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1. Geographical location

Athens, also known as Athina, is the capital city of Greece. It is the largest city in Greece. Greece is divided into 9 regions, and Athens is located in the region of Attica. Athens is surrounded by a number of mountains. There is the Mount Parnitha to its north, Mount Aigaleo to its west and Mount Hymettus to its east. The Saronic Gulf is situated to the southwest of Athens.



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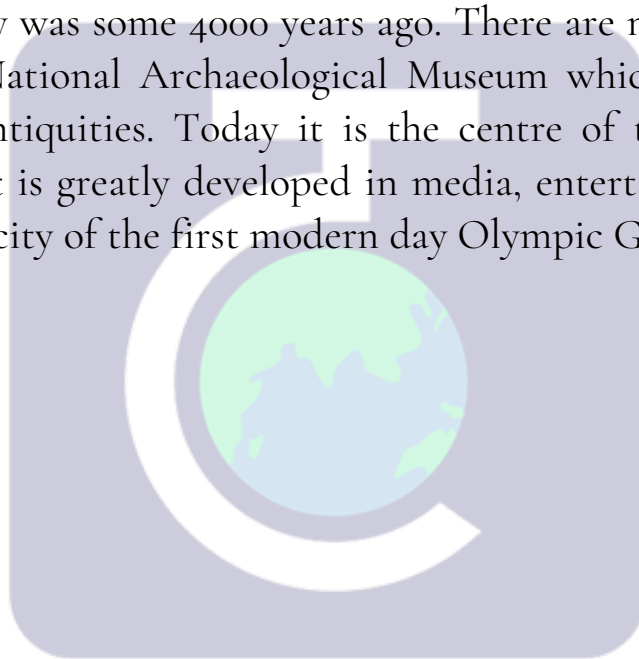
2. Neighbouring cities/countries

Athens Is Located Near The Extensive Coast Of Greece. The Country Of Turkey Is To The East Of Athens. The Aegan Sea Divides The Two Countries. One Of The Major Cities In The Region Of Attica, Pireas (11kms) Peristeri (7 Kms) To Its North. Another Major City Kallithea Is About 5 Kms Away While Acharnes Is Only 17 Kms.



3. Significance

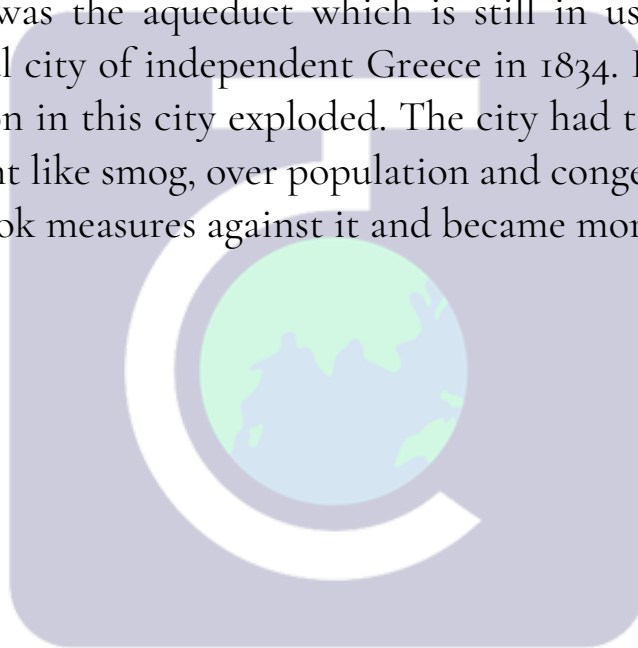
Athens is known to be named after the Goddess of Wisdom, Athena. It is also known as the City of the Violet Crown owing to the fact that the city experiences beautiful violet coloured sunsets. Athens is one of the main UNESCO sites in Greece. There are many historical monuments like the Acropolis, Parthenon, Agora, etc, and many Grecian temples too. The city gives you a very detailed visual of how the city was some 4000 years ago. There are many museums in the city including the National Archaeological Museum which houses the largest number of Greek antiquities. Today it is the centre of trade, education and tourism in Greece. It is greatly developed in media, entertainment and finance. Athens was the host city of the first modern day Olympic Games.



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4. History

Athens has been inhabited for the past 7000 years. They went into an economic decline very early off into their establishment. Even in that age and time, Athens was a major centre of trade mainly because of its central position in the country. Since the city had a large number of schools, it was given the status of a free city. Later, a library, gymnasium, several temples and bridges were constructed. The most famous of all was the aqueduct which is still in use today. Athens was selected as the capital city of independent Greece in 1834. It is after World War II, that the population in this city exploded. The city had to face obstacles in its course of development like smog, over population and congestion and lack of free space. But the city took measures against it and became more functional.



5. Cultural identity

The Greece history forms an integral part of the culture in Athens. This city is the hub of archaeological research conducted throughout the world. To facilitate this, there are many libraries, laboratories and colleges set up as well as museums to display their findings. Research is conducted here on a daily basis. Museums in Athens are a major attraction here. Their construction alone attracts a huge crowd. The National Archaeological Museum, Numismatic Museum, Museum of Cycladic Art and the New Acropolis Museum are just a few of them. The city is a major supporter of performing arts and has a lot of open theatres, concert halls, theatrical stages and other music venues.



Index**6. Natural resources**

Athens has a lot of natural resources in store. There are many mineral deposits of marble, coal, nickel, bauxite, chromate, etc. The country as a whole has limestone type of soil. It is not very fertile which is why they have restrictions in the types of plants they grow. They are mainly a wine – growing region. The plants grown in and around Athens include olive, wheat, tomatoes, potatoes, etc.



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7. Key site seeing places (paid and free)

7.1. Paid

7.1.1. Acropolis Museum

Presenting its collections over 3 levels coupled with the archaeological excavation lying at the foundation, Acropolis Museum focuses on the findings of the Acropolis of Athens. Browse through the collection ranging from the objects used by Athenians in everyday life from historic periods, sculptures that used to adorn the 1st temples here, sculptures of the Parthenon frieze, as well as the metopes, marble slabs with representation from Greek mythology and much more. Built on the ruins of the past empires, it is here that you'll learn about the many ancient Gods.

Address : Dionysiou Areopagitou 15, Athens 11742, Greece

Zipcode : 11742

Location : 37.96844989999999, 23.728522699999985

Contact : +30 21 0900 0900

Website : <http://www.theacropolismuseum.gr/en>

Nearest Public Transport : Acropoli Metro Station

Entry Fee : Adults: €5 Students, Senior Citizens, Children below 18 years: €3 Free

Entry on 25th March, 18th May and 28th October

Open & Close Timing : April to October: Monday: 08:00hrs-16:00hrs Tuesday to Thursday: 08:00hrs-20:00hrs Friday: 08:00hrs-22:00hrs Saturday and Sunday: 08:00hrs-20:00hrs November to March: Monday to Thursday 09:00hrs-17:00hrs Friday: 09:00hrs-22:00hrs Saturday and Sunday: 09:00hrs-20:00hrs Closed on Easter Sunday and Easter Monday.

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.2. Acropolis of Athens

Perched atop the hill, Acropolis is an ancient citadel and holds many structures of historical importance including the very famous Parthenon. It is also an abode to the Old Temple of Athena, Altar of Athena and the Odeon of Herodes Atticus worth marveling at. A center of commerce and culture since ancient times, 'High

City' is what exactly Acropolis means and the many buildings in Greece still replicate the Corinthian columns of the many monuments from the Acropolis.

Address : Dionysiou Areopagitou, Athens 10558, Greece

Zipcode : 10558

Location : 37.9715323, 23.725749199999996

Contact : +30 21 0321 0219

Nearest Public Transport : AETHPIA Bus Station Acropoli Metro Station

Entry Fee : €12 for all €6 for Greek Citizen A combined ticket for all the attractions at the Acropolis would cost a person about €20.

