

IASIA 2026 CONFERENCE

12-16 October Athens, Greece

Rethinking Governance
for a Changing World

IASIA 2026 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Participant's Guide

*Rethinking Governance
for a Changing World*

Athens, Greece
12-16 October 2026



IASIA 2026 • WELCOME TO

Athens



STAY CONNECTED

Free Wi-Fi at the venue

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to join the EKDDA guest network automatically.

Need help connecting? Ask our team at the registration desk.

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Practical information for participants

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01

Welcome to Athens

“

As we rethink governance for a changing world, investing in people, skills and innovation is essential to building public administrations that are resilient, effective and responsive to citizens.

Vivi Charalaboyianni · Deputy Minister of the Interior, Greece



The National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government (EKDDA) welcomes you to the Annual Conference of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA), to be held in Greece under the theme:

“Rethinking Governance for a Changing World”

This international event represents a valuable opportunity to collectively reflect on current challenges in public administration, the role of innovation in governance, and the importance of training present and future public servants with an ethical, inclusive vision aimed at the common good.

02

Practicalities

Key facts about the conference at a glance

	Dates	12-16 October 2026
	City	Athens, Greece
	Venue	National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government (EKDDA)
	Organizers	IASIA Secretariat and Local Organizing Committee at EKDDA
	Registration desk	Main entrance of the conference venue · open 08:30-17:00 on conference days
	Badges	Must be worn at all times during sessions, official events and social activities
	Contact email	info@iasia-conference2026.org · ekdd@ekdd.gr



DURING THE CONFERENCE

Keep your badge on

Sessions · official events · social activities

03

Contacts

Get in touch with the IASIA team and EKDDA

	IASIA Secretariat	info@iasia-conference2026.org
	EKDDA Reception	ekdd@ekdd.gr
	Telephone	+30 213 130 6249-331
	Address	211 Peiraios Street & 2 Thrace St., 177 78 Tavros, Athens

DURING THE CONFERENCE

Our team is available at the registration desk, at the main entrance of the conference venue — open 08:30-17:00 on conference days.

ORGANISED BY



04

Meeting Venue

National Centre for Public Administration & Local Government (EKDDA)



ADDRESS

**211 Peiraios Street & 2 Thrace St.,
177 78 Tavros, Athens**

[Open in Google Maps >](#)

Getting to EKDDA by public transport



By bus

- Bus 049: Omonoia - Tavros stop
- Bus 914: Omonoia - Tavros stop
- Bus 815: Goudi - Vas. Sofias - Panepistimiou - Omonoia - Tavros stop



