of Gay Cities 2014” for the CULTURE EXPERIENCE category! Athens Pride, the premier Greek LGBT Pride Parade and Festival, is held every June in the center of the Greek capital and is one of Europe’s most dynamically growing pride festivities!

More info: www.athenspride.eu

In 2015, civil unions were legalised for same-sex couples. The Greek society is steadily adopting an open-minded disposition towards gay and lesbian couples.
LESBIAN AND GAY SCENE IN ATHENS

Athens is quite a tolerant place. You will find a plethora of entertainment venues with a gay-friendly vibe. There are lots of LGBT bars, cafes, and clubs in Athens, even though the gay venues by far outnumber the lesbian ones!
NIGHTLIFE

There is a growing gay scene in Athens and a wide choice of bars and nightclubs in the city, as well as restaurants, shops, gyms and gay saunas to pick from. As in all Mediterranean countries evening dinner is usually late, and nightlife starts even later. So does the LGBT clock in Athens, with nothing getting very full before midnight, and with many places not hitting their peaks until around 3 a.m. In general there is a full range of gay types (and non-types) that mixes freely, but it is worth mentioning that the bear culture in Athens is surprisingly strong and so is the lesbian, just don’t expect any bears or lesbians-only policies. LGBT nightlife is all about dancing, enjoying your drinks and having fun, -with no regards to who’s next to you, even if it’s an international celebrity!

GAZI

Through the years, Gazi has become the defacto gay and gay-friendly neighborhood in Athens, with most of the LGBT community activities evolving around there. With the exception of strictly gay and lesbian venues, most establishments in the area are gay-friendly and open to all. On weekends, the streets in the neighborhood of Gazi, a former industrial area on the city’s western side, are literally packed with locals and tourists alike. Although until about a decade ago, much of gay Athens life was clustered around the Kolonaki and Makrygianni neighborhoods, where a few bars and clubs of the past remain and are still popular.
USEFUL INFORMATION

While in town, be sure to pick up a free copy of Antivirus, the hip and glossy magazine of Greek LGBT culture or visit its bilingual site at www.avmag.gr. More information on gay life in Athens can be found at www.gayathens.gr. Girls may also want to check out www.lesbian.gr and www.sappho.gr.net which both have extensive information on lesbian life in Athens. You can also find a bookshop near Victoria Square that caters mostly to a Greek gay and lesbian clientele with many Greek and international works of gay literature. There you will also find DVDs, calendars, gay foreign press, gay guides to Greece and much more.
GAY ACTIVITIES IN ATHENS

Swimming in Athens

During summer if you wish to experience the cosmopolitan aspect of the sea and the first-rate amenities, then Attica’s well-organized beaches are an ideal destination. With crystal-clear waters and endless sandy coasts you are guaranteed to enjoy yourself and relax under the Mediterranean sun. Voula, Vouliagmeni, Kavouri, Lagonisi and many other beaches are trademarks of the summer scene. On the other hand, if you prefer tiny, virgin peaceful beaches, Athens’ coastline will amaze you. Limanakia B, a fairly famous beach among gays, is a rocky beach that you will find between Vouliagmeni and Varkiza. It’s completely unspoilt, forming a series of beautiful rocky coves. It’s also an ideal place for nudists.

Access: Bus A3 or A2, bus stop Glyfada Square then bus 114, 115, 116. Tram to Glyfada Sq. and then Bus E22, bus stop Limanakia.
IT'S BEACH TIME!
YOU DON’T NEED TO GET ON
A FERRY TO ESCAPE THE HUSTLE
AND BUSTLE OF THE GREEK CAPITAL.

The surrounding area of Athens is dotted with fabulous crystal beaches; some
are quiet and isolated, while others are lively and fully organised. Fifteen of
them met the Blue Flag Award criteria in 2017.
Most of Athens’ beaches are only a 20-40 minutes’ drive from the city cen-
tre, along the sheltered Saronic Gulf stretching from the southern suburbs of
Athens to the southernmost point of the Attica peninsula, Cape Sounio (444-
440 BC.), where the marvelous Temple of Poseidon overlooks the Aegean sea.
What’s more, Athens’ coastline is directly connected to its public transporta-
tion system, which is reliable and environmentally friendly. Athens’ tram-
way is the easiest way to reach the coastline, go to the beach for a quick
swim, and nip back to the city centre within a couple of hours.
The coast is convenient, comfortable, connected to Athens’ Metro and other means of transport, pet- and bicycle-friendly, and easily accessible to people with disabilities. So when in Athens, take the tramway and grab the opportunity to swim, relax at a waterfront café, walk along the picture-perfect pedestrian streets and marinas, practice your favourite water sports, shop in one of the area’s modern shopping centres, dine by the sea or enjoy yourself in one of the coastal avenue’s buzzing clubs. And all that is just a few kilometres away from the city centre!
Did you know? Attica (Attiki in Greek) derives from the ancient word “Aktiki” meaning a land with many “aktes”, or shores. Emerald shores with lovely clean blue waters are waiting to cool you off in beautiful surroundings and take your breath away with. Whether you simply want to swim and enjoy clear waters, or practice your favourite sea sports such as diving, water-skiing, etc., the options are numerous.

