



Love to go shoe-shopping? Love eco-friendly products? Want to find everything you need in a single store? You seek items of luxury and high aesthetics when you go shopping? You look for 'treasures' from old times, works of art in out-of-the-way places or original materials for your own personal creations? Whichever type of shopper you are, Athens is not going to let you down. The city's best **shopping areas** are there for you to explore...

for luxury lovers

Those of you, who seek luxury in the heart of town, search no more! **Kolonaki** is the ideal shopping area for you. Skoufa, Patriarchou Ioakeim, and Tsakalof are streets lined with boutiques full of designer products of top quality and high aesthetics. When you're

finished with your shopping, take a break and enjoy a light meal or have a coffee in one of the famous local cafés and restaurants.

Those of you, who prefer the north [suburbs](#), visit **Kifisia**. You can go shopping in malls housed in renovated buildings of remarkable architecture as well as in modern and tasteful stores. See the shop windows on Kassaveti, Levidou, Panagitsa, Kolokotroni and Kyriazi streets and enjoy your stroll along roads lined with centuries-old plane trees, bordering busy cafés and restaurants.

If however you would rather go shopping by the [seafront](#), **Glyfada** is the right place for you. Visit Metaxa St., one of the busiest shopping streets in town. You will find some of the finest restaurants in the vicinity where you can taste fish and seafood, after your buys.

For creative and alternative shopping lovers

Is handmade jewellery your thing? You're constantly on the lookout for new materials for your own creations? Make sure you visit the little bead shops [chandrakia], and the handicraft stores on Lekka, Romvis, Leocharous, Praxitelous, Aioulou and Agiou Markou streets, downtown. Explore the numerous backstreets around Karageorgi Servias Street and the [arcades](#); stroll along Ifaistou Street in [Monastiraki](#) where shops remain open on Sundays. A world of colours awaits you in those beads, buttons, fabrics, papers and other fantastic materials!

For Vintage Lovers

You look for authentic vintage furniture and decorative items, clothes and other old, well-preserved objects? The marketplaces in Monastiraki and the neighbouring Psyri area are the ideal shopping destination for you. Have a short break in Avissynias square for a coffee or a cocktail and allow the cinematic feel of the scenery take you on a journey through time!

For Art Lovers

You're an artist or an art lover? Greece is the native land of great artists dating as far back as the Antiquity. In the shops in [Plaka](#) and in gift shops of [city museums](#) such as the [Acropolis Museum](#) you will find true copies of ancient art as well as modern original works of art inspired by ancient Greek heritage. A visit to the [Museum of Cycladic Art](#) would also be a great idea, if you love the abstract style of prehistoric Cycladic Art. If however you prefer ornate creations, visiting the [Benaki Museum](#) is a must for you; on display you will see earrings, necklaces, and rings fit to a Byzantine noblewoman. You will find exquisite jewellery to suit all tastes, in the **Ilias Lalaounis Jewellery Museum**.

If you are a Modern Art lover, visit the **Herakleidon Museum Gift shop** where you will find remarkable objects on sale – inspired after the museum exhibits. In Kolonaki, galleries house works of art by contemporary famous artists and in Gazi you will find items created by new and rising artists.



Shop in a shop lovers

You wish to find everything in a single place, combine shopping with enjoying a meal, drink or going to the cinema? Then visit the [shopping malls](#) in Athens for great buys!! If you happen to be downtown, try Attica and Athenian Capitol. You have more choices in the north suburbs where you

can visit The Mall Athens, Golden Hall and Avenue. If you're in the **Piraeus area**, try Athens Heart or Village Shopping and More. If you head towards the south suburbs, spend some time in the Athens Metro Mall and if you travel west, visit the River West. McArthurGlen and Smart Park are just 15 minutes away from the **airport** by car and in addition to the Airport Retail Park, they offer many a choice for shopping before boarding your plane or for passing your time before you take your delayed next flight.



For Shoe lovers

Shoes and handbags are a favourite part of each woman's wardrobe. If you love to buy shoes, visit Ippokratous and Charilaou Trikoupi streets which are the ideal destination for shopping downtown. You will also find many shoe shops in Ermou street close to Syntagma square. If you look for hand made bags or leather sandals, those found in

Adrianou Street shops are top quality! So, stroll around the city streets, the ideal pair of shoes is somewhere out there waiting for you...

For Eco-friendly product lovers

In case you didn't know, Athens offers a wide variety of choices for those among you who prefer **eco-friendly** and **biological products**. So, buy gifts for your loved ones from **environmental organisations** such as MOM, WWF Greece, Arcturos, Stray and contribute to the protection of Greek nature, wildlife and stray animals. Get to know top quality Greek [organic cosmetics](#) on sale in malls and large stores. Visit an **open-air marketplace** of **organic produce** and try Greek [fruit](#) and **vegetables** that taste great, at reasonable prices. Each weekday, organic farmers set up their stalls in a different area and sell their quality produce of the Greek earth. Here is the [list](#) of marketplace days and hours for you!

