



Welcome Host

**Places You Need To
See**



The Parthenon

Even if you don't care about archaeology, you can't come to Athens and not visit the Acropolis and see the Parthenon. Yes I know that there are actually Athenians who have never climbed the steps to see one of the wonders of the ancient world, the reason millions of people come to their city, the spectacular building that symbolizes some of the highest achievements of mankind. But that's no excuse. If you do nothing else on your visit to Athens, this is the one thing you should do. Since you can buy a ticket that allows you to see the other major archaeological sites that day I can free up some of my top ten space since the Odeon of Herodes Atticus, Theater of Dionysus and the Ancient Agora and even Kerameikos are all included among others, in the piece of admission. Oh yeah and don't forget to visit the Acropolis Museum (photo below).





The National Archaeological Museum

It is a 45 minute walk from Syntagma Square but this is one of the greatest museums of the world. You won't find a better collection of ancient Greek sculpture, jewellery, pottery, and the Antikythera Device, a 2000 year old computer found in the shipwreck off the island of Antikithira will have you wondering just how advanced those ancient Greeks actually were. Athens has a lot of museums and depending on your interest you may find another that is more interesting, like if you love coins, the Numismatic Museum or if you like religious icons the Byzantine Museum or if you like weapons the War Museum, if you want to see a continuous history from ancient to modern Greece go to the Benaki Museum or if you are fond of paintings you can drop by National Gallery. But in terms of importance you can't beat the National Archaeological Museum.





The Agora-Athens Central Market

No matter how you feel about fish, meat and vegetables you won't find a more lively place than the Central market on Athinas Street, also known as the Dimotiki Agora (Public Market) or Varvakios Agora. Whether you come early in the morning to watch the trucks unload because you are jet-lagged and suffer from insomnia or you visit between 9am and 1 pm with the majority of the Athenian shoppers, a walk through the market will probably change how you feel about shopping. While you will consider yourself blessed that you booked an apartment with a kitchen so you could join in. The restaurants in the meat/fish market offer decent food at a cheap price at any time of the day or night. The Market is sandwiched between Athinas Street and Aioulou Street, two of the most interesting streets in Athens.

Watch out for your wallet or handbag when wandering through the crowds in the market.

Hidden Taverna Tip:

Inside Agora, on the side of the former Stock Exchange, there is the store of Ares, which has been operating together with his ego family for fifteen years. About ten tables all and everything. Ares serves simple things. Salads, some appetizers and everything else is on time. Meat or fish, whatever you prefer. You will tell me, little by little, the "secret"! And yet, apart from the fact that all the supplies served in this humble tavern are very fresh - as the fisherman and the butcher and the greengrocer are next door, and that the materials run out, the children are thrown away and bought directly so that they are fresh and Spartans - Ares will not refuse to grill you the peskandritsa that you just bought yourself from the market or the crayfish that you liked and took a few minutes ago. He will take good care of you and charge you only with the baked goods, which are nothing between us, it is enough to get any accompaniment from his menu.



Plaka Neighborhood

A walk through one of the oldest neighborhoods in Athens is a must and one of the most pleasurable activities especially in the early evening. There are hundreds of shops from touristic ones to the workshops of some really great artisans. There are several good restaurants where you can sit outside almost year round. There are also some nice little ouzeries that are cozy when it is too cold to sit outside. During summer do not miss out the out-door "Cine Paris" where you can watch a movie on the roof of a building below the lit walls of the Acropolis. There are ancient Greek and Roman ruins scattered around as well as some beautiful 19th century and older buildings and several Byzantine churches. Let's not forget Anafiotika, the neighborhood closest to the stone slope of the Acropolis where you can wander around and feel like you are on an island in the middle of the Aegean instead of being in the middle of a modern city



Recommended places to eat in Plaka

Scholarhio

THE MOST TRADITIONAL RESTAURANT

If you are planning to visit Greece on business or pleasure we have a very interesting proposition for you: Our restaurant is located in the picturesque neighbourhood of Plaka, right under the Acropolis.