**BEACHES**

**FREE BUT ORGANISED BEACHES**

**Edem Beach**

This is an organised with free entrance beach near Palaio Faliro, which attracts senior citizens, families and young people. It has a playground and a waterslide for the little ones and amenities such as restaurants and bars.
LET’S HEAD TO THE BEACH
If you wish to experience a cosmopolitan outing to the sea and first-rate amenities, then Athens’ well-organised beaches are an ideal destination. The crystal-clear waters, the endless sandy beaches and the professional care by those running these well-known, popular beaches, guarantee a great experience to those wishing to relax in the sea and sun.

**VOULA A BEACH**
This is a sandy, busy and youthful popular beach. A favourite with children, it has various playgrounds and games. It offers all sorts of facilities including sun loungers, umbrellas, medical services, Wi-Fi and a lifeguard. You will also find a plethora of first-rate cafes and beach bars. There are frequent parties and events, especially on Sundays.

**VOULA B BEACH**
This is Voula's second organised beach with numerous umbrellas, sun loungers next to sandy, calm and clear waters. There is also a sports centre, a volleyball area and a tennis court.

**VOULIAGMENI LAKE**
Connected to the nearby saltwater lake, Vouliagmeni lake will offer you an invigorating warm swim. Dive into its therapeutic waters all year round as the lake's temperature is 24°C or sip your coffee at the nearby cafe with an incredible view to the lake.

*Open:* Daily from 08:00 until sunset

www.limnivouliagmenis.gr

**GRAND BEACH LAGONISSI**
This beach is "Grand" par excellence! A breathtaking beachfront accompanied by one of the most luxurious resorts in Greece. This lovely sandy beach is situated on the verdant Lagonissi peninsula. It offers all kinds of facilities and access to people with disabilities and a lifeguard.

**VOULIAGMENI BEACH**
This beach is well-organised and very popular during summer, offering water sports facilities, individual cabins and a restaurant. Accessible to people with disabilities.

**YABANAKI**
Located in Varkiza, this lovely sandy beach is like a fun park with amazing water sports facilities such as water-skiing, windsurfing, tubes, wakeboarding, etc. You will also find bars, restaurants and shops.

**ASTERAS VOULIAGMENIS**
Perhaps the trendiest beach around Attica with lots of luxurious facilities. There are famous restaurants, fashion boutiques, tennis and volley courts, water slides, individual cabins, etc. Easily accessible to people with disabilities.
FREE BEACHES

Although in some of Attica’s beaches you have to pay at the entrance in order to enter and use the facilities provided, Attica’s region is full of treasures where you can enjoy the sea and sun for free!

HEAD SOUTH
EDEM BEACH
This is a free beach near Palaio Faliro, which attracts senior citizens, families and young people. There is a playground and a water-slide for the little ones, and amenities such as restaurants, bars and much more.

KAVOURI
With shallow waters, a long sandy beach and an islet within a swimming distance, Kavouri is an excellent choice for a night swim. Nearby lies Mikro Kavouri, two picturesque sandy gulfs, ideal for private moments. There also many also coffee bars and restaurants around.

VOULIAGMENI LIMANAKIA
You may have to forget the comfort of a sandy beach but these rocky coves are ideal if you prefer secluded beaches. The waters are crystal clear, though deep, and the place is gay and nudist friendly. You are advised to bring water and snacks with you.

VARKIZA BEACH
This is a nice sandy beach located in Varkiza. There are also coffee bars and restaurants around as well as a soccer field.

HEAD WEST
PORTO GERMENO
Porto Germeno is the name of the ancient settlement of Aigosthena, which in ancient times used to be the port of Megara, by the Corinthian gulf. There, between the Mountains Kytheron and Pateras, lies a beautiful beach, which is often crowded during summer weekends. Enjoy your swim as well as a typical Greek taverna meal by the sea.

PSATHA
This is a beautiful, friendly beach, a one-and-a-half-hour drive from Athens. It’s a family friendly beach thanks to the dense shade that its many pine trees offer. Enjoy a meal by the seashore.

ALEPOCHORI
This is one of Attica’s famous beaches near Psatha with amenities such as a volleyball court. Don’t miss the beautiful sunset behind the Alkyonides islets.

PACHI
Right in front of Pachi village, this beach is quite popular. You’ll find tavernas serving delicious ouzo mezedes (tidbits served with ouzo).

HEAD EAST
SCHINIAS
Schinias is one of the most popular coastal resorts, located close to Marathon. It is a marvelous long and pine curved beach with comfortable facilities, such as restaurants, beach bars and three beach volleyball courts. Often affected by strong winds, it is a paradise for windsurfing lovers! It attracts large crowds especially during busy summer weekends.

PORTO RAFTI
Porto Rafi is one of the most beautiful coastal settlements in Attica. The beach is well-protected from strong winds and gets very crowded in summer. There are umbrellas, sun loungers and beach bars on the beach as well as plenty of cafeterias, night bars and excellent tavernas around the area.

LEGRENA
West of Sounio, along the coastal road that leads to the Temple of Poseidon in front of Legrena village, stretches a beautiful and quiet beach, very clean and unspoilt. It’s almost private especially on weekdays. There are a number of tavernas and cafes in the area for a coffee or a delicious meal after your swim.