Open & Close Timing : April to October: Daily 08:00hrs-19:30hrs November to March: Daily 08:30hrs-15:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.3. Parthenon

Constructed for the Goddess Athena after whom the city of Athens is named, this temple is one of the most prominent structures in the Acropolis. The temple and the sculptures within were made from Parthenon marble. The buildings, even if not, appear perfectly straight to the eyes, highlighting the unmatched skill of the architects through such a fine architectural landmark.

Address : Acropolis, Dionysiou Areopagitou, Athens 10558, Greece

Zipcode : 10558

Location : 37.9715285, 23.72671660000003

Contact : +30 21 0321 0219

Nearest Public Transport : Acropoli Metro Station

Entry Fee : Tourists: €12 Greek citizens: €6 One can also purchase a combined pass of the Acropolis costing around €20 and see the other attractions as well along with the Parthenon.

Open & Close Timing : April to October: Daily 08:00hrs-19:30hrs November to March: Daily 08:30hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.4. Temple of Hephaestus

Sited to the northwest of the Agora of Athens, Temple of Hephaestus (Thiseio) is an ancient shrine devoted to the metal God in Greece and choked with marvelous columns built in 415 BC. Head here in the mornings which turn out to be the best time to visit the temple as the sunshine accentuates the beauty of the sculptures.

Address : Ancient Agora of Athens, Athens 10555, Greece

Zipcode : 10555

Location : 37.975595, 23.721452099999965

Contact : +30-2103722001

Nearest Public Transport : Thissio Metro Station Monastiraki Metro Station

Entry Fee : Regular: €12 Greek Citizens: €6 One need not buy a ticket if they already have a combined ticket including this site for visit!

Open & Close Timing : April to October: Daily 08:30hrs-18:00hrs November to March: Daily 08:00hrs-20:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.5. National Archaeological Museum

Tagged as one of the distinguished archaeological museums in the world, it displays the best collections of the Greek history. If you are someone who loves history with a tinge of mythology to it, this place is a treasure of stories, from the Gods to the art and architecture of the Ancient Greece! One of the many marvels you should look for at the museum is that of the bust of Hesiod, where the details are minutely sculpted on the face. The museum ensures convenience for the physically challenged or the impaired by providing them with various facilities to study in the ancient Greek culture.

Address : 44 Patission, Athens 10682, Greece.

Zipcode : 10682

Location : 37.98902289999999, 23.732759900000002

Contact : +30 21321 44890

Website : http://www.namuseum.gr/#_=_

Nearest Public Transport : Aphetēria Bus Station

Entry Fee : Full fee: €7 Reduced fee: €5 A combined ticket with this site of visit included can also be brought at a range of 12€-30€.

Open & Close Timing : Monday: 13:00hrs-20:00hrs Tuesday to Sunday: 09:00hrs-16:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.6. Goulandris Museum of Cycladic Art

Browse through the Cycladic Art collections of Nicholas and Dolly Goulandris at this stunning museum which was developed in the island of the Aegean Sea. Presently, it is devoted to the preservation of the study and promotion of the old-age culture of Aegean and Cyprus. Founded in 1986, all the objects in this museum are made of marble and over 3000 objects are displayed in this charmingly designed museum, making it a must-visit for every enthusiast of history.

Address : 4 Douka Neofitou, Athens 10674, Greece

Zipcode : 10674

Location : 37.9758664, 23.7422636999999967

Contact : +30 210 7228321

Website

http://www.cycladic.gr/frontoffice/portal.asp?cpage=NODE&cnode=1#=_

Nearest Public Transport : Rēgillēs Bus Station

Entry Fee : Standard fee: €7 Senior citizens and Students, Monday: €3.5 Visitors with disabilities and their companions: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday: 10:00hrs-17:00hrs Thursday: 10:00hrs-20:00hrs Sunday: 11:00hrs-17:00hrs Tuesday closed.

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.7. Odeon of Herodes Atticus

A massive stone theater, situated in the Acropolis, the Odeon serves as a great symbol of performing arts since the ancient Greek period. Built by Herodes for his wife, this site ought to be visited for its various performances. The beautiful stands made in such a way that they all face the stage in the center with a

spectacular backdrop of windows right behind it. If you are in Athens around summer, do not miss out on this as it is the best time to visit during the Athens Festival.

Address : Dionissiou Areopagitou, Athens 10558, Greece

Zipcode : 10558

Location : 37.9707948, 23.7245831000000018

Contact : +30 2103 210219

Website : http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/2/gh251.jsp?obj_id=6622

Nearest Public Transport : Aphetēria Bus Station

Entry Fee : €12

Open & Close Timing : March to September: 08:00hrs-20:00hrs October to February: 08:00hrs-17:00hrs Closed on 25th – 26th December; 1st January and Easter Sunday.

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.8. Benaki Museum

Showcasing unblemished treasures dating back to the Bronze Age up to World War II, the Benaki Museum was built in 1930 in the memory of Antonio Benaki. Browse through several art pieces from prehistoric times of Byzantine and Hellenic art comprising of Greek busts and guns o Islamic art and Porcelain toys. Scattered across 3 floors, the major highlights are the Byzantine icons and Greek regional costumes as well as sitting rooms from Macedonian mansions, carved and painted.

Address : 1 Koubari, Athens 10674, Greece

Zipcode : 10674

Location : 37.975952, 23.740446000000002

Contact : +30 210 367 1000

Website : http://www.benaki.gr/#=_

Nearest Public Transport : Kēpos Bus Station

Entry Fee : Full Fee: €9 Reduced Fee: €7

Open & Close Timing : Sunday: 09:00hrs-15:00hrs Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 09:00hrs-17:00hrs Thursday: 09:00hrs-12:00 hrs Closed on Tuesdays

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.9. Ancient Agora of Athens

The most prominent part of the city of Athens, the Ancient Agora is the marketplace and city center and also proffers a great chance to scrutinize the political, religious, commercial, and cultural life. An open space in ancient Greece, it deserves a visit predominantly with a guide to know the stories of in and around the place. Brimming with countless important structure within it, the Agora is discovered best by walking around.

Address : 24 Adrianou, Athens 10555, Greece

Zipcode : 10555

Location : 37.9746507, 23.72197159999996

Contact : +30 210 3210 185

Nearest Public Transport : Monastiraki Metro Station KTEL Ditikis Attikis Bus Station

Entry Fee : Full Fees: €8 Reduced fee for the Greek Citizen: €4

Open & Close Timing : March to September: Monday: 11:00hrs-19:30hrs Tuesday to Saturday: 08:00hrs-19:30hrs October to February: Daily 08:00hrs-15:00hrs

Museum: Daily 11:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.10. Panathenaic Stadium

A multi-purpose stadium built in atavistic Greek for the purpose of sports, Panathenaic Stadium is presently a classical cultural and touristic monument in Athens. Tagged as a prominent monument not only for Athens but for the entire Greece, it is a major landmark and thronged by a large number of visitors annually. With the 1st Olympic Games held here, it is built in between 2 hills in a valley and worth a visit when in Athens for all Sports fanatics.

Address : Vassileos Konstantinou Avenue, Athens 99920, Greece

Zipcode : 99920

Location : 37.968334199999999, 23.7411118

Contact : +30 21 0325 1744

Website : <http://www.panathenaicstadium.gr/Contact/tabid/93/language/en->

US/Default.aspx

Nearest Public Transport : Mets Bus Station

Entry Fee : General ticket: €3 Students, Senior citizens: €1.5 Physically challenged, children below 6 years: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : March to September: 08:00hrs-17:00hrs October to February: 08:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 1.5

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.11. Temple of Olympian Zeus

As the name suggests, this was an ancient Greek temple with 104 intricately carved columns, now left with only 15 for the Greek God of Thunder, Zeus. The irony lies in the sheer beauty of its ruins, making it a tourist favorite, with an uncanny feeling of the presence of the Greek God himself!

