

PROMPT  
GUIDES



5 days



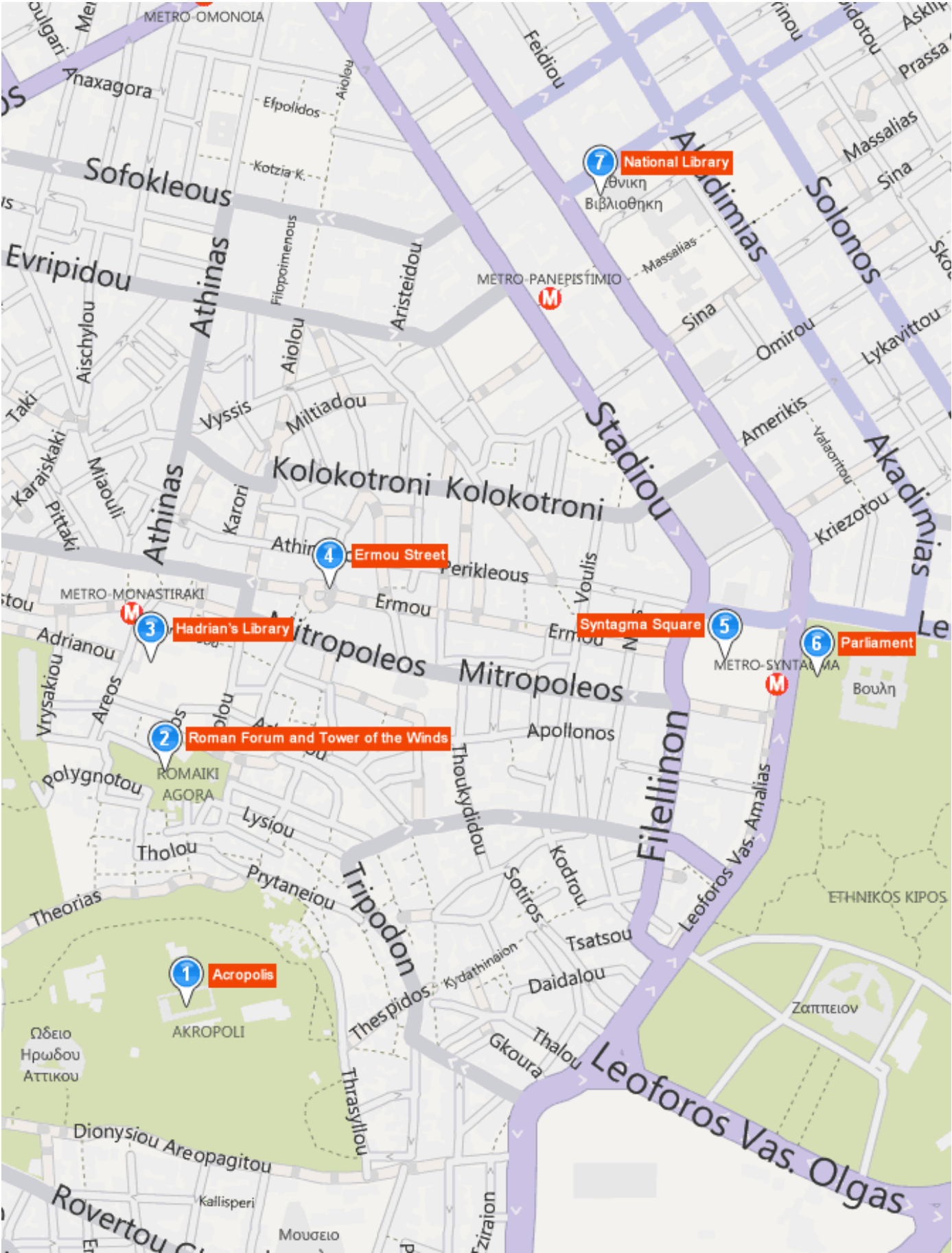
# 5-day Athens City Guide

A preplanned step-by-step time line  
and city guide for Athens.  
Follow it and get the best of the city.