ANAVYSSOS BEACH
MAVRO LITHARI
This is one of the best known and favourite beaches of the Athenians, suitable for sunbathing. Situated close to Cape Sounio, the beach is well-known for its crystal clear and shallow waters, ideal for children. The beach offers all kinds of facilities like sun loungers and umbrellas, beach bars and canteens. You can try jet-skiing and windsurfing.

HEAD NORTH
The north coast beaches such as Kalamos, Oropos, Agioi Apostoloi, are a bit further from the city centre but they are easily accessible with coaches (KTEL Attikis) close to Victoria Station.
BEACH SPORTS
When in Athens, you can enjoy windsurfing in Schinias, Marathonas, Anavissos, Varkiza, Lavrio, Loutra and many other places. Many beaches offer lots of water sports facilities such as waterskiing, parasailing, and canoeing. There are usually beachvolleyball and mini soccer fields as well. You can also find diving and snorkelling lessons around Attica.

ACCESS TO THE COASTLINE
By Tram! This is the easiest way to go to the beach. Starting from Syntagma Square, you can choose to get off at any tram stop after the Edem stop where you will find many sandy beaches.

To the south coast
By bus E22 (express), A2, A3, B3, 155, 114, 115, 171

To the west coast
By coaches KTEL from Thiseio.

To the east coast
By coaches KTEL from Pedion tou Areos.

SWIMMING POOLS
In case you can’t head to the beach but you still want to enjoy the hot Athenian sun and a refreshing dip, note that most hotels in Athens offer swimming pool facilities. Swimming pools are open to the public, for a fee. As a rule, the price includes the use of the swimming pool, sun loungers and towels.

ATHENS RIVIERA- NOT ONLY IN SUMMER
Attica’s beaches are not only to be enjoyed for swimming in summer. All year round you can find wonderful restaurants where you can enjoy a coffee, a drink or fine seafood. The Athens Riviera is just perfect for beautiful romantic autumn walks, winter getaways – even bike rides - overlooking the sunset, spring excursions and unforgettable picnics with a sea-breeze sharpening the senses. Residents of the capital as well as visitors unwind and enjoy the vibrant beauty of Attica’s beaches every day – and night – all year round.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

► SAFETY
Attica’s beaches are generally safe with no strong currents.

► LIFEGUARD
When the orange flag flies high on the tower, it means that a lifeguard is on duty. But beware when the red flag flies! This means that the lifeguard is off duty.

► SUNBATHING
It is advisable not to sunbathe between the hours of 12:00-16:00. In any case, do not forget your sunscreen or your hat!

► NUDE IN ATHENS
There are certain beaches around the Attica basin where you can feel free to take off your swimsuit without embarrassment or offending anyone. Along the Athens-Sounio coastal road, there are lots of small coves. At Limanakia Vouliagmenis especially the third cove is favoured by nudists. Remember to bring cool water and snacks with you.

BLUE FLAGS FLYING HIGH IN ATTICA
Greece is one of the top-ranked countries in Europe when it comes to beach cleanliness and safety. In 2017, the country ranked number two on the Blue Flag quality and 487 beaches and 12 marinas were honoured with the quality Blue Flag. In the Attica region, 15 beaches were honoured with the quality Blue Flag. You can check the Blue Flags in Greece here: www.blueflag.gr/awards/2017
HIDDEN GEMS IN ATHENS

STROLL THROUGH ATHENS’ CHARMING NEIGHBORHOODS AND ALLEYS AND DISCOVER THE CITY’S HIDDEN GEMS.

What if it’s not your first time in Athens and you have already done the “all time classic” Athens? Or what if you simply prefer to discover the city’s secret corners away from the tourist crowd, wishing to immerse yourself in local life and see places where mainly locals hang out? Then follow your heart... Or maybe your footsteps through Athens’ charming neighbourhoods and alleys that are to be discovered.

Some are well-hidden in the historic Athens area, while others are to be found scattered across Attica’s suburbs. Visit unique museums, sip your beverage in the backyards of cafés resembling small oases, and check out exhilarating parks and gardens that you surely would not expect to stumble upon in the city centre.
NATIONAL GARDENS
*A hidden paradise*

Behind the Parliament building, the National Gardens offer a much needed - especially in the summertime - patch of green and shadow in the capital. Whether you want to take a romantic stroll, or you’re searching for a welcome respite from the heat and noise of the city, the National Gardens are definitely to be visited during your stay in the Greek capital! These gardens were created and designed in the 19th century by Queen Amalia. With more than 47,000 trees and plants and 500 different species of plants, trees, birds and animals, this is one of the most important habitats in Athens. In a vast area of 150,000 m², you will find a Botanical Museum, a zoo, a pond with fish and ducks, a playground, a children’s library, a traditional café, and as scattered ancient monuments and statues. The gardens are open from dawn to dusk and are accessible from Vassilissis Amalias Avenue or Irodou Attikou Street. At the southern side of the gardens, you’ll find the Zappeio Mansion, a donation of the wealthy Konstantinos Zappas in the 19th century, today used as a conference centre.