You can enjoy your lunch or dinner right before or after your visit to the Parthenon, the museums and the nearest archaeological sites combining it with a wonderful stroll in the picturesque neighbourhood of Plaka.

In our restaurant it works as follows: We bring to your table a large tray with 18-20 different Greek specialities (meat, seafood, fish, vegetarian dishes, salads), you see them, we explain what these dishes are in case you are unfamiliar with them and you keep whatever you like. Prices are between 3 and 8€ per dish.

Tripodon 14, Athina 105 56



Saita

Traditional tavernas in Plaka are a dime a dozen, but truth be told, not many of them are as authentic as they claim to be. Saita is a rare exception. This effortlessly quaint taverna sits on the quieter end of souvenir-lined Kydathineon Street. There are a handful of shaded tables on the pavement, overlooking the courtyard of the Byzantine Metamorphosis church. In the winter, the action moves down to the cosy basement, where Greek comfort food is turned out from the tiny kitchen. Their most famous speciality is bakaliaros skordalia (battered salt cod served with a fierce garlic dip), but everything is delicious. The grilled lamb chops, baked aubergine with feta, and crisp little meatballs are all highly recommended.

21 Kidathineon, Plaka, 105 58



[click here for more places](#)

Recommended places to drink in Plaka



Brettos Plaka

Traditional bar in the heart of Plaka in Greece. Home made traditional Greek spirits and a vast variety of Greek wines

Kidathineon 41, Athina 105 58

Yasemi bistrot

Yiasemi is offering a healthy vegetarian buffet breakfast, featuring fresh, local ingredients turned into home made delicacies every morning on site. The buffet is located inside a vibrant old Athens style hall and is accompanied by pianist Vaya Nassi melodic tunes of international & Greek classical and contemporary composers.

Mnisikleous 23, Athina 105 55



Melina Mercouri Café

The name of Melina Mercouri café is dedicated to the unforgettable Melina Merkouri. Mr. Andreas, a close friend of her for many years after having experienced many events during this friendship, had the deep desire after the necessary approvals and procedures that had to be done, to baptize this wonderful cafe bistrot with her name, as a minimum tribute.

Lisiou 22, Athina 105 56





Monastiraki Flea Market

It is not really a flea market, except for Sunday when people seem to come and lay out their blankets and sell all sorts of stuff that may be junk to you but of real value to someone else. Its worth the experience even if you are just sitting at one of the coffee shops overlooking the ancient agora and the metro tracks on Adrianou Street watching the parade of shoppers, and street musicians or at one of the Souvlaki taverns like Thanasis, Savvas etc that are famous and do worth a try. During the week it is an assortment of tourist shops, clothing stores, fur and jewelry stores dotted with some pretty interesting shops, especially if you like vintage vinyl and rare CDs or really stupid T-shirts. Monastiraki Square is still one of the liveliest squares in Athens and at night it is filled with young people, street vendors and pickpockets.



Recommended places to eat in Monastiraki

"Theta"

Theta is a new all day coffee & cocktail bar ,placed in the most visited street of Athens Monastiraki.With outstanding view of the glorious Acropolis,you can enjoy the most exquisite coffee of the town as well as taste our well made particular signature cocktails.

Adrianou 9,Athina,10555



Bairaktaris

Since 1879 the family Bairaktari opened the first tavern offers its guests traditional Greek hospitality.
bairaktaris-line

For six generations, our restaurants serve the finest dishes of Greek cuisine, made with the best materials, low prices and friendly environment.

Mitropoleos 88, Athina 105 55



Dioskouri

This landmark cafe-restaurant sprawls over the road, overlooking the railway line. On the cafe side (Adrianou 39), tables sit under a huge shade tree that gives the place a traditional village feel. For coffee, ouzo and snacks, it's popular with students – and of course tourists, thanks to its location on this pedestrian street.

