



travelive<sup>TM</sup>

recommendations



## DINING



MICHELIN STAR



FINE DINING



CASUAL DINING



BARS / COCKTAILS / CLUBS / ROOF TOP BARS



## SITES & ACTIVITIES



MUSEUMS



IN THE CITY CENTER



OUTSIDE THE CITY CENTER



## LOCAL ARTISANS & SHOPPING



## GETTING AROUND



## MICHELIN STAR (reservations recommended)

Athens has a vast selection of dining and nightlife options. You are sure to find something for every taste!

- ✕ **Funky Gourmet** - nestled in a Neoclassical building in the heart of Athens, on the corner of Paramithias & Salaminos, in Keramikos with the chef's signature dishes featuring high culinary art and a 'Degustation' menu offering interesting wine pairings. Bookings accepted up to 30 days in advance - **Closed until 2020 when will relocate and currently available for private parties only.**
- ✕ **Varoulko** - a "seaside" restaurant, in the Mikrolimano marina, where Chef Letteris Lazarou draws his inspiration from the sea with an appetizing menu of a variety of seafood dishes. Akti Koumoundourou 52, Mikrolimano, Piraeus
- ✕ **Spondi** - a historical villa with a delightful stone courtyard on Pyronos 5, in Pangrati offering a traditional French haute cuisine menu
- ✕ **Botrini** - a converted school in quiet suburb (Halandri) -now a passionately run restaurant. Modern menu features local produce in creative, attractively presented dishes
- ✕ **Hytra** - located on the 6th floor of the Onassis Cultural Center with the best tables looking toward the Acropolis



## FINE DINING (reservations recommended)

- ✕ **Cookoovaya** - offers wise cuisine, in the sense that it respects the cooking process, ingredients, service and hospitality
- ✕ **CTC [si-ti-si]** - deriving from the Greek noun "σίτιση" (EN: Feeding). ~ was coined in Athens to signify how the classic can meet the modern in an altogether new creative recipe of urban gastronomy
- ✕ **Papadakis** - situated on the steps leading uphill towards Mount Lycabettus, this lovely eatery serves Mediterranean cuisine with modern influences, specializing in fresh seafood dishes from local celebrity chef Argiro Barbarigou
- ✕ **Aleria** - artistic neo-classical building situated in an alternative district in Athens. Modernized Greek cuisine. Local traditional ingredients are processed using state of the art cooking techniques resulting to wonderful dishes
- ✕ **Dinner in the Sky** - a multi-awarded extraordinary culinary proposal that welcomes 22 guests along with our Chefs who are preparing a 6-course menu lifts you up to 40 meters offering a once in a life time experience



## CASUAL DINING

- ✕ **Agora** - on Alexandras Ave. & Vournazou - a classic meeting point for lovers of Greek and Mediterranean cuisine. Agora restaurant is the perfect place from noon until late at night for high quality food and the best drinks
- ✕ **Nice N Easy** - an organic restaurant bistro located on the corner of Omirou 60 & Skoufa, in Kolonaki where contemporary Mediterranean cuisine is served using high quality Farm-To-Table ingredients
- ✕ **Frankie** - the new Italian restaurant from the “nice n easy” group. Rustic and traditional in style but daring in flavor and presentation. Dedicated to sustainable and environmentally conscious cuisine featuring a Sicily-inspired flair
- ✕ **Kuzina** - on Adrianou St in Thession, a place where delicious food is perfectly coupled with the environment in a very inspired mixture of modern and traditional Greek elements
- ✕ **Thanasis** - on Mitropoleos St. in Monastiraki serves excellent gyros, souvlakia, and other grilled meat. Because of its location, you might think it only caters to tourists, but ask most Athenians and they eat there regularly as well. Here is a video in which Jamie Oliver makes souvlakia with the Greeks at this restaurant: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PzAn6vt5Kkk>
- ✕ **Ergon House Athens** - world's first “foodie hotel” in the heart of Athens. Situated at the foot of the Acropolis in the historical heart of Athens, Ergon House is a seventh heaven for food enthusiasts, complete with ‘rooms above the inn’. A spectacular marketplace, a modern-day Agora with a constellation of greengrocers, a butcher's, fishmonger's and bakery, a delicatessen and roastery, along with a bar and restaurant which celebrate the best of Greek cuisine culture. And they have expanded on the unique experience of an epicurean boutique hotel by creating cool common ground in which to cook and lounge, a gym for good conscience, as well as a roof terrace planted with olive trees that has unbeatable views of the city