Address : Athens 10557, Greece

Zipcode : 10557

Location : 37.9693, 23.733100000000036



Nearest Public Transport :                                 

Zipcode : 17343

Location : 37.9341741, 23.685961499999962

Contact : +30 210 4285500

Website : <http://www.1daycruise.gr/shop/islands-we-visit/one-day-cruise-from-athens-to-3-islands-aegina-poros-hydra/?gclid=CKj9q6zAic8CFQweaAodCckMgw>

Nearest Public Transport : Pick up from Hotel by the Cruise Company    

Bus Station for the office of Cruise company

Entry Fee : Adults: €78 Children: €49.50 Free for infants

Open & Close Timing : Daily 00:00hrs-23:59hrs

Time Required : 5

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.13. Byzantine And Christian Museum

One of the most captivating museums, Byzantine and Christian Museum was inaugurated in the early 20th century to conserve, examine and exhibit Byzantine cultural heritage with a belief of re-exhibiting the collections. The museum is an abode to over 30,000 works of art comprising of sculptures, ceramics, paintings, textiles, pieces of jewelry, icons, and architectural objects like mosaics and wall paintings. Also, make a stop at the café-bistro situated in the garden where you can enjoy a coffee, dessert or a light meal.


Address : Leoforos Vasilissis Sofias 22, Athina 106 75, Greece

Zipcode : 106 75

Location : 37.9754096, 23.7445869

Contact : +30 21 0723 1570

Website : <http://www.byzantinemuseum.gr/>

Nearest Public Transport :                          Bus Station

Entry Fee : General admission: €8 Under 18 years old: Free admission

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-20:00hrs Closed: 1st January, 25th March, Good Friday (open: 12.00-17.00), Easter, 1st May, 25th-26th December

Time Required : 2

Expected Wait Time : 10 minutes

Buy Ticket : No

7.1.14. Allou! Fun Park

Tagged as the largest amusement park across the whole of Greece, Allou! offers unlimited entertainment and adventure options for every age. Whether you are a child or a child at heart, this park having been divided into 2, stands as a beloved option for everyone. The exhilarating rides at Allou! pushes your adrenaline to the maximum level whereas, at Kingdom, an entire fairytale world is dedicated to the kids. Fight your fears at the only Horror House, try to get out of the Mirror Maze, ride the most beautiful carousel with your little ones or indulge in a plethora of skill games.

Address : Kifissos Ave. & Petrou Ralli str, Ag. Ioannis Rentis 182 33, Greece

Zipcode : 18233

Location : 37.9733989999999, 23.672837

Contact : +30 21 0809 2888

Website : <http://www.allou.gr/>

Nearest Public Transport :  (                 ) Bus Station

Entry Fee : XXL Pass: €19 Allou! 7 rides Pass: €12 Kidom Pass: €16 Kidom Family Pass (2 children): €29 Kidom Family Pass (3 children): €39 Kidom Family Pass (4 children): €49 Kindly refer to the website for more details.

Open & Close Timing : Daily 10:00hrs-23:00hrs

Time Required : 12

Buy Ticket : No

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7.2. Free

7.2.1. Plaka

Known as the “Neighbourhood of the Gods” due to its proximity to Acropolis, Plaka District is a cluster of houses and streets. Renowned for its historic streets and street shopping, marvel at the labyrinthine streets and neoclassical architecture while clicking some of the best photographs. While strolling on the streets, watch out for its majestic old town houses with different columns which take you back in time. To pamper your taste buds with authentic Greek flavors, try any of the cafes in the district.

Address : The Plaka, 10558 Athens, Greece

Zipcode : 10558

Location : 37.9706814, 23.729413900000054

Contact : +30 21 2104 0077

Nearest Public Transport : Acropoli Metro station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.2. Anafiotika

A picturesque neighborhood in the Plaka area, Anafiotika is a little town best explored on foot. Walking along the cobblestone paths and gazing at the white buildings and quaint bylanes, one can enjoy a peaceful meal at the end of the day in a local cafe. This beautiful place is a serene retreat from the bustling atmosphere of Athens and visited by numerous visitors.

Address : North east slope of Acropolis, Acropolis Rock, 11742 Athens, Greece

Zipcode : 11742

Location : 37.9697662, 23.725298800000002

Nearest Public Transport : Erechtheion Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.3. Monument of Philopappos

To honor the Prince of Commagene, Philopappos, his tomb was made of white Pentelic marble and named the Philopappos Monument by his sister Julia Balbilla after his death. Perched on the Philopappos Hill, overlooking the Acropolis, this 2-storeyed structure has statues of 3 men - Antichou IV, Philopappos and Seleucus I Nicator, which is strayed now, on the right. The lowest deck has a frieze depicting Philopappos as a consul general, led by the lictors riding a chariot.

Address : Filopappos Hill, Thisseio, Athens, Athina 104 38, Greece

Zipcode : 10438

Location : 37.9672904, 23.721422100000004

Nearest Public Transport : Aphetēria Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.4. Erechtheion

Dedicated to both the Gods of the city - Athena, the Goddess of Wisdom and Poseidon, the God of Water, Erechtheion is an ancient Greek and intricate temple. This structure is renowned for its porch called the 'Porch of Maidens' with 6 female figures as columns. It also accommodates the "Sacred Tokens" marks made by Poseidon and the Gift by Athena - the Olive tree. The columns with the various intricate carvings are what one should look for when visiting the Temple because of the perfection in the detailing.

Address : Akropolis, Athens 105 58, Greece

Zipcode : 105 58

Location : 37.9720886, 23.726512500000013

Contact : +30-2109238724

Nearest Public Transport : Aphetēria Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : April to October: Daily 08:00hrs-20:00hrs November to March: Daily 08:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.5. Temple of Athena Nike

This ancient Greek temple of Athena Nike symbolizes the victory of Goddess Athena in war and wisdom. The temple is a rebuilt version of the original as it had been destroyed by the Persians when they were invading Athens. The astonishing grace of the temple is in its well-preserved columns.

Address : Acropoli, Dionysiou Areopagitou, Athens 10558, Greece.

Zipcode : 10558

Location : 37.971488, 23.724951

Nearest Public Transport : A^ΕΠΗΤΙΑ Bus Station; Acropolis metro station

Open & Close Timing : April – October Daily 08:00hrs-19:00hrs

November–March Daily 08:30hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.6. National Garden

Formerly known as the Royal Garden, National Garden is the 1st organized verdant shade card of green in the city located behind the Greek Parliament Building. An abode to some ruins, mosaics, and columns, there are also busts of Greek poets and authors. Spot 2 beautiful duck ponds in the garden with lovely flowers blooming around it making your visit to the garden as well as Athens a memorable affair. It's a favorite amongst the locals to hang out or meet and you surely don't want to miss out on this one.

Address : Amalias 1,  1, Athina 105 57, Greece

Zipcode : 10557

Location : 37.9728857, 23.737393999999995

Contact : +30 21 0721 5019

Website : <https://www.cityofathens.gr/episkeptes/aksiotheata/diadromes-stin-istoria-tis-athinas/o-kipos-tis-athinas>

Nearest Public Transport : Zanneio Metro Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 07:00hrs–18:00hrs

Time Required : 2

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.7. Athens Capitol

A one-stop shopping destination for all the shopping aficionados, Athens Capitol

has something to offer for everyone. Situated right in the city center, it houses numerous shops, restaurants, a cinema, conference center and the renowned Greek Vehicle Museum. Head here to fill your bags and make your shopping experience more convenient.

Address : 55, 3is Septemvriou 53, Athina 104 33, Greece

Zipcode : 10433

Location : 37.9914728, 23.729827999999998

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.8. Athens Heart Mall

Don't miss out on Athens Heart Mall while visiting Athens as it provides an ultimate shopping experience. Scattered across 4 floors, it houses designer stores and various options of food and entertainment. Name the brand and you'll find it here. So spend some of your leisure time here to take back home some exciting souvenirs.