By train

- Tavros Station, about a 12-minute walk from the venue



By metro

- Kerameikos station, then any of the buses listed along Piraeos Street

05

Opening Ceremony



VENUE

Athens Concert Hall

Megaron Mousikis

Dimitris Mitropoulos Hall

ADDRESS

Vasilissis Sofias & Petrou Kokkali,
Athens

DATE & TIME

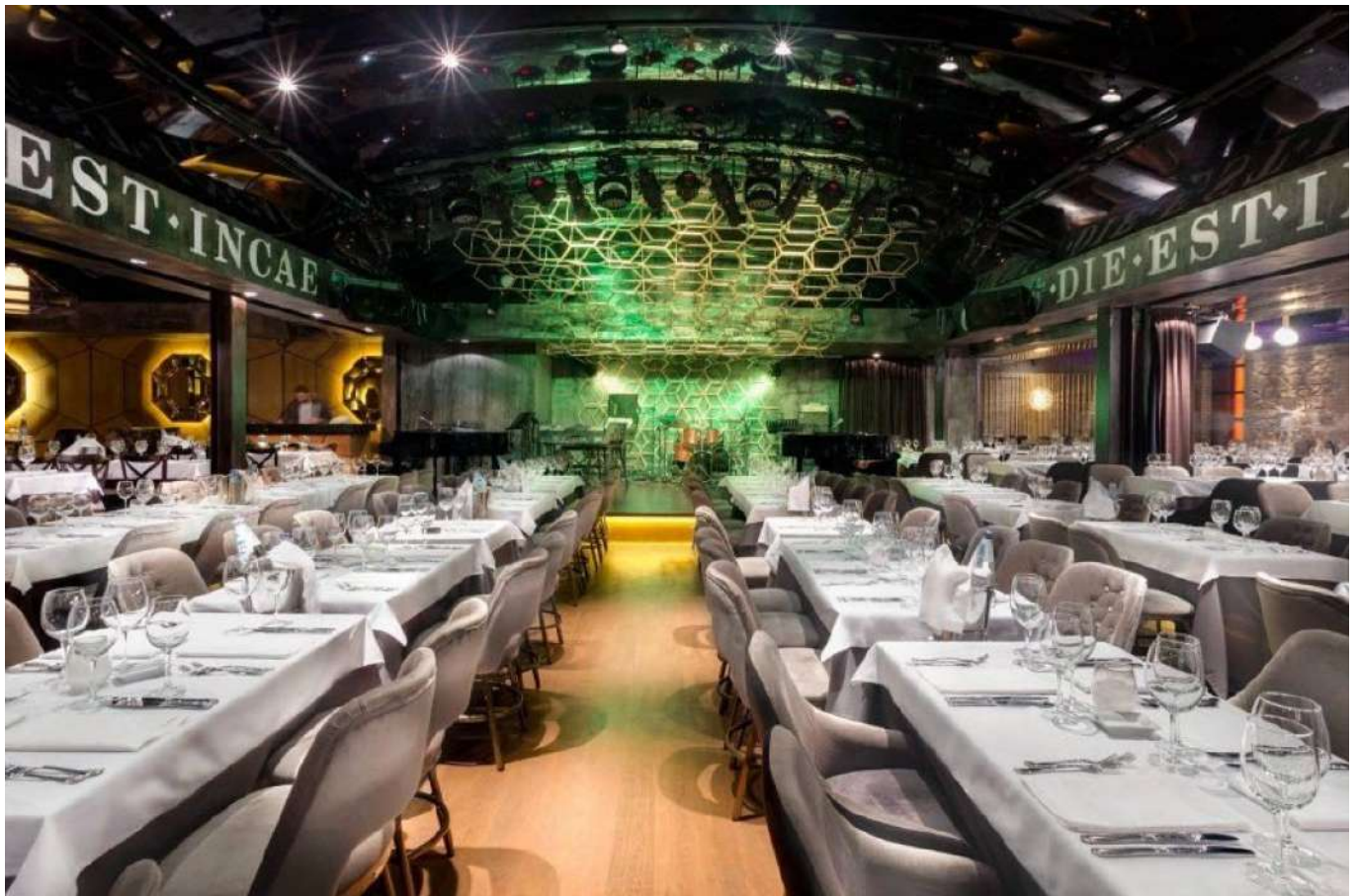
Wednesday, 14 October 2026
09:00

GETTING THERE

Metro: Megaro Mousikis
Line 3 • two stops from Syntagma

06

Gala Dinner



VENUE

Baraonda

Music Hall · Restaurant & Bar

Ambelokipi, Athens

ADDRESS

Tsocha 43, Athina 115 21

DATE & TIME

Wednesday, 14 October 2026
19:00

GETTING THERE

Metro: Ambelokipi (Line 3)
One stop from Megaro Mousikis

Dress code: formal or business attire · Please bring your conference badge.

07

Acropolis Excursion

A journey through ancient Athens



An unforgettable experience and the highlight of any stay in Athens. Please note that **the site and the Museum are separate attractions and require separate admission tickets.**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE

The Acropolis

Home to some of the most iconic monuments of classical Greece, including the Parthenon, the Erechtheion, the Propylaea and the Temple of Athena Nike.

 **Opening hours (October)**
1-15 Oct: 08:00-18:30 · last entry 18:00
16-31 Oct: 08:00-18:00 · last entry 17:30

 **Admission & timed entry**
Entry is for the specific time slot on your ticket. Please arrive at the entrance at least 30 minutes before your scheduled time.



Official tickets
Scan to buy on Hellenic Heritage
tickets.hh.gr

MUSEUM

The Acropolis Museum

Located at the foot of the Acropolis, one of the world's most important archaeological museums, with exceptional sculptures and artefacts found on and around the rock.

 15 Dionysiou Areopagitou Street, Athens

 **Opening hours (October)**
Mon 09:00-17:00 · Tue-Thu 09:00-20:00
Fri 09:00-22:00 · Sat-Sun 09:00-20:00
Last admission 30 minutes before closing

 **General admission: €20**
Online tickets for a specific date and time; show them on your phone or printed.

 **Free of charge digital guide (Smartify)**
Audio tours (1 h or 2 h) and exhibit info in English.
Note: You need to bring your own headphones!



Official website
Scan for visitor information and tickets
theacropolismuseum.gr

GOOD TO KNOW



Separate tickets
The site and the Museum each need their own ticket



Comfortable footwear
Non-slip shoes for uneven, sometimes slippery surfaces



Sun protection
Sunglasses, sunscreen and a hat for daytime visits



Water
Carry a bottle of water, especially on warmer days



Timing
Allow about 1.5-2 hours each for the site and the Museum



Accessibility
Some areas are uneven and steep; check the official accessibility information

For a guided tour of the museum, please contact the Hellenic Association of Certified Tour Guides.
Tel.: +30 21 0322 0090 | <https://www.tourist-guides.gr/el>

08

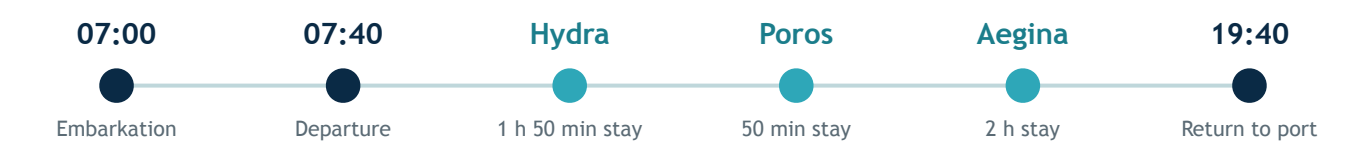
Argosaronic Gulf Excursion

Friday, 16 October 2026 • A day cruise to Hydra, Poros & Aegina



A daily cruise from Athens to three gems of the Saronic Gulf, organised by **Evermore Cruises & Hydraiki N.C.** Enjoy sun, sea, Greek hospitality and live entertainment on board, with guests from all over the world. The company is a Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice Award winner (2023, 2024 & 2025).