ATHENS METRO
*An underground museum*

Did you know that you can visit an underground museum in Athens with replicas of the famous sculptures of the Parthenon, thousands of ancient objects like pottery, statues, ancient toys, funeral monuments and parts of one of the oldest bridges found in Attica? Just visit the Athens Metro, where many of the stations display archaeological finds like a museum. The exhibition of these antiquities is open to the public and free of charge. In order to visit it, simply board the next train and make a quick stop at the most significant metro stations. These are Syntagma, Monastiraki and Acropolis. Start your journey through time at Syntagma and take a good look at the stratigraphy of Athens from the early 5th century BC till the Ottoman times. Explore the layers of soil and see the skeleton of a young lady who lived in the 4th century BC. At Monastiraki station, the huge photograph of an underground tunnel full of pottery fragments will give you a picture of the archaeological treasures found during the metro underground digging works. If you are travelling towards Kifissia, don’t miss the riverbed of Iridanos. At the Acropolis Station, walk along the metro platforms and admire the replicas of the Parthenon frieze created by the great sculptor Pheidias. Up the escalators, on your way out of the station, take some time to visit the small exhibition of items of everyday use, such as children’s toys, amphoras, a model of a vertical Greek loom, fragments of pottery and many more.

www.ametro.gr
**NUMISMATIC MUSEUM CAFÉ**
An oasis in the city centre

Just off Syntagma Sq. there is a secret paradise, one of the coolest places in the summertime. The picture-perfect garden of the Numismatic Museum with a cosy café, hidden from the hustle and bustle of the city. Whether you need a pause while walking in the center of Athens or a romantic venue to have an early drink in the evening, this lovely corner is only a five minute walk from Syntagma (Parliament) Sq. Note that jazz and ethnic bands perform live once a week (usually Thursday evenings). Get to know the monetary history of Greece via the museum's great collection of coins and admire one of the most impressive buildings in Athens. Iliou Melathron was built and designed by German Architect Ernst Ziller, as the residence of Heinrich Schlie mann, the so-called “father of the Mycenaean and Trojan archaeology”.

**Access:** 12, Panepistimioi St.
www.nma.gr

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**MUSEUM OF GREEK GASTRONOMY**
A museum with delicious exhibits

If you are interested in culinary heritage, drop by the new Museum of Greek Gastronomy, housed in a delightful restored late 19th century mansion off Athinas Street, in the Psyrri neighbourhood, a five minutes’ walk from the Central Market. You are invited on a journey of flavours, aromas, culinary traditions and cooking methods around the country. Get to know local products, recipes from different eras and the nutritional value of Greek gastronomy. You will learn about how local products are made and how traditional recipes are prepared through screenings, audio-visual material, photography exhibitions and presentations of traditional folklore objects used in production. The exhibition area of the museum hosts temporary exhibitions focusing on the Greek gastronomy. Apart from the museum’s exhibits, there is an excellent courtyard/restaurant bordered by potted plants and fragrant herbs waiting for you where you can spoil yourselves with a cup of Greek coffee, a drink with mezedes or a delicious full meal.

**Access:** 13, Agiou Dimitriou St.
www.gastronomymuseum.gr

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**THE BYZANTINE AND CHRISTIAN MUSEUM**
A veritable treasury of Byzantine and post-Byzantine art and culture

Experience Byzantine and post-byzantine art and culture at one of the most important museums in Greece. The Byzantine and Christian Museum has over 25,000 artefacts in its possession which date from the 3rd to 20th century AD. The Museum’s collections include icons, sculpture, manuscripts, wall paintings, mosaics, small objects (cloth, coins, pottery, metal objects, silver), wood carvings, patterns (anthibola), bronze engravings, lithographs, an amazing collection of old prints (incunabula), as well as a collection of copies of paintings. Before or after your visit to the Museum, enjoy your coffee or a light meal in the museum's coffee shop of and gaze over the magnificent garden, where you will literally lose sense of time amid the flowered parterres and shady trees of the yard and the gleaming marble Lodz of Duchess of Placentia Villa.

**Access:** 22, Vasilissis Sofias Ave.
www.byzantinemuseum.gr
ANAFIOTIKA
A Cycladic breath in the city center

Hike to the top of the Plaka and explore the charming neighbourhood of Anafiotika, built in the 19th century by stonemasons who arrived from the small Cycladic island of Anafi (hence the name) to Athens in order to refurbish the King’s Palace. It’s a tiny, scenic little neighborhood in the foothills of the Acropolis that will give you the impression of being on a Greek island, particularly one in the Cyclades. Cascades of bougainvillea and pots of geraniums and marigolds as well as clothes hanging to dry on laundry lines add colour to the balconies and rooftops. Although it is very close to Athens’ most famous site, the Acropolis, it is still a secret. Even some people who have spent their whole life in Athens have never visited this place before. Lose yourself in its narrow streets and dream that you are on a Cycladic island among lemon trees. Find a terrace to climb and look at Athens from above.
In downtown Athens, there are many indoor passages, the famous arcades that were built some decades ago, when imposing, grand buildings were constructed in Athens’ city centre. At that time no one could imagine that those buildings would later be a part of Athens’ most striking modern sights! They have an innovative interior design and unique character and are among the favourites choices of both visitors and Athenians. Whenever you find yourself day or night in downtown Athens, these arcades are worth a visit.