## Overview of Day 1

	<b>LEAVE HOTEL</b>	<a href="#">Tested and recommended hotels in Athens &gt;</a>	
	Take Red Metro Line to Akropoli station		
09:30-12:00	<b>Acropolis</b>	UNESCO World Heritage Site	Page 5
	Take a walk to Roman Forum and Tower of the Winds - 15'		
12:15-13:00	<b>Roman Forum and Tower of the Winds</b>	Best known example of Greek agora	Page 5
	Take a walk to Hadrian's Library - 5'		
13:05-13:15	<b>Hadrian's Library</b>	Typical Roman Forum architectural style	Page 6
	Lunch time		
	Take a walk to Ermou Street		
15:00-16:00	<b>Ermou Street</b>	Best known shopping street of Athens	Page 6
	Take a walk to Syntagma Square		
16:00-16:30	<b>Syntagma Square</b>	The heart of Athens	Page 6
	Take a walk to Parliament		
16:30-16:50	<b>Parliament</b>	Guards in skirtlike garments	Page 7
	Take a walk to National Library - 20'		
17:10-17:20	<b>National Library</b>	Fine example of Neoclassical architecture	Page 7
	<b>END OF DAY 1</b>		

Overview of Day 1





## Attraction Details

09:30-12:00

### Acropolis (Dionysiou Areopagitou Street, Athens 10558)

**Opening hours:** April 1 - Oct 31, daily: 8am - 8pm, Nov 1 - March 31, daily: 8:30am - 3pm, Public holidays: Closed • **Admission:** 12 €



#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Acropolis of Athens is the starting point of antique Athens. It was populated for the first time around 3000 BC
- The word 'acropolis' means citadel or high city. The Athenian acropolis is located on a flat-topped hill rising 150 m (490 ft) above the city
- Today the site is scattered with magnificent ancient Greek temples, squares, buildings and theaters
- Highlights are the Parthenon, Erechtheion, Theater of Dionysos, and Areopagus
- The temples of the Acropolis influenced Western architecture to the extent like nothing else and are considered to be among the most important monuments in the Western world
- Parthenon is the most important monument of the site. It is a colonnaded, all-marble temple dedicated to Athens' patron, Athena Parthenos (Athena, the Virgin). It was built in the 5th c. BC
- Theater of Dionysos is Athens' first theater (built 6th c. BC) dedicated to the god of pleasures, Dionysos. Ancient dramas were performed here by Aristophanes, Sophocles or Euripides

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Start your tour at the ruins of the ancient theater of Dionysos at the lower level
- Walk towards Herodes Atticus Theater, the venue of the Athens Festival
- Walk to the upper level through the Beulé Gate. Beyond lies the Propylaia the monumental 5th c. B.C. entranceway
- Walk around, admire the view, and soak up the atmosphere
- The highlight is the beautiful structure of the Parthenon
- Finish your tour at the Areopagus Rock where trials were held in classical times

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- Save some money by buying a combined ticket that gives access to Akropolis, Agora, Roman Forum, Temple of Olympian Zeus and Kerameikos
- Wear comfy shoes
- Be prepared for a crowd all year through

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

12:15-13:00

(Monastiraki)

### Roman Forum and Tower of the Winds (Aiolou and Diogenous,

**Opening hours:** April 1 - Oct 31, daily: 8am - 8pm, Nov 1 - March 31, daily: 8am - 5pm, Public holidays: Closed • **Admission:** 2 €



#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Julius Caesar founded the Roman Forum in 51 B.C. and moved Athens' marketplace here from the old Agora. It used to be larger than what we see today
- The old marketplace was not sufficient to fulfill its purpose. Athens-loving Romans moved into the old Agora site and crowded out the merchants
- The new forum overtook the old Agora's role of being the city's commercial and administrative center until the 19th century
- The octagonal Tower of Winds was built in 50 B.C. It depicts the eight winds on its sides. A waterclock was operated inside the tower by a stream from the Acropolis
- Gate of Athena Archegetis used to be the Western entrance of the marketplace. The columns are made of marble
- The picturesque Fetiye mosque was built in 1458 to commemorate the Turkish sultan's, Mehmet II the Conqueror's visit to Athens