THE DAY AT A GLANCE



PORTS OF CALL

Hydra

A cosmopolitan island of cobblestone alleys and unspoiled architecture, where donkeys are still used for transport. Take a walk to discover its landmarks.

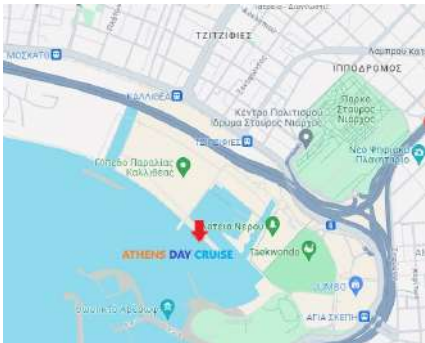
Poros

A leafy, romantic and calm island of outstanding natural beauty, with thousands of lemon trees stretching from steep slopes to sandy beaches.

Aegina

Named after the nymph abducted by Zeus, Aegina is famous for its pistachios, beautiful beaches, the Temple of Aphaia and St Nektarios Cathedral.

DEPARTURE PORT



Marina Delta Kallithea

Embarkation 07:00
Departure 07:40
Return: 19:40

YOUR CRUISE TICKET INCLUDES

- ✓ Visit to Hydra, Poros and Aegina
- ✓ Lunch buffet on board
- ✓ Live music and folklore show
- ✓ Port taxes

Optional, at extra charge

Transport to the port, breakfast on board and shore excursions: Hydra walking tour; Temple of Aphaia & St Nektarios Cathedral; Aegina panoramic bus tour; swimming escape or walking tour in Aegina.



Athens Day Cruise
Scan for more information
athensdaycruise.gr

What to wear: comfortable clothes and shoes, a light jacket, sun protection • Times are estimates.

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Introducing EKDDA

Our host institution



WHO WE ARE

The National Centre for Public Administration and Local Government (EKDDA) is the national strategic organization for the development of the human resources of the Hellenic Public Administration and Local Government.

OUR HISTORY

EKDDA was established in 1983 and is a legal entity under public law, supervised by the Minister of the Interior.

OUR VISION

The vision of EKDDA is to contribute to the development of an effective administration by ensuring high quality services for citizens. Its mission is the continuous upgrading of the human resources of the Greek Public Administration through lifelong education and certified training for a more reliable and effective State that serves the interests of the citizen. It is also about the modernization of the Greek public sector and its agencies through research, documentation and innovation.

We believe that the most valuable asset of Public Administration is its human resources: civil servants, seen as the ambassadors of the public service core values – respect of human dignity, transparency, accountability, knowledge, innovation and public interest service.



Visit the EKDDA website

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera to learn more about our vision and mission.
www.ekdd.gr

Conference rooms



Auditorium “Kosmas Psychopaidis”

ENTRANCE LEVEL



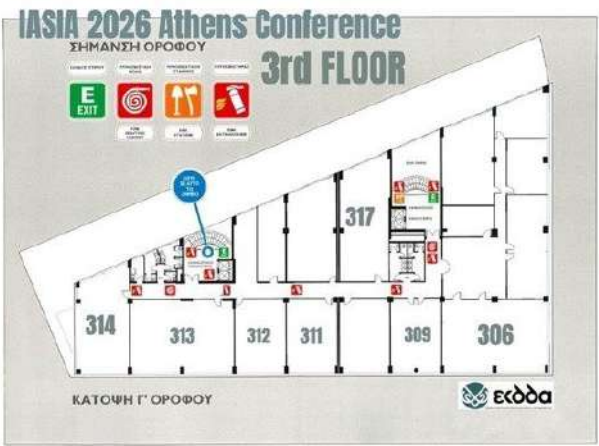
Room 305

3RD FLOOR

Floor plans



1st floor



3rd floor · Room 305

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Dress Code

Dear guests,

To ensure that the atmosphere reflects the significance of the event, we kindly request that participants attend the conference sessions and official events in formal or business attire.

Your cooperation will contribute to making the event a professional and memorable experience for all.

The Organizing Team



CONFERENCE SESSIONS & OFFICIAL EVENTS



Conference sessions
Formal or business attire



Official events
Formal or business attire

EXCURSIONS • ACROPOLIS & ARGOSARONIC GULF



Comfortable wear

Comfortable clothing and shoes suitable for walking and sightseeing



Light layer

A light jacket or cardigan, as temperatures may vary



Sun protection

Sunglasses and sunscreen for the sightseeing and the boat trip

WEATHER DURING THE CONFERENCE WEEK • 12-16 OCTOBER 2026



21-26 °C
Daytime highs



15-19 °C
Evening and night lows



Sunny
Mostly sunny, brief showers possible

Forecast for Athens as published on 6 October 2026. Conditions can change, so please check the forecast again before each excursion.

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About Greece

Greece, officially the Hellenic Republic, is located in southeastern Europe, at the crossroads of Europe, Asia and Africa. Known as the cradle of Western civilization, it is famous for its ancient history, rich culture, stunning landscapes, idyllic islands and superb food.

	Capital	Athens
	Population	Approx. 10.5 million
	Language	Greek — English is widely spoken in urban and tourist areas, and many signs are translated
	Government	Parliamentary Republic
	EU & Schengen	Greece is a member of both



Weather & Useful Phrases

What to expect in October, and a few words for everyday life

WEATHER IN OCTOBER

22-25 °C

Daytime highs

≈15 °C

Evening and night lows

5-7

Rainy days in the month

≈22 °C

Sea temperature

Typical values for Athens in October. Conditions vary, so check the forecast before you travel.