The Spyromiliou Arcade (the so-called City Link) in the Hellenic Army Pension Fund, is one of the most historic buildings in the famous quarter defined by Panepistimiou, Amerikis, Stadiou and Voukourestiou streets. It’s definitely the most luxurious arcade in Athens, distinctive for its unique architectural style and its amazing glass roof. Around the gallery you will find some of the best-known theatres in town, gourmet restaurants, stylish cafés, luxury boutiques and expensive jewellery stores. Stop over and enjoy a meal or drink from morning till night! In the beautiful preserved building of Arsakio, at the quarter of Panepistimiou, Pesmazoglou, Stadiou and Arsaki streets, you can enter the Books’ Arcade (Stoa tou Vivliou), and rub shoulders with Athens’ artists and intellectuals. A number of publishing houses line its interior and several fascinating cultural events and educational seminars take place all year round. Enjoy your coffee or dessert while reading your favourite book! Visit the Opera Arcade on Ippokratos Street, opposite the National Library, and discover sophisticated music records or vintage stamps. Smaller but beautifully renovated, the Nikoloudi Arcade offers a simple yet sophisticated atmosphere to all visitors! Banks, books and accessories stores give the arcade a distinctive character that is certainly worth experiencing! Upon your exit you will come across some of the most remarkable buildings of the city: the famous trilogy of Athens; the Academy of Athens: The University of Athens, and the National Library of Greece. At 25 Kolokotroni Street lies The Praxitelous Arcade, built in the 1920s and 30s. Its modern character attracts younger crowds who enjoy themselves in its fancy cafés and bars! Here you can mingle with the locals and experience the buzzing nightlife of Athens!
ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCES IN ATHENS

ATHENS IS MUCH MORE THAN ITS UNIQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES AND ANCIENT TREASURES THAT YOU DISCOVER IN ITS HISTORIC NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ALLEYS.

The city offers a wide range of enchanting experiences, seldom found in other metropolises, which will meet all tastes and preferences. Athens’ landform is unique by nature; a landscape of mountains and fertile plains (home to vineyards) as well as seascapes compose the beloved Athenian scene-ry with its unique features and characteristics. Go sailing, cycling, enjoy an Athenian summer night by watching a movie in an open-air cinema, savour the wines produced in wineries nearby and drink in the spectacular views of the city while dining.
SAILING AROUND ATHENS
An escape to the Saronic Islands, the Argolic Gulf and the nearby Cyclades

Are you visiting Athens and searching for a fun, relaxing, “once-in-a-lifetime” experience? If sailing is your thing or you are open to new challenges, sailing around Athens will satisfy your demands for a safe trip in calm waters. In close proximity to Athens there are some wonderful sailing routes that offer ideal sailing conditions, clean and calm waters, splendid mainland coasts and different islands to explore; the Saronic Islands of Aegina, Poros, Hydra, Spetses and Methana which are the most popular sailing destinations, along with the east coast of the Peloponnese and the nearest Cycladic islands of Kea (Tzia) and Kythnos. In the Argosaronic gulf and along the east coast of the Peloponnese you can make use of superb sailing and well organised port facilities in the historical cities of Nauplion and Tolo, and marinas in Porto Heli, Astros and Leonidio. What’s more, sailing around Attica is not only a summer activity. Winter and spring sailing is also a rewarding experience you shouldn’t miss. During the Halcyon Days (Alkyonides in Greek), the so-called “short summer” in the middle of January, you can enjoy sailing while exploring the beauty of stunning seascapes, picturesque villages on the islands and the coasts, archaeological sites, and wonderful pine-clad landscapes. In the serene atmosphere of the islands you will see what real Greece is all about while you mingle with the locals in tavernas and kafeneia (traditional cafés). Feel free to create your own itinerary; certainly sailing is THE way to get away from it all!

OPEN-AIR CINEMAS
Cinema under the stars!

An essential characteristic of Athenian summer nights is the love for open-air cinemas (also known as summer cinemas). If you happen to be in Athens between May and the end of September, don’t miss the opportunity to spend an evening in a true summer Athenian style and enjoy a film in one of the numerous summer open-air cinemas in the city centre. Most of them are small gardens with jasmine trees and bougainvilleas around, a real treat for hot summer nights. The atmosphere is absolutely dazzling! Relax, sip on your cold drink and enjoy the movie under the Athenian sky! Each open-air cinema has its own distinctive character, with Cine Thision rating among the top 10 of the world’s most enjoyable movie theaters, according to CNN.
You can also attend the open-air film festival from June to September, when some of the most breathtaking locations around the city of Athens are transformed into open-air movie theaters. The Athens Open-Air Film Festival infuses the city with film screenings and other cultural events against a unique urban backdrop: Athens’ most characteristic monuments! No entrance fee is required.
CYCLING AROUND THE BEAUTIES OF ATHENS

Discover the magic of the city on two wheels!

Athens, with the joys of the mountain and the pleasures of the sea, can really thrill bike lovers. Ride your bicycle and discover the hidden areas and beauties of Athens. It’s an exciting activity for the young, for families and for the young at heart.

There are lots of parks and cycle lanes where you can make the most of your spare time with fitness. Enjoy a ride in the Environmental Awareness Park “Antonis Tritsis” located at Pyrgos Vassilissis (Iliion), the pristine Syggrou estate in Kifissia, the Forest of Tatoi -the ex royal Estate- and the Technical University’s park in Zografou. Note that many Municipalities around Athens provide cycle lanes such as Kifissia, Chalandri and Moschato (Tavros) to name but a few.