## BAR / COCKTAILS / CLUBS / ROOF TOP BARS

The bar and wine scene is constantly changing with new exciting venues and including a few of the best bars in the world.

- ✕ **The Clumsies** - Rated the 22nd best bar in the world, The Clumsies combines intimacy with minimalism and great drink
- ✕ **Six d.o.g.s** - concert hall, exhibit space and garden bar - avant garde and favorite for techno scene
- ✕ **Rehab - New Bar** aesthetic and exotic atmosphere with signature cocktails - already has a spot in the "101 World's Best Cocktails"
- ✕ **Baba Au Rum** - a unique local bar specializing in unique cocktails
- ✕ **Heteroclités Cave & Bar** - near Syntagma is a hip new Athenian wine bar which specializes in Greek varietals (such as the dry white, Assyrtiko and spicy red, Xinomavro) and offers wine by the glass from the most innovative and acclaimed local producers
- ✕ **Tailor Made** - on Plateia Agias Eirinis 2, Monastiraki - a micro Roastery & cocktail bar - "First come-First served"
- ✕ **Brettos** - on Kidathineon Street, in Plaka, wine, ouzo and other traditional Greek spirits. Do not miss the hundreds of colorful bottles and lights that decorate the walls of "Brettos", the oldest distillery in Athens - <http://www.brettosplaka.com/history/>
- ✕ **By the Glass** - located directly across from New Hotel. Lovely courtyard and excellent selection of wines
- ✕ **Bar 8 / GB Rooftop Bar** - stunning views, luxury cocktails. On the rooftop of the Grand Bretagne Hotel
- ✕ **Galaxy Restaurant & Bar** - located inside the Hilton hotel, on Vasiliisis Sofias avenue, this rooftop bar serves delicious cocktails and boutique-brand drinks with to hip music and stunning Acropolis and city views from the open-air terrace
- ✕ **360 Cocktail Bar** - above Monastiraki Square is a nice place to enjoy cocktails and the spectacular views of the Acropolis



## MUSEUMS

- ✘ **The Acropolis Museum** - wander amid the plethora of sculptures and pottery discovered on the Acropolis, spanning all eras of this amazing citadel (Open every day throughout the year, except public holidays) - [www.theacropolismuseum.gr/en/content/hours-and-ticketing](http://www.theacropolismuseum.gr/en/content/hours-and-ticketing)
- ✘ **The Benaki Museum** - in Kolonaki, offers a great overview of the different eras in Greek History. (Closed Monday, Tuesday and public holidays). They also have an annex building on Pireos Street that showcases fascinating exhibitions of contemporary art. (Closed on Monday, public holidays and in August) - [www.benaki.gr/index.asp?id=2010101&lang=en](http://www.benaki.gr/index.asp?id=2010101&lang=en)
- ✘ **National Archaeological Museum** - home to the largest collections of ancient artifacts in Greece and not to be missed by history and museum enthusiasts. - (Open Monday to Sunday: 08:00 - 20:00) - [www.namuseum.gr/index-en.html](http://www.namuseum.gr/index-en.html)
- ✘ **Museum of Cycladic Art** - focuses on the unique marble figures discovered in ancient Cycladic island tombs. (Closed Tuesdays and public holidays) [www.cycladic.gr/frontoffice/portal.asp?cpage=NODE&cnode=170&clang=1](http://www.cycladic.gr/frontoffice/portal.asp?cpage=NODE&cnode=170&clang=1)
- ✘ **Byzantine and Christian Museum** - exhibits religious artifacts of the Early Christian, Byzantine, Medieval, post-Byzantine and later periods. (Closed Mondays) <http://www.byzantinemuseum.gr/en/museum/>
- ✘ **Numismatic Museum** - located in a beautiful, ornate 1800s Neoclassical building and home to objects and coins dating from the 14th century BC to present. (Closed Monday) - [http://www.enma.gr/mus\\_gen\\_en.htm](http://www.enma.gr/mus_gen_en.htm)