	Days	Warm and sunny, with plenty of daylight. Light clothing and sunglasses are enough.
	Evenings	Noticeably cooler after sunset. A light jacket or sweater is a good idea.
	Showers	Rain is occasional and usually brief. A compact umbrella or light rain jacket will do.
	Across Greece	The north (e.g. Thessaloniki) is a few degrees cooler; Crete and the southern islands stay warmest.

USEFUL GREEK PHRASES

Γεια σας

YAH sas

Hello (polite, or to several people)

Ναι · Όχι

NEH · OH-hee

Yes · No

Καλημέρα

kah-lee-MEH-rah

Good morning

Συγγνώμη

sig-NO-mee

Sorry · Excuse me

Καλησπέρα

kah-lee-SPEH-rah

Good evening

Μιλάτε αγγλικά;

mee-LAH-teh ang-lee-KAH

Do you speak English?

Παρακαλώ

rah-rah-kah-LO

Please · You're welcome

Πόσο κάνει;

PO-so KAH-nee

How much is it?

Ευχαριστώ

ef-hah-ree-STO

Thank you

Στην υγειά μας!

steen ee-YAH mas

Cheers!

Capital letters mark the stressed syllable. Γεια σας works for both “hello” and “goodbye”.

Practical information

Water, money and electricity

	Water	Tap water is generally safe in Athens and large cities; bottled water is recommended on many islands
	Currency	Euro (€)
	Costs	Similar prices to other European capitals
	Payment	Credit cards (Mastercard & Visa) are widely accepted. Cash is useful in small businesses – withdraw from bank ATMs and choose to be charged in euros
	Voltage	230 V / 50 Hz
	Plug types	C and F



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Immigration Requirements

Foreign participants wishing to enter Greece must present a valid passport or national identity card, in accordance with their nationality and European Union regulations.

Participants may also be required to demonstrate the purpose of their visit, such as conference participation, and provide supporting documentation including accommodation reservations or return tickets. Immigration requirements are verified by the competent authorities upon entry into the country.



Official visa information

[Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs — Visas for foreigners travelling to Greece >](#)



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Arrival & Transportation

From Athens International Airport “Eleftherios Venizelos” (ATH)



The airport is approximately 33 km (20 miles) from the city centre. Several convenient options are available to reach downtown Athens or your hotel:



Metro

LINE 3 (BLUE)

- Direct connection to the city centre
- Key stops: Syntagma, Monastiraki, Evangelismos
- Approx. 40 min to Syntagma
- Runs 06:10-23:30, every 30 min
- €9 one-way · €16 round trip
- Station reached by pedestrian bridge from the terminal



Express buses

RUNNING 24/7

- X95: Airport - Syntagma Square
- X96: Airport - Piraeus Port
- X93: Airport - Intercity bus stations (Kifisos / Liosion)
- 40-60 min depending on traffic
- €5.50 flat fare, one-way
- Tickets at the airport kiosk or on board (cash only)



Taxi

AVAILABLE 24/7

- Designated taxi rank outside the Arrivals Level
- Flat fare to the city centre:
- €40 (05:00-24:00)
- €55 (00:00-05:00)
- Fare includes tolls, luggage and VAT

Getting around: the Athens Metro

Fast, efficient and affordable

Athens has a well-connected public transportation system that includes the metro, buses, trolleybuses, trams and suburban railway. The metro has three lines, with trains approximately every 5-10 minutes from 05:30 to 00:30 (later on weekends).



[Official network map: STASY \(Athens Urban Rail\) >](#)

Buses, trams, trains & taxis



Buses & trolleybuses

Operated by OASA, buses and trolleybuses cover nearly every area of the city. Service runs from early morning (around 05:00) until midnight, and some night buses are available on major routes.



Tram

The Athens Tram connects the city centre with the southern coastal suburbs, including Glyfada and Voula — ideal for a scenic ride to the sea.



Suburban railway (Proastiakos)

Useful for reaching Athens Airport, Piraeus port and cities such as Koropi or Ancient Corinth. Less frequent than the metro, but convenient for certain routes.



Taxis & ride-hailing

Yellow taxis are available at fair prices all over the city. Authorized airport taxis and ride-hailing applications such as Uber and FreeNow are also available.



Public transport tickets



Ticket types & prices

A single ticket costs €1.20 and covers metro, bus, trolleybus and tram for 90 minutes. A 24-hour pass is €4.10, and a 5-day pass €8.10. Metro to/from the airport is €9 one-way; the airport express bus is €5.50.



Where to buy

Ath.ena tickets and cards are sold at vending machines inside metro and tram stations, and at staffed OASA ticket kiosks and booths across the city.



Tap to pay

Skip the machine: tap a contactless Visa or Mastercard, or Apple Pay/Google Pay, directly at the validator on metro gates, buses and trams — same fares, with a €4.10 daily cap.



Remember to validate

Always validate your ticket, card or device before boarding. Inspectors carry out random checks, and travelling without a validated ticket can result in an on-the-spot fine.

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Staying Connected

Internet access and useful apps during your stay

Internet & mobile data

Wi-Fi is widely available in hotels, cafés and restaurants across the country. Many public spaces and transportation hubs also offer free Wi-Fi.