Dioskouron 13, Athina 105 55

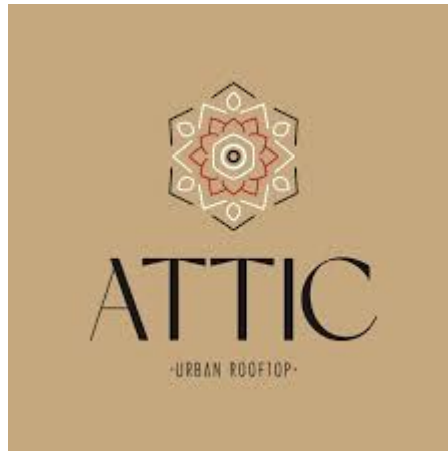
[click here for more places](#)

Recommended places to drink in Monastiraki

ATTIC

Attic located in the heart of Athens most historical center .Enjoy the city from above overlooking the historical sites of Athens

Ermou 86,Athina,10554



T.A.F

T.A.F / the art foundation, one of the most active and creative organizations in the city, opened its doors to the public in May 2009. A team of collaborators discovered an abandoned building in the center of Athens - a unique example of folk architecture - and started an independent cultural project focusing on participatory culture, experimentation and exploration.

Normanou 5, Athina 105 55

Loukoumi Bar

Loukoumi Vintage Bar is situated in an interesting spot in the center of Athens, on Avissinias square, right in the heart of Monastiraki, amongst picturesque antique stores, right next to the first auction shop since 1910 and with a spectacular view of the Acropolis. Loukoumi is not only a bar, but also a reference point in the area and is very popular with the young crowd

Pl. Avissinias 3, Athina 105 55





Psiri Neighborhood

A visitor should not overlook Psiri neighborhood with its small streets and endless coffee shops, restaurants, bars, clubs, theatres and galleries, all within a minute's walk from Athinas and Ermou streets and Monastiraki Square. Join the crowds on a weekend night, you will feel the buzz as you walk past cafes where a hundred people are talking, drinking and eating, or you can find a tiny little cafe on a back street with two or three tables and a guy grilling soupia (cuttlefish) or octopus.



Recommended places to eat in Psiri

Nikitas

If you walk from the square up Agion Anargyron street to the next square there are two or three more ouzeries. Nikitas opposite the church is as reliable, friendly and cheap as any you will find in Athens. One of the last such in Psyri. Nikitas calls itself a psitopolvo but they're really a proper oinomayerio, always with several dishes of the day. Their biftekia aren't bad either. They usually have a good eggplant dish on offer. The outdoor tables are much in demand in fine weather. They are open all day and into the evening.

Ag. Anargiron 19, Athina 105 54



Avli (backyard)

In the historic triangle of Athens there is a small tavern in a backyard called Avli which means 'backyard'. This place is kinda secret. Maybe not anymore. When reaching you will hear voices and of course Greek music. The scenery you will see is like it came from the '60s. Checkered tablecloths, traditional chairs, old photos and a makeshift kitchen create an authentic feeling reminiscent of old Athens.

Agίου Dimitriou 12, Athina 105 54

Serbetospito

Add heading Juicy chocolate pies, hellish strawberry pies, southern kazan dipi and kiounefe, mastic creams, syrupy and all the sherbet (for the tough ones), are comfortable in the most relaxing and sweet Candy Store in Athens.

Pl. Iroon 1, Athina 105 54



[click here for more places](#)

Recommended places to drink in Psiri

Juan Rodriguez

Juan Rodriguez named after a fictional character named Juan Rodriguez, an ex-slave from Panama who managed to break free and escaped to Athens.

The impressive venue is decorated in colonial fashion and everything here is handmade, from the wooden painted walls to the chandeliers

Pallados 3, Athina 105 54



Tranzistor

Tranzistor in Psyri is a focal point for fun, drinks and food. Open all day from 11.00 a.m. to late at night, the atmosphere is casual and laid back, with colorful kites hanging from the ceiling, big tables for easier socializing, and music from the 80?s and 90?s. Situated in an old building from the previous century, Tranzistor serves lunch and dinner, coffee and drinks, at very reasonable prices and hearty portions of food. Organic wine is also available. The place has a unique character and that is the reason it is always busy, with happy people of all ages. Parties, events and presentations are also held on request.