- Other highlights: Agoranomeion (Office of the Market Officials), Vespasianae (68-seat Public Latrine), Byzantine Grave Markers, East Gate, Courtyard and the Fountain

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Walk around the small area and admire the ancient site
- Do not miss the main ruins: the gate entrance to the market and the Tower of the Winds

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- Save some money by buying a combined ticket that gives access to Akropolis, Agora, Roman Forum, Temple of Olympian Zeus and Kerameikos

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

## Attraction Details

13:05-13:15

**Hadrian's Library** (Aiolou and Diogenous, Monastiraki)**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- Roman Emperor Hadrian built this luxurious library in AD 132 on the north side of the Acropolis
- It followed the architectural style of a typical Roman Forum. It had one entrance with high walls surrounding a courtyard
- The showy central courtyard took up much of the space. It was decorated with mosaic floors, marble, gardens and a pool. Fancy Corinthian columns surrounded the central area
- Along with the library, the building accommodated lecture rooms, music rooms and a theatre

- Later the library was seriously damaged in military invasions. Thanks to extensive excavation and restorations, part of the site survived
- Other highlights: remains of three temples erected during Byzantine times

**THINGS TO DO THERE**

- Discover the ruins of the library

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

15:00-16:00

**Ermou Street** (Ermou Street)**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- Ermou Street is a pedestrian shopping street in Athens. It is one of the busiest streets in the city
- The street starts at Parliament and runs all the way into the ancient Kerameikos district. The area closer to Parliament is more upmarket while the lower (western) end is a bit funkier
- Designer boutiques and all the main chain department stores are present here
- Greek shoemakers are a vital part of the street. It is an excellent place to buy a pair of stylish Greek leather shoes or the emblematic Greek sandals

- Beyond the street are loads of used-furniture, antique and speciality shops
- Sunday's Monastiraki flea market at the lower end provides a truly unique experience

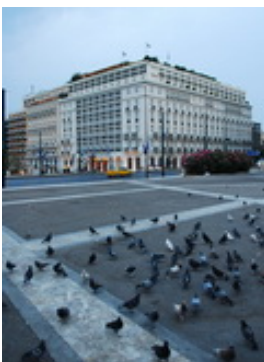
**THINGS TO DO THERE**

- Walk along the street and take in the atmosphere: the bustle and the stunning architecture of the street's buildings
- Do some shopping

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

16:00-16:30

**Syntagma Square** (Syntagma Square, Athens)**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- Syntagma Square is Athens' main square. It lies in the historic center in front of Parliament
- The square is named after the Greek Constitution (Syntagma). King Otto was forced to issue the document in 1843 after public demonstrations taking place at the square
- Highlights include the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, top of the Ermou Street and the Syntagma subway station
- Syntagma subway station is both a transport hub and an archaeological museum. Finds excavated while building the station are displayed as if in a museum
- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a monument to Greek soldiers died in battles. Traditionally dressed soldiers guard the memorial 24/7 and engage in ceremonial exercises on the hour

- Athens' main shopping street, [Ermou Street](#), leads off from the square. Designer boutiques and major department stores are both present there

**THINGS TO DO THERE**

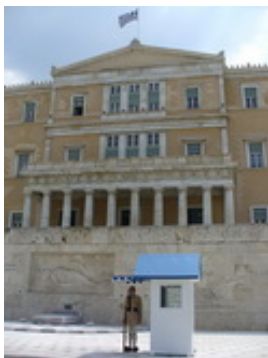
- This is a good place to stop for a rest or for a coffee near the central fountain

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

- If you use the subway system do not miss the glass wall overlooking the archaeological site