If you are European: Greece is an EU Member State, so EU roaming rules apply – you pay no additional charges to use your mobile phone.

If you are not European: consider a local SIM card or an eSIM for a 4G/5G connection (e.g. Holafly, Airalo or eSIM.sm). Expect to pay between 5 and 30 USD for a week.



Useful applications



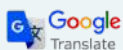
Google Maps

Navigation, public transport information and real-time traffic updates



Visit Greece

The official app of the Ministry of Tourism – a useful tool for visitors in Greece



Google Translate

Text, voice and image translation to help you communicate



Uber / FreeNow

On-demand transportation services

15

Recommended Hotels

Four- and three-star hotels in central Athens

Four-star hotels offer special conference rates. Three-star hotels are well-reviewed, budget-friendly options: please book these directly with the hotel.



The Athenian Callirhoe Exclusive Hotel



Kallirrois 32, Athens 117 43



+30 210 921 5353



[Visit website >](#)



Candia Hotel Athens



Th. Diligiannis 40, Athens 104 38



+30 210 524 6112



[Visit website >](#)



Titania Hotel Athens



Panepistimiou 52, Athens 106 78



+30 210 332 6000



[Visit website >](#)



Airotel Parthenon Hotel



6 Makri, Athens 117 42



+30 210 923 4594



reservations@airotel.gr



[Visit website >](#)



Jason Inn



12 Ag. Assomaton, Athens 105 53



+30 210 325 1106



[Visit website >](#)



Athens Center Square Hotel



15 Aristogitonos, Athens 105 52



+30 210 321 1770



[Visit website >](#)



Hermes Hotel



19 Apollonos, Athens 105 57



+30 210 323 5514



[Visit website >](#)



Philippos Hotel



3 Mitseon, Athens 117 42



+30 210 922 3611



[Visit website >](#)

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Emergency Numbers

112

EUROPEAN EMERGENCY NUMBER

Free of charge, 24/7. English-speaking operators are available.



100

Police



166

Ambulance



199

Fire Brigade

Nearest hospitals



ΓΕΝΙΚΟ ΝΟΣΟΚΟΜΕΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
Ο ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΜΟΣ

Evangelismos General Hospital

[Website >](#)



Metropolitan General

[Website >](#)



ΟΜΙΛΟΣ ΙΑΤΡΙΚΟΥ
ΑΘΗΝΩΝ

Athens Medical Group

[Website >](#)

17

Places to Visit



THE SACRED ROCK

The Acropolis

The Acropolis of Athens is a must-visit for history enthusiasts, art lovers and anyone intrigued by ancient mythology. This rocky hill has been inhabited since the 4th millennium BC. The buildings that still stand today were constructed under the direction of Pericles in the 5th century BC. The Parthenon, the Temple of Athena Nike, the Propylaea and others are the remnants of the Golden Age of Greece. The Parthenon dominates the Acropolis: one of the most recognizable and imitated buildings in the world, it was built to honour the goddess Athena Parthenos, patron of Athens, and is considered the most important surviving building of Classical Greece.



Opening hours

1-15 Oct: 08:00-18:30
16-31 Oct: 08:00-18:00
Last entry 30 min before closing



Tickets

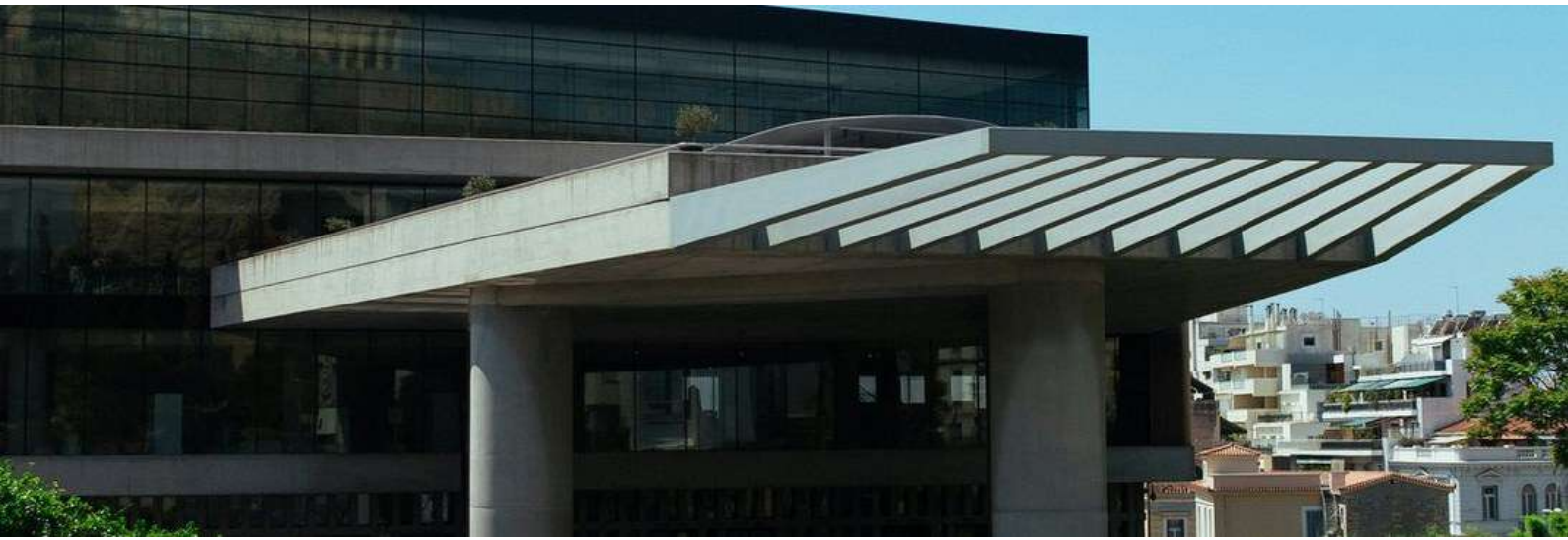
€30 · reduced €15
Timed entry: arrive 30 min early
Separate from the Museum ticket