What’s more, cycling has recently become a very popular way to discover the city’s long history and its picturesque backstreets. Take a ride along the pedestrian walkway of Dionysiou Areopagitou, through Apostolou Pavlou Street up to Thiseio, Monastiraki and Assomaton Square Find Ermou Street which takes you to the neighbourhoods of Gazi and Plaka. While cycling, feel the energy of the surroundings: Incomparable monuments of Greek cultural heritage set the backdrop for an unforgettable ride. Pass by the Hadrian’s Arch (or Hadrian’s Gate), the Acropolis Hill and the Acropolis Museum, the Theater of Dionysos, the Stoa of Eumenes, the Odeion of Herodes Atticus, the Ancient Agora and the Temple of Hephaestus, the Roman Agora and Kerameikos, the Ancient Cemetery of Athens. A bicycle ride is definitely one of the things to do in this part of the city. You will certainly see Athens from another point of view, which will be an unforgettable experience!

If you have cycled around the city centre but you still crave more, take your bike on the tramway and head for the coastal area of Athens’ Southern suburbs. There are different routes to explore; from the “Floisvos” marina to the Eden beach and Alimos marina, from Falirio to Glyfada. You can continue your journey by the sea as far as you feel, heading to Kavouri and Vouliagmeni. Don’t forget to enjoy some ouzo and Greek tidbits after your ride.

While in Athens, you can also experience unforgettable mountain biking moments. The outskirts of the city are famous among mountain bikers. The national park of Parnitha on Mt Parnitha will thrill and revitalise you! The very well-marked trails will satisfy the demands of all levels, fitness and stamina. In the eastern part of Athens, Mt Ymittos is another option with many trails that run into the forest. Take advantage of a visit to the Monastery of Kaisariani (11th century) perched on the slopes. The top of the mountain boasts panoramic views of the city.

Remember that if you don’t have a bike yourself, you can always hire one in Athens, while some of the agents also offer rides guided by experts.
A DELICIOUS MEAL AT THE ACROPOLIS MUSEUM RESTAURANT

A menu with the most panoramic views of the Acropolis!

One of the top 10 things to do when in Athens is to offer yourself the unique experience of a lunch or meal with fresh products and traditional Greek tastes at the Acropolis Museum restaurant. Go up and take a seat on the 2nd floor of the Acropolis Museum, where you can taste selected daily dishes inspired by local recipes and covering all regions of Greece. Most of them are renewed according to the season! You can also enjoy traditional Greek breakfast that is served every day until noon (except Mondays). Taste homemade jams, yoghurt with thyme honey, milk pie, fried eggs with traditional smoked ham, and many more delicious dishes, such as Greek pancakes with grape molasses and tahini, omelettes with Cretan gruyere.

The restaurant offers a variety of options catering to every need, including special affordable menus for children featuring sandwiches, a homemade cheese pie and many more. On Friday evenings the restaurant stays open until midnight, on all other days it operates during the museum’s opening hours. The place undoubtedly offers one of the most panoramic views of the of the historic hills of Athens. Also note that despite the view and the good service, prices are more than reasonable.

www.theacropolismuseum.gr
WINES OF ATTICA

Explore the birthplace region of Retsina

Did you know that Athens is the only European capital where vineyards and wineries lie within a stone's throw of the city centre? While in Athens, seize the opportunity to discover the birthplace region of the renowned Retsina wine; give yourself the chance to take a journey through memorable wine routes in one of the world's oldest grapevine plantations; and try old classic or new labels in the cellars of local wineries. 6,500 ha of grapevine fields, modern wineries and indigenous superior quality varieties will take you on a unique palatable journey across Attica. Visit the wineries for a tour and get to know native and selected foreign varieties that grow in the vineyards of Attica. It is clear that white grape varieties have prevailed over red ones in the area. Savvatiano and Roditis, two Greek varieties, flourish in 80% of Attica's fields. Other cultivated varieties are Athiri, Vilana, Assyrtiko, Robola, Muscat of Alexandria and Malagouzia, to name just a few. You can try the well-known Retsina wine that is produced from Savvatiano as well as kokkineli – its rosé “counterpart”, which is made from Roditis.
ATHENS IN A DAY

Just how much can one fit into 24 hours in Athens? Quite a lot actually! See our suggestion below for a perfect day in Greece’s capital.

MORNING (8:00 – 11:00)

▶ Acropolis now! There’s only one place to start the day if your clients are aiming to see the best of Athens in 24 hours – by visiting the Acropolis and the Parthenon.
▶ Next, exploring the surrounding green-topped foothills that represent an open air archaeological park. Flanked by 5 km of pedestrian-only pathways, your clients can wander among ancient monuments and sites including the Theatre of Dionysus, the Herodus Atticus Theatre and the Ancient Agora.
▶ Take a sightseeing break in one of the many cafes in the surrounding neighborhoods, such as Thisio and Psirri. Check out the Monastiraki market stalls before arriving at the Roman Agora. Next stop is the enchanting and historic neighborhood of Plaka. Stop at one of the many tavernas for a quick meal or head instead to the New Acropolis Museum and grab a quick bite at the café, which offers a stunning view of the Acropolis.