Address : Pireos 180, Tavros 177 78, Greece

Zipcode : 17778

Location : 37.96962790000001, 23.700908000000027

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.9. Athens Metro Mall

A massive shopping destination in the city, Athens Metro Mall offers a galvanizing shopping experience for all the aficionados. Stomach it up at the food court before tackling this emporium of numerous local and international brands. Head here in your leisure time to fill your bags and desires.

Address : Par. Leof. Vouliagmenis 276, Ag. Dimitrios 173 43, Greece

Zipcode : 17343

Location : 37.9394458, 23.740351199999964

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.10. Ermou

An abode to renowned international brands, Ermou Street is a paradise for those who love shopping. Head here to find Marks & Spencer, Benetton, H&M, Sepura and much more along with department and cosmetic stores. Along with shopping, this street is jam-packed with musicians, clowns, street merchants, and mimes.

Address : Ermou, 105 55 Athina, Greece

Zipcode : 10555

Location : 37.97689039999999, 23.724467300000015

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.11. Athinas

Running from Omonia Square to Monastiraki Square, Athinas Street is the heart of modern Athens. You will spot people bargaining at the clothing stores on both sides of the road. Head here to buy some clothes and take back home some souvenirs.

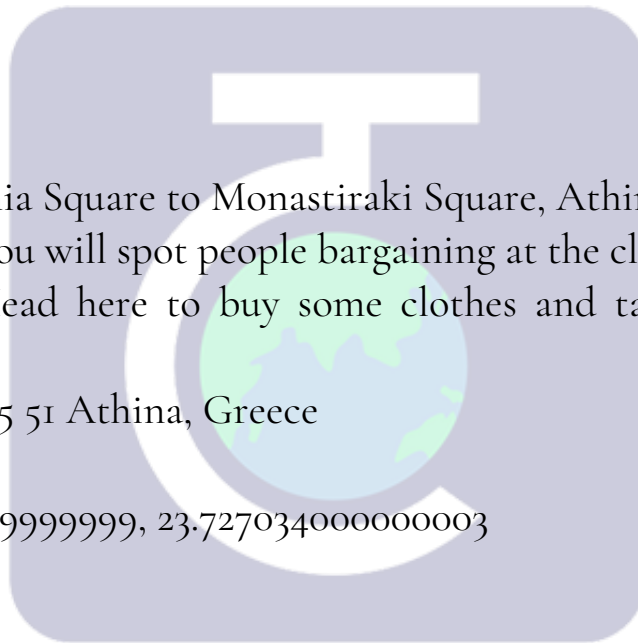
Address : Athinas, 105 51 Athina, Greece

Zipcode : 10551

Location : 37.98022269999999, 23.727034000000003

Time Required : 0

Buy Ticket : No



7.2.12. Syntagma Square

The most prominent and visited destination in Athens, Syntagma Square resides in the heart of the city and is the rendezvous point for a majority of Athenians. A celebrated square not only in the city but also the entire country, it is placed in front of the Greek Parliament and makes for a good start for your stroll. Encircled by shops, restaurants, and commercial buildings, and a huge space, do head to this square while visiting Athens.

Address : Pl. Sintagmatos, Athina 105 63, Greece

Zipcode : 10563

Location : 37.9755994, 23.7339867

Nearest Public Transport : Syntagma Light Rail Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.13. Monastiraki

Extending from Monastiraki square until the end of the Athinas street, Monastiraki forms a huge part of the Plaka district. This place boasts of tradition as well as tourist sightseeing simultaneously and makes for a great place for a walk and is renowned for the flea market. Fill your bags or sip a coffee and stomach it up at the numerous cafes and restaurants in the area.

Address : Monastiraki, Athens 105 55, Greece

Zipcode : 105 55

Location : 37.9768203, 23.7245384999999

Nearest Public Transport : Monastiraki Metro Station Monastiraki Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.14. Theatre of Dionysus

Forming a very significant part of the lives of Greeks in ancient Athens, Theatre of Dionysus is renowned as the place where European theater had begun. For the best view of the theater, walk up to the Acropolis and keep your camera ready. Take a few minutes to sit down and soak in the history which is undoubtedly a great way to appreciate the attainments of the ancient Greeks.

Address : Mitseon 25, Athina 117 42, Greece

Zipcode : 117 42

Location : 37.9703658, 23.7278552999999

Contact : +30 21 0322 4625

Nearest Public Transport : Acropoli Subway station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.15. Zappeion

Presently used for public and private exhibitions as well as ceremonies, Zappeion

is one of the most significant buildings in the city of Athens. Marvel at this Neoclassical mansion with its propylaea build in Corinthian style encircled by 200,000 square meters of gardens coupled with winding alleys, fountains and sculptures and housed right in the historic center of the city.

Address : Leof. Vasilissis Olgas, Athina 105 57, Greece

Zipcode : 105 57

Location : 37.971341, 23.7365537

Contact : +30 21 0322 3509

Website : <http://www.zappeion.gr/en/index.asp>

Nearest Public Transport : Zappeio Light Rail Station Zappeio Bus Station

Open & Close Timing : Open 24 hours

Time Required : 0.5

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.16. Technopolis

Spread on an area of 30,000 square meters, Technopolis (Gazi) is a thriving industrial museum with unparalleled architecture and one of the most interesting cultural venues across Europe. Dedicated to the renowned Greek composer Manos Hatzidakis, you can always spot some exhibitions, seminars, music concerts, and various other cultural activities happening on the grounds.

Address : Athens 118 54, Greece

Zipcode : 11854

Location : 37.9777776, 23.7136160999999

Contact : +30 21 0346 1589

Nearest Public Transport :         Bus Station St.Kerameikos Metro Station

Open & Close Timing : Monday to Saturday: 08:30hrs-22:15hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

7.2.17. Hadrian's Library

Situated towards the north of the Acropolis, Hadrian's Library comprises of huge, square blocked enclosure, with gateway on the west. The northern, eastern, and southern walls are made out of poros limestone whereas the western wall boasts

of Pentelic marble coupled with a single row of Corinthian columns. Marvel at the open air courtyard, a central pool, and garden that was situated right in the center of the complex.

Address: [REDACTED] 3 & [REDACTED], [REDACTED], Athina 105 55, Greece

Zipcode : 10555

Location : 37.9755137, 23.7259945

Website : http://odysseus.culture.gr/h/3/eh355.jsp?obj_id=2370

Nearest Public Transport : Monastiraki Metro Station

Open & Close Timing : Daily 08:00hrs-15:00hrs

Time Required : 1

Buy Ticket : No

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8. Key sites sports & adventure

If you're searching for some adrenaline and strong emotions, Athens won't disappoint. From mountain climbing to diving, one can choose from a number of activities when in Athens!

- **Mount Lycabettus -**

Address : Centro de la Ciudad de Atenas, Athens 11471, Greece.

Location : 37.981788,23.743055

Nearest Public Transport : Likavittous Bus Station

Open / Close Time : Open hours

Time Required : 0.00

- **Diving -**

Address : 13 Agamemnonos, Faneromenis 5, Cholargos, Athens 15561, Greece.

Location : 38.004917,23.796651

Contact No : +30 21 0654 0254

Website : <http://www.amphibious.gr/>

Nearest Public Transport : 5th Holargos Bus Station

Entry Fees : € 73 for renting equipment

Open / Close Time : Monday, Wednesday, Saturday 09:00hrs-15:00hrs

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 09:00hrs-20:30 hrs

Time Required : 0.00

- **Kite in Athens -**

Address : 22 Veikou, Athens 11742, Greece

Location : 37.966686,23.727202

Contact No : +30 21 0921 1944

Website : http://kiteinathens.gr/#_=_

Nearest Public Transport : Ag. Ioannis Light Rail Station

Entry Fees : € 120

Open / Close Time : Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10:00hrs-15:00hrs
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 10:00hrs-21:00hrs

Time Required : 3.00

- **Trekking Hellas Mt. Parnitha -**

Address : Athens 15125, Greece.