NIGHTLIFE IN ATHENS



music centers in Europe; music venues are considered to be unique for their variety and originality.

Athens is a city that never sleeps. Many say that Athens actually "lives" at night. This claim is, at some level, true. No other city offers so many night activities as this ancient and at the same time modern city. There are actually many activities: ancient Greek tragedy in a theater which dates back to the same period as the play was written; orchestras of international fame playing from Beethoven to Jazz in one of the most modern clubs considered to be unique for

The capital of Greece offers to the lovers of night and entertainment some vivid activities. Whatever you decide to do, you will soon discover that Athens nightlife, with its offered variety and special choices, allows you to entertain yourself all night long. The only problem is that the next day you will have to visit many and remarkable sights. You can begin your night in a nice restaurant or in one of the typical Greek taverns, which are everywhere in the city. The atmosphere in all Greek restaurants is simple, relaxing and friendly and the food amazing. You can visit a tavern with bouzoukia (live Greek music) or go to a modern bar, club, disco-bar and bar with orchestra, which gather many people and play different kinds of music. All these places can be found in central areas or in the **suburbs** (Kifissia, Faliro, Glyfada, Vouliagmeni, Voula, Varkiza etc).

It is said that a night at the bouzoukia is an unforgettable experience. During your stay here, it is worth to visit one of them to hear original Greek music, to sing and dance with the locals.



Hotspots in the Center of Athens

• Gázi

It is THE hotspot of Athens and not unjustly so: “mezé” tavernas (=restaurants where you can dine on middle dishes instead of individual main ones) restaurants of international cuisine, delicious “souvlaki” restaurants, pop, (hard) rock, mainstream, swing and retro, gay and lesbian bars and clubs, galleries, fringe theatres – you name it! And all that just a stone’s throw from the city center and accessible by the metro (“Kerameikos” station).

• Thissío

Thissío is popular with Greeks and tourists alike who want to have a coffee or a drink marvelling at the Acropolis which catches their eye and dominates the scenery. It is undoubtedly the favourite walk trail of the Athenians.

• Pláka

Right at the foot of the Acropolis hill, it is the traditional part of the city where time seems to have stopped at the 19th century. Folk music and dancing in Greek restaurants as well as tavernas and cozy cafes are the best choice here.

• Monastiráki and Psirri

Right next to Thissío and still at the foot of the Acropolis, this wide area recalls the Orient: low buildings, narrow cobbled streets, a flea market, almost no access to the cars. Alternative bars and stylish restaurants lie side by side with old-fashioned cafes, Greek tavernas and shops of all kinds. Live Greek music in Greek restaurants is a possibility too.

• Kolonáki

In the night, spirits are high also in the business area of the downtown where the famous boutiques keep the branches. Trendy bars and gourmet restaurants for all tastes see the Athenians return to the area where they work but this time to dance the night away. The area is brimful of art galleries too.

• Exárhia

The rock side of the city. Here students, youngsters, alternative people share their views having a drink or a dinner in rather inexpensive restaurants and bars.

• Syntagma

In the area around Syntagma, as well as the streets that lead to Monastiraki you’ll find numerable new hangouts that complete Athens’ nightlife: Romvis, Kolokotroni, Thiseos and many more cobbled narrow roads gather crowds that let themselves to the music’s rhythms and hip cocktails. Karytsi and Agia

Eirini squares are considered highlight areas by the Athenians.

•Karytsi Square

Mousouri Theatre and a couple of traditional cafes once stood alone here. Suddenly everything changed! Athenians started discovering every corner of their city. The quiet and picturesque square, with the church of St. George dominating in the center, quickly became a favourite hangout in Athens: all day long cafes, bars that will satisfy all music preferences packed with people, night or day, coming off work, or just wandering around after shopping. There is a place that will do for you, either you want to dance to loud music all night long or have a quite talk with a friend.

•Agia Eirini Square

Agia Eirini Square is the king of Athens nightlife, situated at the corner of Aioulou and Karagiorgi Servias, next to Kolokotroni street, near Plaka and Monastiraki. Tables and chairs of the various cafes and bars are constantly cluttered with people chatting away while enjoying the imposing neoclassical buildings amongst the narrow streets and the church of Agia Eirini. Where new meets old this is an atmosphere you shouldn't miss! Here you'll discover the most hip bars of the area, inspired cocktails and drinks, and as rumours have it the best souvlaki in town. Enjoy the magic!



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

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



BARS

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

WINEBARS

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

DANCING ALL NIGHT LONG

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

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