NOTE: There are also city tours available via the open top Double Decker bus (www.city-sightseeing.gr), or the hop-on, hop-off Happy Train (www.athenshappytrain.com) that starts off at Syntagma Square and goes through the historic centre.

MIDDAY (11:30-15:00)

▶ It’s time to head downtown. Take a walk up Ermou Street from Monastiraki Square to Syntagma Square, the heart of downtown Athens. Alternatively, take the metro (it’s one stop from Monastiraki). Here, see the Greek Parliament building and the famous Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, which is guarded by the unmistakable Presidential Guards (evzones or tsoliades). Your clients can take a photo alongside one of them if they dare! Better still; watch the unique changing of the guard that takes place every hour.
▶ Depending on the time available, they can take their pick of one of the museums on Vassilissis Sofias Avenue: The Museum of Cycladic Art, the Benaki Museum, of the largest children’s playgrounds in Athens. For more shopping and coastal sightseeing or beach hopping, they can take the tram further south all the way to Glyfada.

EVENING (20:00-22:30)

▶ Upon returning to the centre, enjoy a dinner and/or cocktails with a view of the Acropolis at one the city’s many rooftop restaurants.

LATE NIGHT (23:00 – Till Late)

▶ Time for night owls to shine and find out why Athens has a reputation for being a city that does not sleep. In the summer, head south to the suburbs of Glyfada, Vouliagmeni and Varkiza. During winter, head to the dizzying array of bars and clubs in central districts such as Kerameikos, Psiri, Petralona and Kolonaki, or Halandri and Kifissia in the north.
Don’t leave without trying some street food! It’s equally satisfying as a sightseeing pick-me-up or for those late-night munchies.
ATHENS HIGHLIGHTS (3 DAYS)

DAY 1: See Athens in a day above

DAY 2: After the exertions of Day 1, it’s time for a more chilled-out day of sightseeing. With most of the top sights covered, it’s time for your clients to enjoy a gentler day.

- After a morning coffee in Syntagma square, take a stroll through the National Gardens – a true oasis in the city centre.
- Exit the National Gardens and cross Vasilissis Olgas Ave. to enter the Temple of Olympian Zeus. Marvel at one of Athens’ most ambitious architectural projects.
- Next, visit the Panathenaic stadium, the only stadium of its kind in the world, made entirely from white marble and the venue for the first modern Olympics in 1896.
- Be sure to include a visit up to Lycabettus Hill. If legs are weary then take the cable car that’s hewn into the rock. Time the visit for sunset to get a spectacular 360° view of the city below. There’s also a cosy café-bar to enjoy a drink and a snack, and a restaurant to enjoy a more formal meal.
- Put the icing on another perfect day, in true Athenian style, with another great night out. Head to Agia Irini Square and/or nearby Kolokotroni Street to one of the many bars. And if your clients have the appetite to make a night of it, they should visit one of the many bouzouki clubs, locally called ‘pista’, where they can see famous Greek performers singing popular music while being showered with carnations.

DAY 3: Take a day-trip along the Attica coastline to Cape Sounio and visit the majestic Temple of Poseidon.

- A rental car would be the best option as your clients can go at their own pace and stop off wherever they see fit, but there are buses and trams departing from Syntagma.
- Places with cafes and restaurants that can be enjoyed all year round and give your clients a feel for urban coastal living in Athens include: Marina Flisvos, Marina Alimos, Kalamaki, Glyfada and Vouliagmeni.
- Spend some time shopping in Glyfada. A popular seaside hangout for the “in crowd” of the Athens, where there are wide pedestrian sidewalks and plenty of boutiques for the fashionistas.
- After a shopping or coffee break, head back on to Poseidon Avenue and Sounio to visit the iconic Temple of Poseidon, passing a cluster of coastal districts such as Voula, Vouliagmeni, Varkiza, Anavyssos, Lagonissi, and Saronida along the way.
- For the ultimate experience, stay to watch the sunset before heading back and taking your pick from one of the many seaside taverns on the road back to Athens centre for a memorable farewell dinner.
ANCIENT CORINTH AND ACROCORINTH

History lovers will enjoy a first acquaintance with mythical Peloponnese at an hour’s drive from the capital. Start your tour by visiting the site of Ancient Corinth that lies on the northern foothills of the Acrocorinth hill. Admire the impressive Doric Temple of Apollo (540 BC), the Roman Forum, fountains, shops, porticoes, roman baths and various other monuments. Pay a visit to the Archaeological Museum of Ancient Corinth, located within the archaeological site where you can discover several findings from the nearby area. Up to the hill, visit the Acropolis of ancient Corinth, a monolithic rock overlooking the ancient city of Corinth and discover the traces of the area’s continuous history.