Getting there

Metro: Akropoli (Line 2)
Main entrance on Dionysiou
Areopagitou Street

Joining the conference excursion? Practical details and tips are on page 10.



TREASURES OF THE SACRED ROCK

The Acropolis Museum

The Acropolis Museum is the ultimate sanctuary for the treasures unearthed from the sacred rock. Designed by Bernard Tschumi, its modern glass structure creates a breathtaking dialogue between the ancient ruins and the contemporary city. Inside, visitors can marvel at the original Caryatids and walk through the Parthenon Gallery, where the temple's frieze is displayed in its original orientation, under the same Mediterranean light that illuminated it thousands of years ago. It is not just a museum, but a bridge across time that breathes life into the spirit of Classical Greece.



Opening hours

Tue-Sun 09:00-20:00

Mon 09:00-17:00

Fri 09:00-22:00

Last entry 30 min before closing



Tickets

€20 · reduced €10

Includes the excavation beneath the Museum

Timed online tickets available



Getting there

Metro: Akropoli (Line 2)

15 Dionysiou Areopagitou Street

Don't miss: the original Caryatids and the Parthenon Gallery on the top floor.



THE “NEIGHBOURHOOD OF THE GODS”

Plaka

Nestled at the foot of the Acropolis, Plaka is the most historic and charming district of Athens. Often called the “Neighbourhood of the Gods”, it offers a unique journey through time with its maze of narrow cobblestone streets, neoclassical mansions and ancient ruins. Visitors can explore the island-like alleys of Anafiotika, discover hidden Byzantine churches, or enjoy a coffee at one of its many traditional cafés. Just a short walk from the city’s major hotels, Plaka is the perfect place to experience the authentic atmosphere and timeless beauty of Athens.



WHERE THE HEART OF THE CITY BEATS

Monastiraki

Monastiraki lies on the north side of the Acropolis, and it is where the heart of the city beats. Its bustling flea markets, historic sites such as the Roman Agora and Hadrian's Library, picturesque churches, the popular shopping street of Ermou and traditional Greek restaurants create a blend of centuries and cultures. There is also a great variety of cocktail bars offering wonderful views. Did you know? "Monastiraki" means "little monastery", and the area owes its name to the Church of Panagia Pantanassa.



THE HEART OF THE CITY

Syntagma Square

Syntagma Square is the most central area in Athens. Often considered the heart of the city, it is perfect for sightseeing. The origin of its name has an interesting history: on the night of 3 September 1843, a demonstration started right in front of the palace, as soldiers and members of the public gathered on the square demanded that King Otto grant them a Constitution – Syntagma in Greek. Today you can visit the National Gardens and the Old Royal Palace, a neoclassical building that now houses the Greek Parliament. Every hour, the changing of the guard ceremony takes place in front of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, between Syntagma Square and the Parliament building. On certain days, at 11:00, the ceremony includes an army band and the majority of the 120 Evzones.