Protogenous 10, Athina 105 54



Little cook

If yre a Disney fan and think you were a strong prince or a stubborn yet charming princess in another life, then you will surely feel at home at Little Kook, a dessert hotspot in Psyri, Athens. With a menu that would make a diabetic cry, Little Kook is a well-known coffee shop and dessert place with a hardcore following. But beyond its delicious cakes and scrumptious pancakes, what makes Little Kook stand out is its fairy-tale-themed interior.

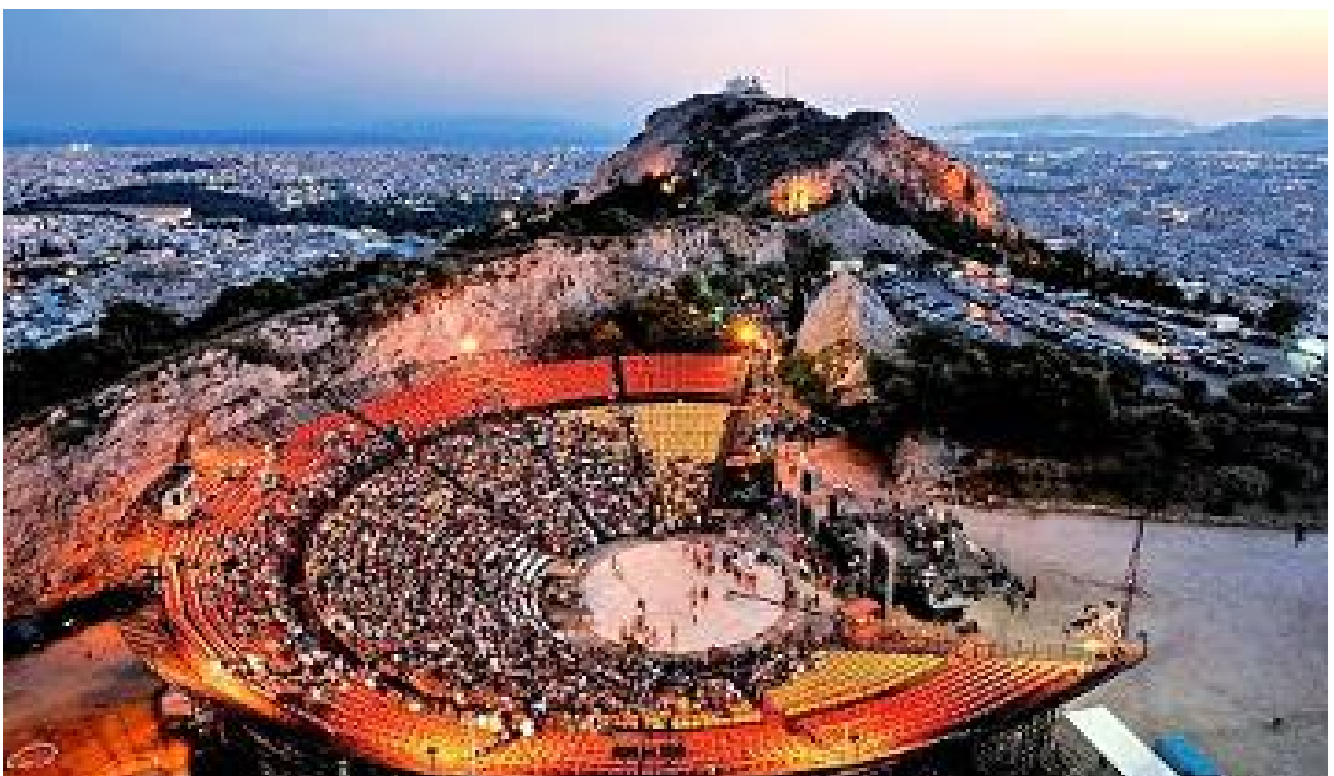
Karaiskaki 17, Athina 105 54





Mount Lycabettus

Maybe you took one look at this green mountain rising out of the center of Athens and said to yourself "I hope there is nothing important up there because I really don't feel like climbing a mountain". There is something important up there. An amazing view. Also a great cafe, not to mention an amphitheatre where you can see such renown acts as Leonard Cohen, Peter Gabriel, James Brown, Bob Dylan and many other acts who visit Greece in the summer. In fact I would say that between Lycabettus and the Odeon of Herodes Atticus below the Acropolis, there isn't a more impressive place to see your favorite band or musician.





The Temple Of Poseidon at Sounion

On a hill overlooking the sea at the very tip of the Attica Peninsula on a spot that could not be more perfect for an ancient site of worship is the Temple of Poseidon, God of the Sea. There is a small beach below the hill as well as a couple of small fish taverns and many more on the way there and back. Suggest that you visit in the late afternoon, see the temple, have a swim and an ouzo together with some mezedes and watch the sunset before going back to the apartment for a quick shower and a nap before hitting the town again for a walk and dinner. OK is not really in Athens but you still need to come here. Its only an hour away by taxi.





Gazi Neighborhood

Getting to Gazi from central Athens is easy and enjoyable, even in a hot summer day. If you are starting at Syntagma Square you walk down Ermou, the main pedestrian shopping street that begins at Syntagma. Just before the intersection at Athinas Street and Monastiraki Square, Ermou becomes a traffic street again for several blocks until it stops at the Byzantine Church of Agion Assomaton. But though Ermou Str has stopped we continue down what used to be the rest of Ermou and is