## IN THE CITY CENTER

- ✘ **The Acropolis** - the famous ancient citadel located on a high rocky outcrop above the city of Athens and containing the remains of several ancient buildings of great architectural and historic significance, the most famous being the Parthenon. (Included in most tours)  
**Surrounding archeological sites** - Ancient Agora, Roman Agora, Keramikos, and Temple of Olympian Zeus
- ✘ **Pnyx Hill** - site of the ancient Athens assembly, you can still see the platform and the hill offers panoramic views of the city
- ✘ **The Panathenaic Stadium** - home of the first Modern Olympic Games in 1896. If it's not a priority to go inside, visit in the late afternoon when the tour buses have left and the sunset gives it a beautiful glow. Special note for runners: head round to the back where there is a free entrance to a U-shaped track at the top of the hill



## IN THE CITY CENTER

- ✕ **Plaka** - the old neighborhood of Athens located at the foot of the Acropolis. Enjoy the narrow streets, neoclassical buildings, stores and restaurants. Also, see a number of street performers
  - ✕ **Syntagma Square** - the heart of the modern city and located near many of Athens' ancient and most famous neighborhoods and tourist attractions
  - ✕ **Changing of the Guards** - held every hour outside the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier
  - ✕ **Lycabettus Hill** - take a beautiful walk (or funicular ride) up the hill where you can enjoy panoramic views of the city
  - ✕ **Metro stations** - each station in the city center is a mini archeological museum displaying artifacts found during their construction. Check out Syntagma, Acropolis, Monastiraki and Panepistimio stations
  - ✕ **Greek Dancing** - a company of 75 dancers, musicians and folk singers of the Dora Stratou Greek Dance Theater perform at the garden theatre located on Philopappou Hill, opposite the Acropolis (2016 Schedule: 25 May to 25 September, Wed-Fri at 21:30, Sat & Sun at 20:15, Mon & Tues closed) Closed also 10-14 August
  - ✕ **Central Market** - Athens' largest food market selling fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, herbs and much more. (Open Mon-Sat from 08:00 - 18:00)
  - ✕ **Coffee Culture** - Greece has a rich coffee culture. Relax at a local cafe where you can enjoy a coffee pick me up and people watch with locals. We recommend De Capo in Kolonaki
  - ✕ **Neoclassical Buildings** such as the National Library, the University of Athens and the Academy on Panepistimiou Street
  - ✕ **Dionysiou Areopagitou and Apostolou Pavlou** - the pedestrian streets encircling the Acropolis, best atmosphere in the late afternoon or early evening when the locals take their "volta" (stroll)
  - ✕ **Stavros Niarchos Foundation Culture Center** - a multifunctional, environmentally sustainable center of education, arts, sports and recreation
- Athens is a vibrant city with plenty of events, concerts, special exhibits and festivals to enjoy. For special events and performances during your stay, check [www.mydestination.com/athens/events/73/all-athens-events](http://www.mydestination.com/athens/events/73/all-athens-events)
- ✕ **Athens & Epidaurus Festival 2019** - a summer festival featuring world-famous artists, cutting edge productions and world premieres



## OUTSIDE THE CITY CENTER

Many visitors don't know about the Athenian Riviera. If you want to venture down to Vouliagmeni and Varkiza, you can experience a stunning coastline that remains largely unspoiled. There are plenty of beaches, dining, and shopping options for you there. You may also want to pay a visit to Vouliagmeni Lake or Cape Sounion. A bit closer to the city center, but still on the coast is the vibrant Marina Flisvos, where there is a beautiful promenade along the waterfront. Enjoy a number of dining experiences, relax at cafes or visit the outdoor cinema.