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

16:30-16:50



## Parliament (Amalias Avenue and Vas. Georgiou Street, Athens)

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The Hellenic Parliament is located at Syntagma Square in central Athens. It is the most notable landmark in the city center
- The building was built in 1842 as Bavarian-born King Otto's royal palace. Otto was Greece's first king after Greece won its independence from 4-century Turkish rule
- Otto hired architects from Munich to design his palace. Hence the building's plain neoclassical design
- The palace gives home to the Hellenic parliament since 1935. Greece has a unicameral legislature of 300 members
- The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier fronts the palace. Two soldiers guard the tomb in traditional Greek outfit (foustanelas) and perform ceremonial exercises on the hour

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Have a look at the neo-classical palace
- Do not miss the elaborate ceremonial of the two guards

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- You must make time on Sunday to see the Ceremonial Parade of Changing of the Guard

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

17:10-17:20



## National Library (Panepistimiou 28-29, Athens)

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The National Library of Greece is located in central Athens. The building is a fine example of mature Neoclassicism
- Danish architect Theophil Freiherr von Hansen designed the library, as part of the Neoclassical Trilogy of Athens including the Academy of Athens and the Athens University
- The library was built between 1887 and 1891

- It does not lend books. Its holdings can be viewed in a large reading room

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Admire the beautiful building from outside