EUROPE'S LEADING PASSENGER PORT

Piraeus

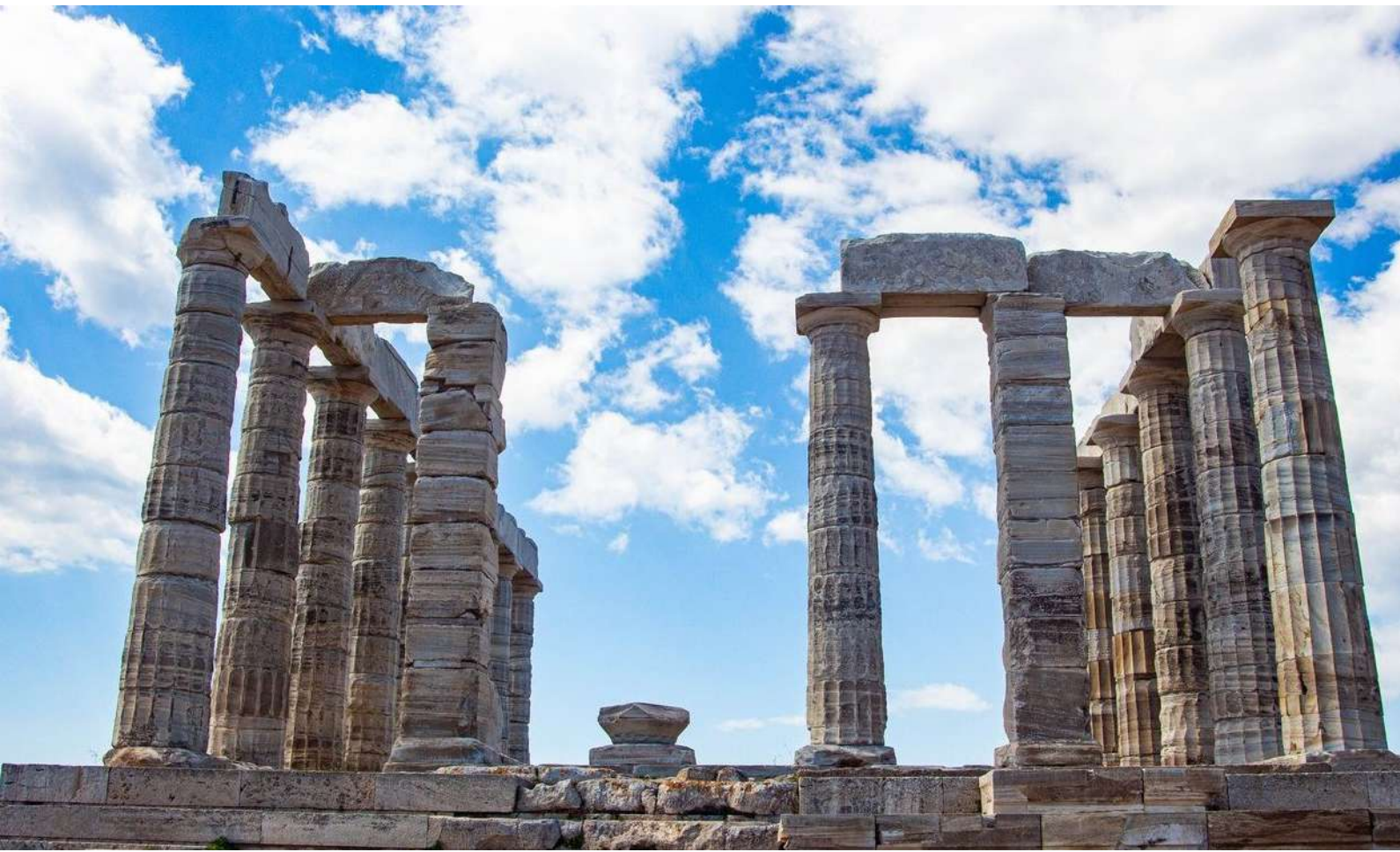
Piraeus is not just Europe's leading passenger port; it is a vibrant seaside city with a unique character. A short metro or tram ride from central Athens, it offers a refreshing maritime breeze and a rich tapestry of experiences. Don't miss the iconic Municipal Theatre, a neoclassical masterpiece, or the picturesque harbours of Zea (Psalimani) and Mikrolimano. For a true local experience, walk along the Peiraiki coast to enjoy the sunset over the Saronic Gulf.



GLYFADA & THE SOUTH SUBURBS

Athens Riviera

The Athens Riviera and its cosmopolitan hub, Glyfada, offer the perfect coastal backdrop to unwind after a day of sessions. Just a short drive from the city centre, Glyfada blends a sophisticated atmosphere with a Mediterranean seaside vibe, with premium dining options and stylish cafés ideal for informal networking or an evening stroll by the marinas. From the scenic Vouliagmeni Lake to organized beach clubs, the south suburbs provide a refreshing seaside escape.



A DAY TRIP FROM ATHENS

Cape Sounio

Cape Sounio is one of Greece's most iconic landmarks, renowned for its breathtaking views of the Aegean Sea and the ancient Temple of Poseidon. Just over an hour from Athens, it offers a unique blend of natural beauty, history and myth. Visitors can enjoy a stunning sunset over the ruins, making it a memorable highlight of any trip to Attica.

Culture & Museums

From ancient treasures to contemporary art



ARCHAEOLOGY

National Archaeological Museum

Greece's largest archaeological museum and one of the world's great collections of ancient Greek art — from Cycladic figurines and Mycenaean gold, including the “Mask of Agamemnon”, to classical bronzes.

📍 44 28is Oktovriou (Patission) St • Metro: Victoria (Line 1)

🕒 Wed-Mon 08:00-20:00 • Tue 13:00-20:00

💰 €20 • namuseum.gr >



BYZANTINE ART

Byzantine and Christian Museum

One of the world's leading museums of Byzantine and post-Byzantine art: icons, mosaics, frescoes and manuscripts from the 3rd to the 20th century, set in the 1848 Villa Ilissia and its gardens.

📍 22 Vasilissis Sofias Ave • Metro: Evangelismos (Line 3)

🕒 Closed on Tuesdays • seasonal hours on the website

💰 See website • byzantinemuseum.gr >



GREEK CULTURE

Benaki Museum of Greek Culture

A neoclassical mansion facing the National Garden that traces Greek culture from prehistory to the 20th century, with jewellery, costumes, icons and reconstructed traditional interiors.

📍 1 Koumbari St & Vasilissis Sofias Ave • Metro: Syntagma (Lines 2, 3)

🕒 Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat 10:00-18:00 • Thu 10:00-24:00 • Sun 10:00-16:00 • closed Tue

💰 €12 (permanent collection free on Thursdays from 18:00) • benaki.org >



FINE ART

National Gallery - Alexandros Soutsos Museum

Greece's foremost art museum, reopened in 2021 after a major expansion. Its collection tells the story of Greek art from the post-Byzantine era to today, including works by El Greco.