now a park that parallels the metro tracks on one side and the Kerameikos Archaeological Site on the other. When the park ends you are at the Gazi, the old gasworks itself or just take the metro to Kerameikos stop. Gazi is the new cool place to be in Athens, full of restaurants, coffee shops, music, and art by the old city gas-works which has been turned into a museum-cultural center that may be unique in all of Europe. Although Plaka is still the place to drink in gorgeous Acropolis views, after sunset the cosmopolitan Athenian hordes make a beeline for Gazi. If there's one thing that unites the boisterous bars of Gazi it's size. These are no under-the-radar bohemian boîtes, but rather big venues with high ceilings and classy designs that fill up on any given night with the young and well-dressed restless, serenaded by seasoned DJs.





Pireaus

Yeah I guess choosing Pireaus is sort of a cop-out but I think that once you visit all these places I have mentioned and find yourself on a ferry steaming towards the Greek Islands you might agree with me. Also, don't forget to stroll around the picturesque Mikrolimano and Kastella, which form the Athens' Riviera and enjoy eating sea food at one of the restaurants on the pier...



Must SEE....

The National Gardens, an African rain forest in the middle of Athens...

The Temple of Olympian Zeus, the largest of all the Greek temples that took almost a thousand years to complete

The Panathenaic Stadium rebuilt entirely of marble in 1896 for the first modern Olympics, though the stadium was originally built in 330 BC for the Panathenaic contests.

Kerameikos, the ancient cemetery of Athens, or the First Cemetery of Athens one of the most beautiful cemeteries in Europe.

Filopappou and the Hill of the Pnyx, where famous Athenians as Aristides, Demosthenes, Pericles and Themistocles used to speak to the Democratic Assembly in the 5th Century BC...

The Benaki Museum

The list is endless....Have fun during your stay in Athens city and the suburbs!!!!

Hello dear Guests! We're so excited that you've decided to stay at our apartment in Athens.

This guide is designed to help you explore some of our favorite places to eat and drink. The places in this guide have given us lots of great food and drinks and we can't wait to hear you also had a great time with our recommendations.



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