Location : 38.17458,23.716812

Contact No : +30 21 0331 0323

Website : http://www.trekking.gr/outdoor-holidays-in-greece/destination/athens/trekking-in-national-park-mtparnitha#_=_

Nearest Public Transport : Imatheias Bus Station

Entry Fees : €37 per person

Open / Close Time : Daily 09:00hrs-17:00hrs

Time Required : 4.00

- **Skydive Athens -**

Address : Kopaida Airfield, Athens 15125, Greece

Location : 38.455207,23.139606

Contact No : +30 697 0300 222

Website : <http://www.skydive-athens.gr/en/>

Nearest Public Transport : Aliartos Train Station (Not recommended)

Entry Fees : Tandem Light - € 160 1 Jump ticket (14,000ft) - € 32 College Students Tandem jump (14,000ft) - € 199

Open / Close Time : Daily 08:00hrs-18:00hrs

Time Required : 2.00



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9. Adventure sports, Local sports, stadiums

Sports in Athens have been famous throughout the world since ancient times. The city has hosted Summer Olympics, UEFA Champions League and the Euroleague. Sports like athletics, volley ball, basket ball, football, etc. have also been developed and played on a large scale. The city is also famous for its rock climbing, skiing and other mountainous activities since the city is surrounded by mountain ranges. Athens is a proud supporter of a lot of games and sports like basketball, football, volleyball, etc. They have many clubs and stadiums set up for the betterment of the game and the people.

- **Athens Olympic Stadium” Syprois Louis”:**

Address : Leof. Olimpionikou Spirou Loui, Marousi 15123, Greece.

Location : 38.036129,23.787591

Contact No : +30 21 0683 4060

- **Panathenaic Stadium:**

Address : Leof. Vasileos Konstantinou, Athens 11635, Greece.

Location : 37.968334,23.741111

Contact No : +30 21 0752 2984

Website : <http://www.panathenaicstadium.gr/Contact/tabid/93/language/en-US/Default.aspx>

- **Peace and Friendship Stadium:**

Address : Pireas 185 33, Athens Greece

Location : 37.942416,23.667715

Contact No : +30 21 0489 3000

Open/Close time : Events only



10. Spas and relaxation

Athens has been improving even in the luxury department. Spas here offer a wide range of treatments and are the perfect way to unwind. When in Athens, for a vacation, it is advised that you escape from the chaos of the city at least once to relax and rejuvenate yourself with a top European spa! Some of the best spa and wellness centres in the city are listed below:

- **Athens Fish Spa massage and Hammam:**

Address : 1st Floor, Aioulou 45, Athens 10551, Greece.

Location : 37.978183,23.727891

Contact No : +30 21 1800 3700

Website : <http://www.athensfishspa.com/>

- **Hammam Baths:**

Address : Agion Asomaton17, Athens 10553, Greece.

Location : 37.978271,23.720530

Contact No : +30 21 0323 1073

Website : <http://hammam.gr/>

- **Athens Doctor Fish:**

Address : 69 Adrianou, Plaka, Athens 10556, Greece.

Location : 37.974441,23.728833

Contact No : +30 21 0325 1515

- **Zen Massage:**

Address : Neofitou Vamva 8 Kolwnaki, 10674 Athens, Greece.

Location : 37.976568,23.741218

Contact No : +30 694 727 7878

Website : <http://www.zenmassage.gr/?lang=en>



11. Events calendar

Month

Events

New Year celebration

Feast of St Basil – This is a new year tradition of the Greeks for good luck and prosperity.

Apokrias

This is the Carnival Season of the Greeks and lasts for two weeks with various games and different markets set up in the city and people having a gala time!

Greek Independence Day

Celebrates their independence from the Turks.

Clean Monday

This is the first day of lent, and people go out to fly paper kites.

May Day

This is the day celebrated all over the world by the name LABOR Day! A day to honour all the workers or the working people, a parade is performed in the city!

European Music Day

An event hosting 3 days of continuous music and live shows, this event presents traditional Greek music to the now famous EDM! Music lovers can go crazy attending this music festival!

Saint's Day of Virgin Mary

It is a huge religious holiday and pilgrims visit the Tinos island.

Aniholos Wine Festival

There will be wine tastings, wine makings and orchard trips to enjoy.

Ochi Day

The Greeks celebrate their resistance against the Italians from occupying their nation.

Christmas celebration

It's the busiest time of the year, the city is lit up with lights and décor and there is joy and Happiness everywhere to be found!

12. Key local guides and tours

Athens is a beautiful city with a lot of things and places to be seen. The city has a lot of little alleys full of cultural things to explore and see. Athens can be seen on your own or you can even hire a tour. You can get private tours or group tours. There are many taxi tours wherein the driver-guides take you to all the spots in the city. If you have a large group, you can even get minivans. There are also bike tours like Athens by Bike, Scooterise Experience Athens Tours and Athens Segway Tours. You can join a group of guides and go around the city of cycles and bikes. You can see so much more this way and don't have to be stuck in traffic. There are also Athens Walking Tours that takes you to historical spots and other heritage sites. The guides are well versed in the history of their city. There are also Sailing Tours where you can board yachts and explore the coast. Even though it is a bit more expensive, it will be a wonderful experience to see the city from sea! Athens Culinary Backstreets Walks is a food tour that takes you around to taste the famous and delicious street food in Athens. You are guided by experts in culinary and get a deeper insight of the famous Greek cuisine.

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13. Transportation hubs

The major airport in Athens is the Athens International Airport (37.935630, 23.948426). It is just 35 km away from the city towards the east. You can get to the city by taking the Metro Line 3. The Suburban Rail connects the airport to the Athens Central Railway Station (37.991976, 23.721092), Port of Piraeus (37.943418, 23.638241) and Kaito. There are also buses available between Exits 4 and 5. There are also KTEL Regional buses between Exits 2 and 3. Athens offers two alternatives as far as railway commuting is concerned. There is the metro with 3 lines namely the red line, blue line and green line. Then there is the suburban rail. The Athens Railway Station is served by both these train types. This railway station is divided into 2 terminals called the Larissa Station and the Peloponnese Station. The Port of Piraeus is the major port near the city. You can visit many Greek islands from this port. Other ports here include Port Rafina (38.022045, 24.008516) and Port Lavrion (37.940656, 23.633333). There are two major bus terminals in the city namely the Kifissos Bus Terminal A (37.998207, 23.698956) and the Liosion Bus Terminal B (38.009292, 23.721615). The KTEL buses ply between them.

14. Transportation cost

Cost of travelling by public transport is pretty cheap. One way tickets for buses or trains will cost you 1.40 €. Taxis start at 3 € and they then charge less than a euro for every kilometre. Tourists can get special 3-day tickets for 22 €. If you are planning to stay in the city for a while, or are going to use the public transport a lot, then getting a monthly pass is much preferred. It will only cost you about 30 €. KTEL bus tickets to the airport will be 6 € and metro tickets will 10 €. Nice cabins for two people in ferries should cost you about 120 €.



15. Baggage allowance

If you are planning to travel to Athens with a lot of luggage, it is better to opt for a taxi. Taxi drivers do charge you for the luggage you keep in the trunk. It will be about € 0.40 per bag. You can also opt for the bus or the train. They have provisions for carrying luggage too.



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16. Must try food and local savouries

Greece boasts of one of the most loved cuisines around the world. Being in the heart of the country itself, you need to taste some of their delicacies. Some of the all time favourite foods amongst the Greeks are the Tirokrokates, Revithokeftedes, Mousakka, Gyro and the Tiropites.