📍 50 Vasileos Konstantinou Ave • Metro: Evangelismos (Line 3)

🕒 Mon, Thu-Sun 10:00-18:00 • Wed late opening until 22:00 • closed Tue

💰 €10 • nationalgallery.gr >



CONTEMPORARY ART

EMST - National Museum of Contemporary Art

Greek and international contemporary art in the former Fix brewery, a landmark of Athenian modernist architecture, with a busy programme of temporary exhibitions.

📍 Kallirrois Ave & Amvr. Frantzi St • Metro: Syngrou-Fix (Line 2)

🕒 Tue-Sun 11:00-19:00 • Thu until 22:00 • closed Mon

💰 €10 • emst.gr >

Opening hours and prices as published by each museum in September 2026 — please check the museum's website before your visit.

Museums on the map

Where to find them in central Athens



● Museum

● Metro station

Map traced from Google Maps and simplified for orientation. Benaki, the Byzantine & Christian Museum and the National Gallery are all along Vasilissis Sofias Avenue, an easy walk from Syntagma.

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Gastronomy

A taste of Greece



Greek cuisine is built on simple, seasonal ingredients – olive oil, fresh vegetables, herbs, fish and grilled meats – and meals are meant to be shared. From traditional tavernas to lively street food and fine dining, Athens offers something for every taste and budget.

Dishes to try

Moussaka

Layers of aubergine, minced meat and béchamel

Souvlaki & gyros

Grilled meat wrapped in pita – the classic street food

Horiatiki

Greek salad with tomato, cucumber, olives and feta

Spanakopita

Spinach and feta pie in crisp filo pastry

Loukoumades

Golden dough puffs drizzled with honey

Freddo espresso

The iced coffee Athenians drink all year round

Good to know



Greeks dine late: restaurants fill up after 21:00



Dishes are often shared, meze-style



Tipping is appreciated but not mandatory



Book ahead for rooftops and at weekends

Where to Eat

Traditional Greek food and local favourites



CLASSIC OUZERI · SINCE 1932

Athinaikon

An old-school ouzeri with high ceilings, a marble floor and photos of old Athens on the walls, known for its seafood meze. Order a few plates to share with a carafe of ouzo or tsipouro.

📍 2 Themistokleous & Panepistimiou, Omonia · Metro: Omonia (Lines 1, 2)



CREATIVE GREEK CUISINE

Lyra

A Plaka restaurant serving modern takes on Greek cooking with a farm-to-table approach, open from brunch through to late dinner, with occasional live Greek music.

📍 12 Lysiou, Plaka · Metro: Monastiraki (Lines 1, 3)



SOUVLAKI & GRILL · SINCE 1879

Bairaktaris

Run by the same family since 1879, this Monastiraki Square institution is famous for its souvlaki, kebabs and grilled meats: a lively, classic introduction to Greek street food.

📍 Monastiraki Square · Metro: Monastiraki (Lines 1, 3) · bairaktaris.gr



TRADITIONAL TAVERNA · SINCE 1930

Taverna tou Oikonomou

One of the oldest tavernas in Athens, cooking home-style dishes fresh every day (stews, stuffed vegetables, ladera and roast lamb) in a charming, old-fashioned dining room.

📍 32 Kydantidon, Ano Petralona · Metro: Petralona (Line 1)



CAFÉ & MEZE WITH A VIEW

Dioskouroi

A laid-back café-ouzeri beside the Ancient Agora, with tables looking towards the Temple of Hephaestus and the Acropolis: coffee by day, ouzo and meze in the evening.

📍 37-39 Adrianou, Monastiraki · Metro: Monastiraki (Lines 1, 3)

Details checked in September 2026. Opening hours vary and many places get busy in the evening, so check or book ahead.

Coffee, Brunch & Nightlife

From morning coffee to late-night cocktails



COFFEE & HEALTHY TREATS

Wild Souls

A small café and concept store devoted to nut butters, halva and sugar-free spreads made without preservatives or palm oil. Ideal for a coffee and a wholesome treat near Syntagma.

📍 36 Voulis, Syntagma · Metro: Syntagma (Lines 2, 3)



CAFÉ & CONCEPT STORE

Philos

Part café, part boutique and part event space, set in a 1930s neoclassical building in chic Kolonaki, and a favourite weekend hangout.

📍 32 Solonos, Kolonaki



ROOFTOP BAR

A for Athens

This hotel rooftop faces the Acropolis head-on above Monastiraki Square, the classic spot for a sunset cocktail. Book ahead or arrive early.

📍 2-4 Miaouli, Monastiraki · Metro: Monastiraki (Lines 1, 3)



COURTYARD COCKTAIL BAR

Upupa Epops

A colourful café-bar in a courtyard framed by three inter-war houses: coffee by day, inventive cocktails at night.

📍 7 Alkminis, Kato Petralona



COCKTAILS & FERMENTATION

Line

Named The Best Bar in Europe 2026. A former art gallery where house-made fruit wines, beers and ferments go into classic-style cocktails. Booking recommended.

📍 37 Agathodemonos, Kato Petralona · lineathens.gr >

Details checked in September 2026. Opening hours vary and many places get busy in the evening, so check or book ahead.

IASIA 2026 CONFERENCE

12-16 October Athens, Greece

Rethinking Governance
for a Changing World

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