- ✕ **Astir Beach** - located next to the new Fours Season, offering organized beach area with onsite dining options
- ✕ **Island Club & Restaurant** - Located on the Athenian Riviera. Athenian hot spot. <http://www.islandclubrestaurant.gr/>
- ✕ **Akrotiri Club & Restaurant** - larger club / restaurant located on the Athenian Riviera. <http://www.akrotirilounge.gr/>
- ✕ **Margi Farm** - Margi Boutique Hotel expands their service to Margi Farm located in Experience an authentic and organic Greek Farm dinner in a beautiful natural environment. Each menu is carefully selected by our chef and based on the vegetables in season. Get cooking tips and enjoy a journey of food and wine. Located in Saronikos about 20 km south of Vouliagmeni
- ✕ **Athens & Epidaurus Festival 2019** - a summer festival featuring world-famous artists, cutting edge productions and world premieres



## LOCAL ARTISANS &amp; SHOPPING

- ✕ **Melissinos Sandals** - Known locally as the “poet sandal maker of Athens”, this multi-generational family of shoemakers has been constructing sandals for the stars since 1927. Located near the Monastiraki flea market
- ✕ **Savapile** - has been creating hand-sewn straw hats for over 40 years, most recently adding Panamas to their collection. Located near the Monastiraki flea market
- ✕ **Pegasus** - is a wonderland of handcrafted instruments, such as the traditional bouzouki, the Cretan Lyra and the baglamas, made of orange tree wood. Located near the Monastiraki flea market
- ✕ **Ioanna Kourbela** (with two shops, at Adrianou 109 and Hatzimichali 12; [ioannakourbela.com](http://ioannakourbela.com)) who designs elegant minimalist-chic clothing made from natural materials, and also has stores in New York, Sydney and Prague
- ✕ **Bahar** (Evripidou 31; [bahar.gr](http://bahar.gr)) is a great place to buy dried herbs, traditional Greek mountain tea and ground spices, such as paprika, cinnamon and nutmeg





## LOCAL ARTISANS &amp; SHOPPING

- ✘ **Forget Me Not:** If you're looking for nice gifts, must haves with cool designs and special clothing brands, Forget Me Not is the place to be. PS. The post cards are super cute! Adrianou St. 100, Athens, Greece
- ✘ **Lithos** by Michelle Michele who is from Michigan and designs her jewelry then has excellent artisans create it. The results are stunning Mirtopoleos 20, Syntagma Square  
  
For herb-scented toiletries with funky Greek writing on the bottles, visit:
- ✘ **Korres pharmacy** (Erastosthenous and Ivikou; korres.com) in Pangrati, where this internationally recognized company was born
- ✘ **Apivita** Experience Store (Solonos 6; apivita.com) in Kolonaki showcases Apivita natural beauty products and also has a day spa
- ✘ **Mastiha Shop** (Panepsitimou 6 & Kreizotou; mastihashop.com) near Syntagma, which specialises in therapeutic potions containing mastic from the island of Chios. Mastiha Shop, Apivita and Korres all have stores in Athens Airport for any last-minute purchases
- ✘ **To Pantapoleion** (Sofokleous 1 & Aristeidou 11) stocks wine, olive oil, honey, and a horde of other Greek delicacies, made by the new wave of small producers who concentrate on quality rather than quantity
- ✘ **Olive Tree** (Adrianou 67; facebook.com/Olivetreeathens) stocking their own hand-crafted kitchen utensils, made from aged olive trees from Corfu, beautifully sanded and polished, with swirly grains
- ✘ **LaLaounis** - the iconic jeweler with shops on Athens, New York and London. Offering luxurious jewellery-artwork



## GETTING AROUND

- ✘ **Taxi** - Taxis are a great option. They are metered and relatively inexpensive. If you have data on your smart phone while traveling, consider downloading the taxibeat app
- ✘ **Metro** - The metro system in Athens is also very easy to navigate. Each stop is like a mini-museum with archaeological finds on display that were found during the excavations

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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happy travels!