17. Restaurant & Nightlife

Food -

- **All the Jatz:**

Address : Agiou Filippou, Athens 10555, Greece

Location : 37.976444,23.723219

Contact No : +30 21 03 314753

Website : https://www.facebook.com/allthatjatz#_=_

Open / Close Time : Daily 11:00hrs-02:00hrs

- **Cinque Wine and Deli Bar:**

Address : Agatharchou 15, Athens 10554, Greece

Location : 37.978387,23.723392

Contact No : +30 21 5501 7853

Website : <http://www.cinque.gr/>

Open / Close Time : Wednesday-Sunday 13:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **Dinner in the Sky Greece:**

Address : Technopolis of Athens, Iakchou & Voutadon 2, Athens 11854, Greece

Location : 37.978539,23.715012

Contact No : +30 694 539 6509

Website : <http://dinnerinthesky.gr/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 20:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Funky Gourmet:**

Address : 13 Paramithias St & Salaminos, Keramikos, 10435 Athens, Greece

Location : 37.983151,23.715893

Contact No : +30 21 0524 2727

Website : <http://www.funkygourmet.com/en>

Open / Close Time : Tuesday-Saturday 19:30hrs-01:00hrs

- **Karmanlidika:**

Address : Sokratous 1, Athens 10552, Greece

Location : 37.980181,23.725645

Contact No : +30 21 0325 4184

Website : <http://karamanlidika.gr/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-23:00hrs

- **Oinomageireio Epirus:**

Address : Aristogitonos 1, Athens 10551, Greece

Location : 37.979996,23.727786

Contact No : +30 21 0324 0773

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 07:00hrs-19:00hrs

- **Spondi:**

Address : Pirronos 5, Athens 11636, Greece.

Location : 37.965157,23.743084

Contact No : +30 21 0752 0658

Website : <http://www.spondi.gr/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 20:00hrs-01:00hrs

- **Kiku:**

Address : Dimokritou 12, Athens 10673, Greece.

Location : 37.979378,23.738470

Contact No : +30 21 0364 7033

Website : <http://www.kikurestaurants.com/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 19:00hrs-01:00hrs

- **Estiatorio Milos Athens:**

Address : Leof. Vasilissis Sofias 46, Athens 11528, Greece

Location : 37.976186,23.749833

Contact No : +30 21 0724 4400

Website : <http://milos.ca/restaurants/athens>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Saturday 12:00hrs-16:30hrs;
19:00hrs-00:00hrs Sunday 12:30hrs-18:00hrs

- **GB Corner:**

Address : Hotel Grande Bretagne, Vasileos Georgiou A 1, Athens 10564, Greece.

Location : 37.976223,23.735319

Contact No : +30 21 0333 0000

Website : <http://www.gbcorner.gr/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 06:00hrs-11:00hrs; 13:00hrs-01:15hrs

- **Brettos Bar:**

Address : Kidathineon 41, Athens 10558, Greece.

Location : 37.971731,23.730499

Contact No : +30 21 0323 2110

Website : <http://www.brettosplaka.com/history/>

Open / Close Time : Daily 10:00hrs-03:00hrs

- **MoMix Kerameikos:**

Address : HQ+ Lab, Keleou 1-5, Kerameikos, Athens, Greece.

Location : 37.981227,23.712533

Contact No : +30 697 4350 179

Website : <http://www.momixbar.com/>

Open / Close Time : Sunday-Thursday 20:00hrs-03:00hrs Friday-Saturday 20:00hrs-04:00hrs

- **The Gio Joint:**

Address : Christou Lada 1, Athens 10561, Greece.

Location : 37.978222,23.731760

Contact No : +30 21 0321 8646

Website : <http://www.theginjoint.gr/>

Open / Close Time : Monday-Thursday 18:00hrs-02:00hrs Friday-Saturday 18:00hrs-04:00hrs Sunday 18:00hrs-00:00hrs

- **7 Times Live Music and Dance Club:**

Address : Miaouli 13, Athens 10554, Greece.

Location : 37.977573,23.725356

Contact No : +30 21 5515 9771

Open / Close Time : Daily 18:00hrs-04:00hrs

Index**18. Average meal cost**

Food expenses are cheap in Athens. So you need not worry about holding back on tasting the amazing cuisine. A regular meal at a restaurant will be around 12 € and can go up to 35 €. Domestic beer (0.5 litres) costs about 3.50 €, whereas an imported beer (0.33 litres) will cost you about 4 €. A 0.33 litres bottle of water will be 0.50 €.

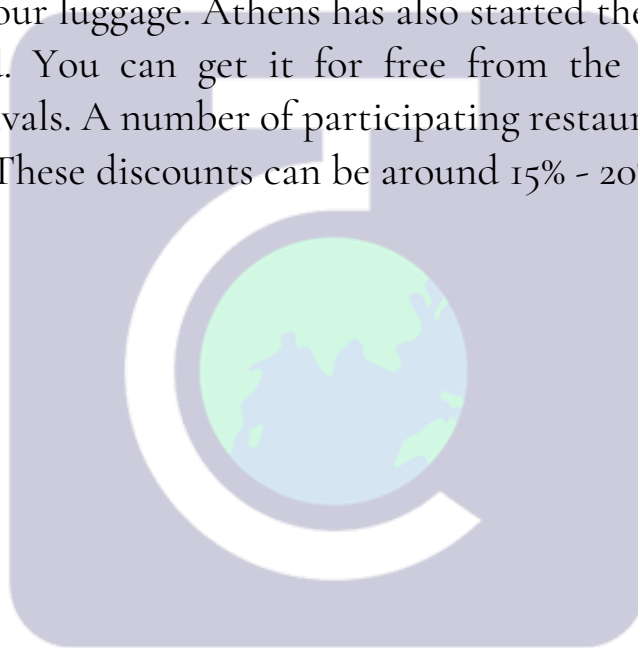


19. Shopping

Greeks love the idea of shopping in one place. Thus many malls have been set up and developed around the country for many decades. Many malls are found in the capital itself. Athens Capitol (37.991462, 23.729833) is a mega complex with an array of stores, leisure outlets, museum, auditorium and a courtyard right in its centre. The Athens Heart (37.969619, 23.700887) is another mega mall with over 80 brands to choose from. A more recent choice for shoppers is the Athens Metro Mall (37.939437, 23.740351) that is opened right beside the Dimitrios Metro Station. It too has over 80 brands, and several eateries, play areas, cinema screens and supermarkets. Other malls include the Avenue (38.035377, 23.796139), Attica (37.977615, 23.734979) and McArthurGlen (37.986081, 23.910238). Tourists looking forward to some Greek street shopping, they can visit places like Plaka and Monastiraki (37.976218, 23.724578). Ermou Street (37.976899, 23.724457), Athinas Street (37.976688, 23.726162) and the Aiolou (37.978787, 23.728074) are other well known shopping areas. Shopping here will get you some really unique things at a great cost.

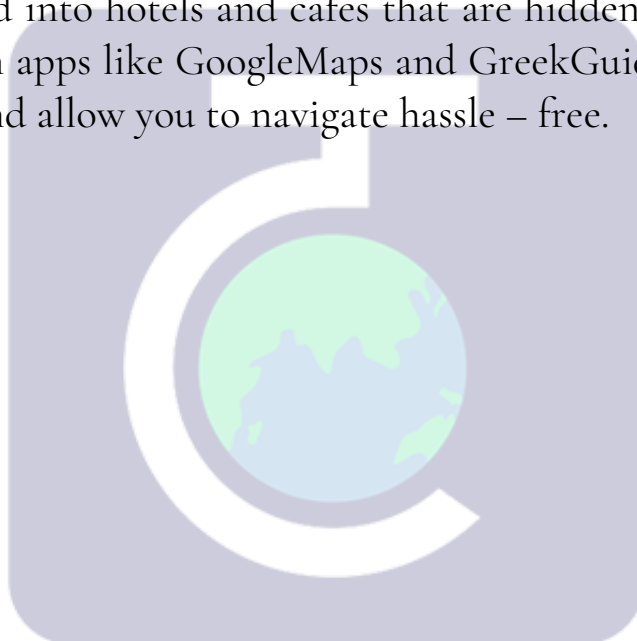
20. Tourist benefits

Tourists shopping in Athens can get their VAT refunded at the airport. But there are certain regulations to this. You have to look out for stores with the 'Global Blue Tax Free Shopping'. Ask for the Tax Free forms and fill it completely. Then you can refund your taxes at the airport customs before check-in. Just make sure that your products are unused and sealed and carry them with you instead of checking it in with your luggage. Athens has also started the Athens Spotlighted, a city discount card. You can get it for free from the Central Information Counter near the arrivals. A number of participating restaurants and venues offer discounts to people. These discounts can be around 15% - 20%.