NAFPLIO

Picturesque Nafplio, the first capital of Greece (1829-1834), is a loved weekend destination all year round. The place is ideal for long walks with the pedestrianised town centre with sites, shops, tavernas, restaurants and cafes within walking distance from each other. Walk towards the main Syntagma Square, surrounded by century old buildings and explore the outer wall in the church of Agios Spyridonas that still bears the mark of the bullet that killed the country’s first Governor, Ioannis Kapodistrias. Sip your beverage at the cafés on the seaside road where people take their afternoon stroll, enjoy the magnificent sunset and the view of the islet of Bourtzi and its Venetian fortifications. Put on your most comfortable shoes and climb up the 999 steps that will lead to the entrance of the Palamidi fortress (1714 AD) that offers the most charming panoramic view of the town. You can always hire a taxi to take you to the hill top.
**EPIDAURUS**

It is one of Greece’s most prominent Archaeological site and its principal monuments, particularly the temple of Asclepius, the Tholos and the Theatre – considered one of the purest masterpieces of Greek architecture – date back to the 4th century BC. The Asklepieion at Epidaurus gained fame throughout the world for its unique healing practices as it was undoubtedly the greatest of the theurgical sites in antiquity. Clear running waters, beautiful natural landscapes and beneficial climatic conditions served to create the ideal place for healing. Visit the theatre, the finest and most renowned of its kind that represents a unique artistic achievement through its admirable integration into the site and the perfection of its proportions and acoustics. Art lovers flock to the theatre every summer for the Epidaurus Festival to watch ancient drama performances. Discover the way the Sanctuary of Asclepius and its various buildings - baths, gymnasium, palestra, stadium and katagogeion (dormitories for patients) functioned and pay a visit to the nearby museum for an holistic view of the site.

**DELPHI**

Delphi is located 180 km northwest from Athens, on the south slope of Mt. Parnassos. It was believed to be the centre of the earth and was the most important religious centre of ancient Greece. According to mythology, this is where the two eagles met after being sent by Zeus to discover the navel of the world. Feel the mystery surrounding the Temple of Apollo where Pythia was giving out her predictions about the future. Give yourself the chance to see the Castalia Spring with the two monumental fountains, the ancient theatre, the Treasury of the Athenians, the Stadium and the Delphi Museum with the famous bronze Charioteer and the statue of Antinoos.

**MYCENAE AND TIRYNS**

Within less than a two-hour drive from Athens, between two high hills, on a plateau dominating the Argive plain lie the remnants of the Mycenaean civilisation and the kingdom of mythical Agamemnon with its impressive fortress. The myths related to its history have inspired poets and writers over many centuries starting from Homer to great tragedies of the classic period to contemporary literature and art creation. Pass through the famous Lion Gate, which will take you inside the Acropolis and reach the palace where Agamemnon was murdered by his wife Clytemnestra and her lover, and enter the ‘Treasure of Atreus’, the well-known Tholos tomb with its gigantic lintel and tall beehive vault.
“A fantastic experience!”

“I read on various blogs and reviews about this program and decided to give them a try. We roamed around as if we were all friends, talked about the small things that make up Greek culture. This was a fantastic experience and one I definitely recommend.”

ESSSEE, JUNE 2015

“Fabulous! Get to see parts of Athens outside of the tourist zone!”

“This service is excellent, and to say that it is free and staffed by volunteers shows just how passionate they are about their city.”

RLN72, OCTOBER 2015

DO YOU WANT TO OFFER A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE TO YOUR TRAVELERS?

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP THEM EXPLORE ATHENS THROUGH THE EYES OF A LOCAL?

THIS IS MY ATHENS GREETERS PROGRAM OFFERS UNIQUE EXPERIENCES FOR YOUR TRAVELERS. ENTHUSIASTIC LOCALS ARE WAITING TO SHARE THEIR INSIDER TIPS WITH THEM AND LEAD THEIR WAY TO THEIR ATHENS. WHY YOU SHOULD TALK ABOUT THIS IS MY ATHENS TO YOUR VISITORS? BECAUSE YOU CARE ABOUT THEM.

WHAT

“This Is My Athens” is the official greeters program of the City of Athens that engages local Athenians and is run by The City of Athens Visitors and Convention Bureau. We are responsible for the implementation of free of charge, daily running walks, lasting from to 2 to 4 hours, including up to 6 visitors, and which are geared toward travelers looking for authentic experiences tailored to their specific interests and expectations. Visitors book their own experiences and explore some of the most precious aspects of life and hidden city gems in Athens that remain unknown to the mainstream traveller.

WHY

• NO FEE
  All of our Locals are volunteers therefore the experience is totally free of charge.

• ROYAL TREATMENT
  This will be an authentic experience providing the insider’s edge visitors expect

• CUSTOM MADE
  The experience is tailor made according to the local’s expertise and the special discoveries your travellers seek. Local foodies, nightowls, urban surfers or history buffs are being matched with thousands of travellers every year.
Some of humanity’s most exciting ideas were born in Athens to be shared with the world, laying the very foundations of Western Civilization as we know it.

Whether you are organizing a visionary event with global outreach, a targeted brainstorming workshop or a thematic event that serves as harbinger of change, this city has the state-of-the-art infrastructure, venues, facilities and services to help you share your best ideas and achieve the impact you aim for.

In an urban setting that honors its rich heritage, revels in its fine weather, boasts stirring scenery and an ever evolving contemporary profile, organizers and audiences alike, will be sure to take a piece of Athens back home with them.

Athens today continues to inspire great ideas and welcomes all those who wish to share their own with wide or niche audiences.

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GET INSPIRED.
SHARE YOUR IDEAS.

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ATHENS IN THE TOP 25
CONVENTION TOURISM DESTINATIONS IN THE WORLD

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