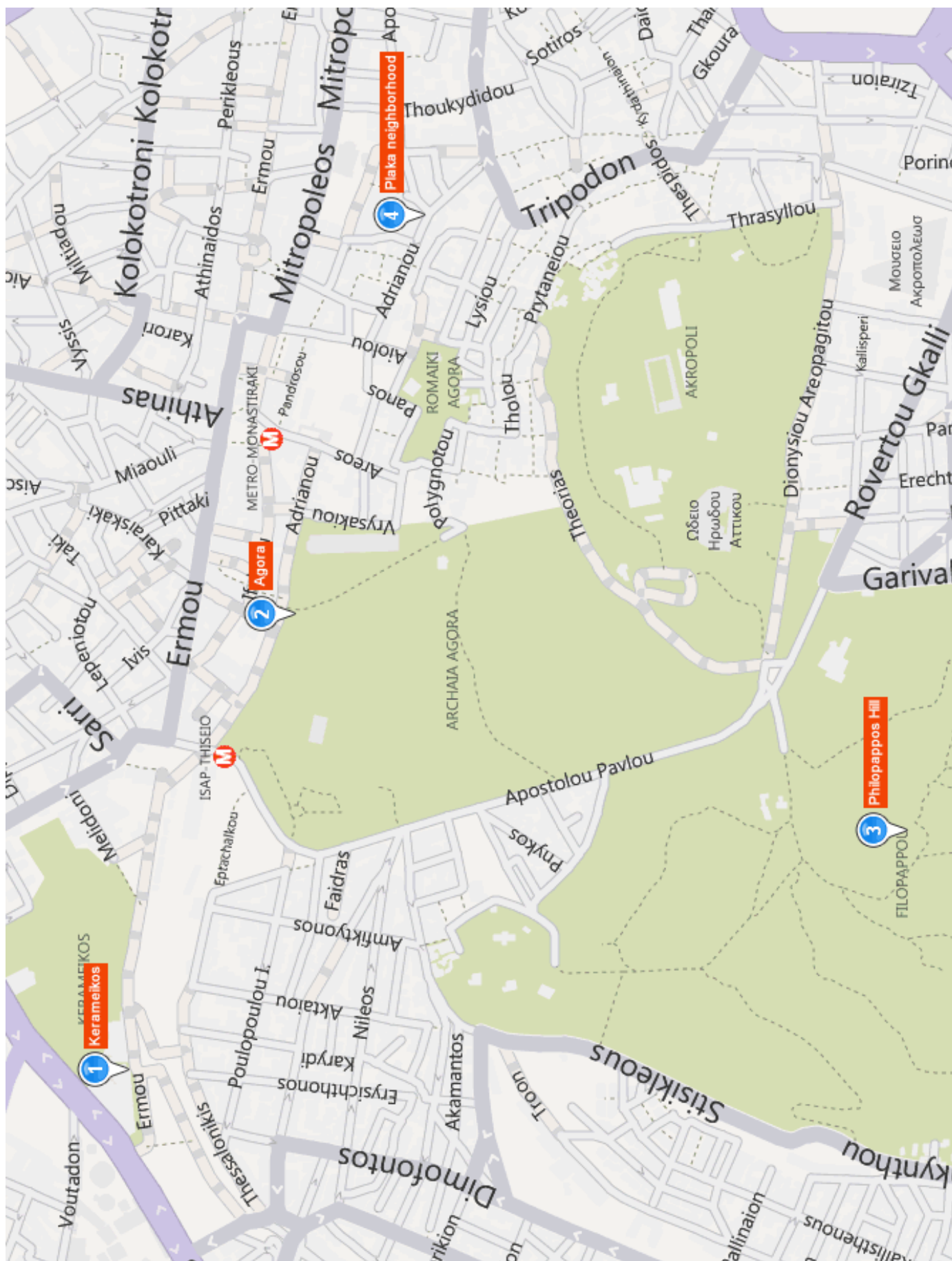
### TIPS & INSIGHTS

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

## Overview of Day 2

	<b>LEAVE HOTEL</b> <a href="#">Tested and recommended hotels in Athens &gt;</a>	
	Take Green Metro Line to Thissio station	
09:30-11:00	<b>Kerameikos</b> —————	Peaceful walk among the ancient ruins <a href="#">Page 10</a>
	Take a walk to Agora - 15'	
11:15-12:35	<b>Agora</b> —————	Heart of ancient Athens <a href="#">Page 10</a>
	<b>Lunch time</b>	
	Take a walk to Filopappos Hill	
15:00-17:00	<b>Philopappos Hill</b> —————	Amazing view over the whole city <a href="#">Page 11</a>
	Take a walk to Plaka neighborhood - 45'	
17:45-18:45	<b>Plaka neighborhood</b> —————	One of the most attractive districts of Athens <a href="#">Page 11</a>
	<b>END OF DAY 2</b>	







## Attraction Details

09:30-11:00

### Kerameikos (Ermou 148, Thissio)

**Opening hours:** April 1 - Oct 31, daily: 8am - 8pm, Nov 1 - March 31, daily: 8:30am - 3pm, Public holidays: Closed • **Admission:** 2 €

#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Kerameikos used to be ancient Athens' pottery district. The word 'ceramic' stems from the name of the district, Kerameikos
- The ancient Athens' outer city wall (built in 478 BC) ran through the district. It was built in haste and all materials that could be found in the city, including marble from temples and tombs, were incorporated
- Athens' main entrance, the Dipylon Gate, stood here. It was a so-called corridor gate: a long interior court (41 by 22 m) with four towers acting as death trap to attackers
- The Iera Odos ('Sacred Road') passed through the Sacred Gate gate. The sacred road led to Demeter's temple (goddess of harvest and fertility) in ancient Eleusis
- Along the road important statesmen and heroes were buried beneath imposing tombs. Highlight is the tomb of Dionysios of Kolokyttos with a marble bull

- The Oberlander Museum displays a wild range of finds from the area. The collection includes many of the original tombs

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Enter the museum that houses exhibits mainly related to burial customs, such as urns and monuments
- Walk around the site littered with ancient remains

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- Save some money by buying a combined ticket that gives access to Akropolis, Agora, Roman Forum, Temple of Olympian Zeus and Kerameikos

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)



11:15-12:35

### Agora (Adrianou Street, Monastiraki)

**Opening hours:** April 1 - Oct 31, daily: 8am - 8pm, Nov 1 - March 31, daily: 8:30am - 3pm, Public holidays: Closed • **Admission:** 4 €