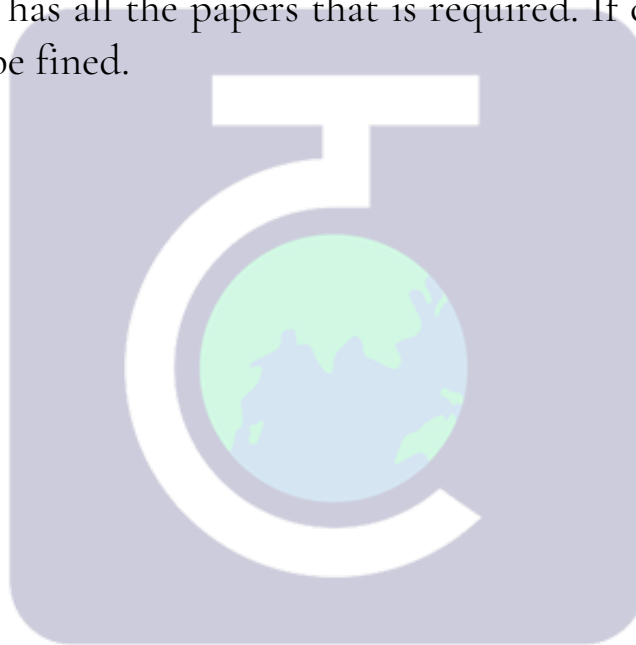
21. Essential local apps

There are a few apps that will help you get around the city. Apps like Athens Transportation, Athens Next Bus and Athens Metro are some free apps that simplify the transport system of the capital city. They display the schedule, stops and the incoming trains and buses at each station. They even display information about the delays. Athens APK is an audio pocket guide. It will lead you through the quaint streets and into hotels and cafes that are hidden away. There are also the more mainstream apps like GoogleMaps and GreekGuide that will show you the map of Athens and allow you to navigate hassle – free.



22. Driving

Tourists and travellers staying in Athens for a short time (less than 6 months) will need a license from your home nation if you decide to drive. Your license should be legal and valid. You should also carry an International Driving Permit issued by a legalised authority. People planning to be here for more than six months need to convert their home license into Greek licenses. When renting cars in Athens, make sure it has all the papers that is required. If caught with incorrect documents, you can be fined.



23. Travel essentials

It is always suggested to make a checklist before you leave for a vacation. This makes the entire trip hassle free. Make sure to always keep your phone battery charged. You will always need it in a foreign country. Athens can get very sunny and hot at times. It is thus advised to carry sun protection, sunglasses and any other medication if you might need. Electric voltage in Athens and entire Greece is 230 volts. Electric plugs are the usual Europlug or the Schuko.



24. Essential clothes

It is always suggested to make a checklist before you leave for a vacation. This makes the entire trip hassle free. Make sure to always keep your phone battery charged. You will always need it in a foreign country. Athens can get very sunny and hot at times. It is thus advised to carry sun protection, sunglasses and any other medication if you might need. Electric voltage in Athens and entire Greece is 230 volts. Electric plugs are the usual Europlug or the Schuko.



25. Local currency

The currency used in Athens is Euros. 1 US\$ = 0.88 Euros



26. Change vendor's commission, ATM charges

Athens, and the whole of Greece, has the currency of Euros. It is better to carry cash around. Exchange rates are high in ATMs in Athens. Credit card exchange rates are around 2% - 3% per transaction. For debit cards the exchange charge are around 6%. But that too differs for different banks. It is suggested to approach your home bank and ask the conversion rates before travelling.



27. Staying connected

Tourists can use their own home SIM cards in Athens. But international roaming and data charges may apply. To prevent this, it is advised to get a local SIM. You can buy a SIM from the airport or at a local store anywhere in the city. If you are in the airport, you will need to show your boarding pass to be let into the store. Recommended SIM cards are Vodafone, Wind Telecom and Cosmote. To purchase a SIM, all you need is a copy of your passport. You can always use Wifi provided at the airports, hotels, restaurants and metros. Athens is known to have Wifi connections practically anywhere!



28. Time Zone

Athens follows the Eastern European Time Zone with UTC+02:00hrs.



Index**29. Languages**

The most common language spoken in Athens is Greece. Many minority languages are spoken too along with other dialects. English, French, Italian and German are the foreign languages in use here.



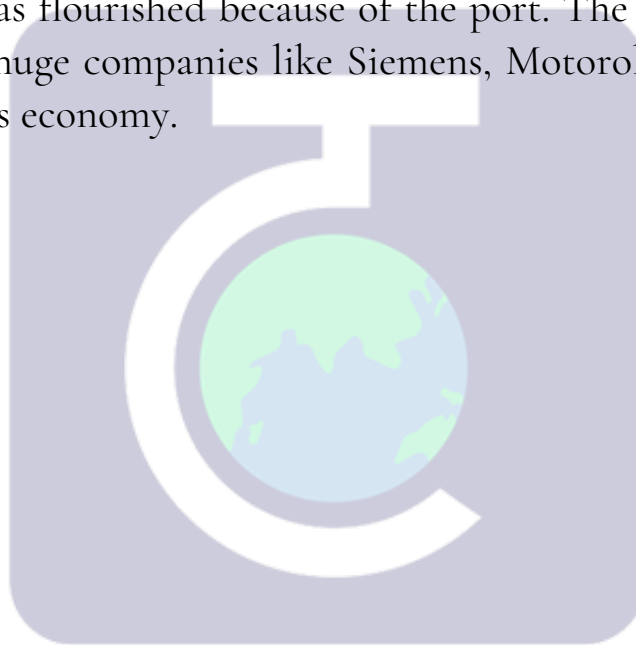
30. Political Scenario

Athens follows the democratic system and it is called the Athenian democracy. This is a direct democracy system. People residing in the city will vote for the representatives. To vote, people need to be a citizen of Athens.



Index**31. Economic Scenario**

Athens is a huge cosmopolitan city. It is the centre of trade and commerce of Greece. It has been so for a long time. Athens has been a centre of learning and philosophy since ancient times. It is the economic, financial, political and cultural centre of Greece. It is also the basis of the industrial and maritime life in Greece. Athens has a great economic input after developing its entertainment and arts sector. Their trade has flourished because of the port. The population explosion and the presence of huge companies like Siemens, Motorola and Coca-Cola has all benefited the city's economy.



Index**32. Religious belief**

The main religion followed here in Athens and in the whole of Greece is Orthodox Christianity (98%). The Greek Orthodox Church prevails over the entire religion area. Other religions are followed here, but on a very small scale. Such religions include Islam, Catholicism, Evangelicalism, Hellenic Paganism and Hinduism (all together 2%). People in Athens have also started to follow atheism.



33. Visa requirements

Tourists travelling to Athens, or Greece as a whole, are supposed to have a passport with a minimum validity of 6 months. A visa is important to enter the country. The visa should specify your reason for visit and the number of days of visit. Incomplete visas can cause problems. If you are travelling to another place and stopping by in Athens, you need a transit visa. You can either apply for it in your home country, or you can apply for it in the Athens airport too.



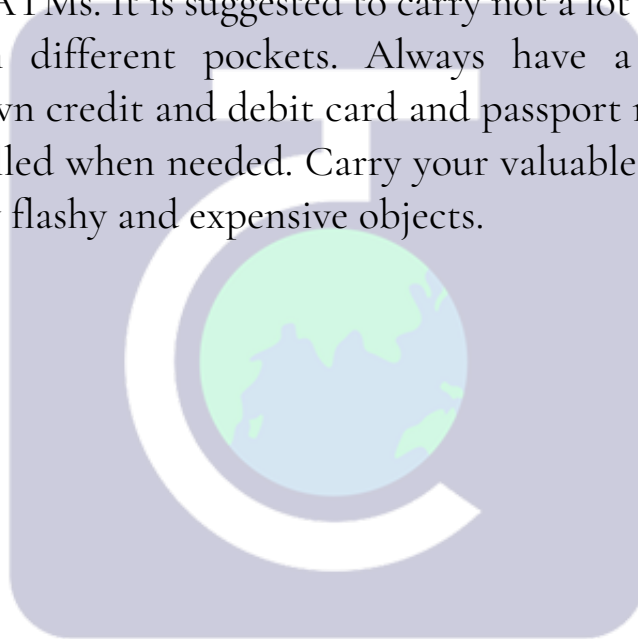
34. Essential vaccination

Tourists travelling to Athens should be vaccinated against measles, mumps and rubella called the MMR vaccine. They should also have the diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine and should also get a shot against chickenpox, polio and flu. Other vaccines include Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B and Rabies. These three vaccines are a must for people travelling from countries other than the US.



35. Theft and Safety

Common cases of theft like pick pocketing may occur in any part of the world, including Athens. Be careful when you are boarding subways or buses. It is always advised to travel light. The lesser bags you have, the lesser vulnerable you are. Always be aware of your surroundings and keep a close watch on your belongings. Be alert when you are taking photographs, or getting on and off escalators and getting money from ATMs. It is suggested to carry not a lot of hard cash and split the money between different pockets. Always have a copy of important documents. Note down credit and debit card and passport numbers, so that they can be quickly cancelled when needed. Carry your valuable documents carefully. Don't carry too many flashy and expensive objects.



Index**36. Embassy/Consulate**

There are many foreign embassies and consulates to be found in Athens since it is a capital city. You can approach them easily. You can find these offices on streets like Sofias Avenue, Filikis Eterias Square, Krinon Street and Genadiou Street. For more info visit <http://embassy.goabroad.com/embassies-in/greece>



Index**37. Accessibility**

Athens has been getting wheelchair friendly over the years. There are special provisions for the disabled in museums. The staffs are helpful and there are special lifts for their help. Wheelchair users can easily travel in buses and subways. There are ramps and other supports provided. Physically challenged people might face a few difficulties here and there considering the topography of the city. But all in all, they have been improving their services constantly.



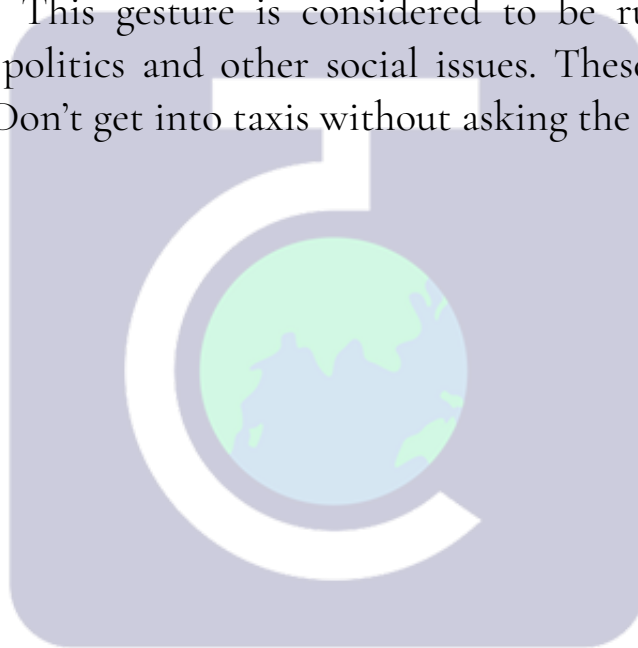
38. Emergencies

Tourists travelling to Athens should get a medical insurance that will cover you abroad. Hospitals that accept foreign medical insurance are mainly located in Athens. Hospitals here might ask for you to pay in full before-hand, while some hospitals might not. If you have any medical history before your trip, it is advised to carry a prescription with you. In case you have a medical emergency, you need to dial 112, for fire service 199 and for contacting the police you need to call 100. Tourists can also dial 171 to reach the Tourist Police.



Index**39. Do's and Don'ts**

Do's • Do keep an open mind and enjoy the amazing Greek cuisine. It is really delicious and famous world wide. • When visiting temples or churches, make sure to cover up and dress conservatively. • It is advised to go around the city on foot to better enjoy the charm and heritage. Don'ts • Since the city is really windy, people are advised to not wear skirts while sightseeing. • Don't put your hand near someone's face. This gesture is considered to be rude. • Steer clear of conversations about politics and other social issues. These are sensitive topics among the Greeks. • Don't get into taxis without asking the charge.



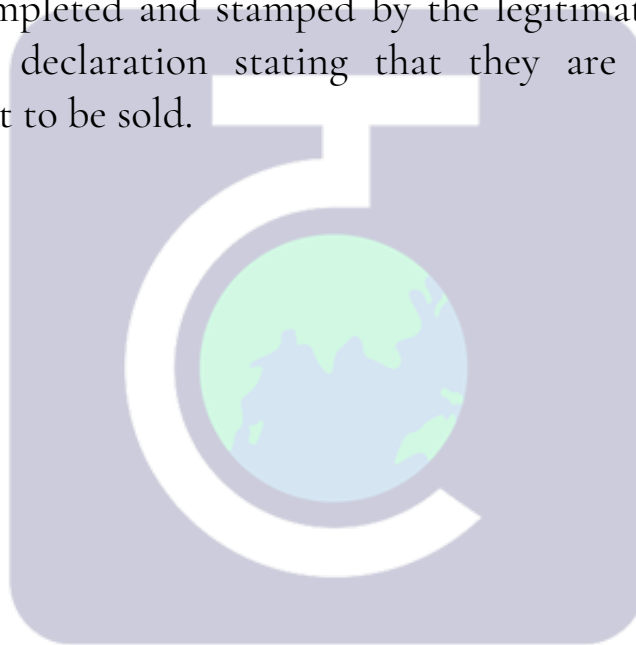
Index**40.Tipping basics**

There is no hard and fast rule about tipping in Athens. It all depends on your personal preferences. You can tip your bellboy who carried your bags or the housekeeper if you are pleased with their services. Giving them a couple of Euros is acceptable. It is better to tip them personally rather than leave it on the table. Most restaurants include a service fee in their bill. So you may want to look out for that. You can also round off the bill and pay it, just like most people do. Taxi drivers are not expected to be tipped, but again, you can round up the fare if you wish to.



Index**41.Pet info**

Pets are allowed into the city only under certain regulations. Pets like dogs and cats should have a microchip inserted. This is to identify them and be in the system. They also should be vaccinated against rabies. Avian pets should be vaccinated against avian influenza H5N1 and they should undergo the isolation test at least 10 days prior to export. Pets of all kinds should have a veterinary certificate to EU completed and stamped by the legitimate body. They should also hold a proper declaration stating that they are solely their owner's responsibility and not to be sold.



Conclusion – Why to select this destination

Athens is the capital city of Greece. But it was a major city during ancient times. This city is every historian's and archaeologist's dream. The city offers a rich heritage and we see its remains and effects even today. Today, we see a unique blend of old and new in this city. The ancient ruins that are preserved for tourists, stands in stark contrast against the modern developments in the city. The city has grown up to be a big metropolitan area with its many roads and shopping areas and other amenities. Even between all the technological developments, the city has not lost its old world charm. With its light buildings and cobblestone paths, the city looks like a part of the fantasy. Every street here has something to offer in terms of culture and history. The major attraction of this capital city has to be its ruins. The things and structures found here rivals all the history in the world. The weather, though hot, just adds to the feel of the city. The people here are loud and polite. They are very affectionate and helpful. It is a city that looks beautiful during the day and even more beautiful at night.

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