#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The Agora was Athens' market place, the heart of city, and the birth place of the world's first democracy
- The marketplace was laid out in the 6th c. BC. It served as the center for all civic activities (politics, religion, philosophy, commerce, arts and athletics)
- Such historic figures addressed the public here as Socrates, Aristotiles, or St. Paul
- The Temple of Hephaistos (god of technology, blacksmiths and craftsmen) is the best preserved Greek Temple. It dates back to the 5th c. BC
- Stoa of Attalos is the reconstruction of its 2nd c. BC version. It houses a museum that displays all the finds excavated at Agora
- Stoa is a covered colonnaded walkway open to public usage. Merchants sold their goods, artists displayed their works, and religious gatherings took place here
- Other highlights are: ruins of Middle Stoa, Agii Apostoli Solaki, Tholos (first Athenian parliament), and Odeon of Agrippa (a large concert hall)

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Walk around and explore the ancient sites, statues, ruins
- The Temple of Hephaestus is an absolute must-see
- Do not miss Stoa of Attalos, Odeon of Agrippa, Altar of Zeus Agoraios
- Relax on a bench in a shady spot under old olive trees and be impressed by the surroundings
- Enjoy the stunning view over the acropolis

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

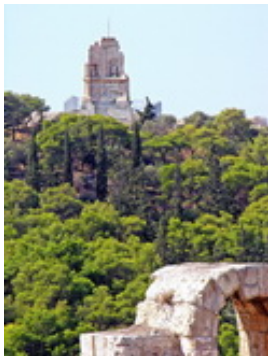
- Save some money by buying a combined ticket that gives access to Akropolis, Agora, Roman Forum, Temple of Olympian Zeus and Kerameikos

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)



15:00-17:00

## Philopappos Hill



### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Philopappos Hill is a pine-and-cypress-covered hill right next to Acropolis to the southwest. Winding shaded paths make the area ideal for taking strolls
- The hilltop offers one of the best views of the city. This place used to be the favorite vantage-point of generals
- Socrates' Prison, the cave where the ancient philosopher was held captive after his death sentence, is located here. Socrates died here after drinking a poisonous liquid
- Philopappos tomb and monument, on the peak of Hill of Muses, was erected in honor of Roman senator Philopappos, a lover of Greek culture. He spent his retirement here and died in Athens in 114 AD
- Church of Agios Dimitrios Loumbardiaris is a charming 15th c. Byzantine church decorated with some fine frescoes. A lightning prevented a Turk commander from demolishing the temple with his cannons, hence its name 'Saint Dimitri the Bombardier'

- On the first day of Lent, hundreds of Athenians gather here and fly kites

### THINGS TO DO THERE

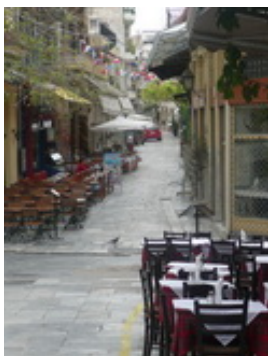
- Walk around the hill following the winding paths and discover the various monuments
- Enjoy the sweeping views from the Acropolis to the sea
- Relax on a bench after the tiring sightseeing
- Do not miss Agios Dimitrios church, Socrates' Prison and the Philopappos Monument

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

17:45-18:45

## Plaka neighborhood



### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Plaka is the oldest and most charming district in Athens. It lies right below the Acropolis
- Winding medieval alleyways with romantic narrow steps, neoclassical mansions and houses with red tiles and balconies with colorful flowers characterize the neighborhood
- The Greek literature often called Plaka the neighbourhood of the Gods
- Typical Greek taverns and street cafés serving icecold frappés are also characteristics of the area

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Wander the winding, narrow alleyways, pedestrian only streets with many outdoor bars and restaurants, and of course millions of souvenir shops
- Relax by having a drink in an outdoor café and watch the world go by

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

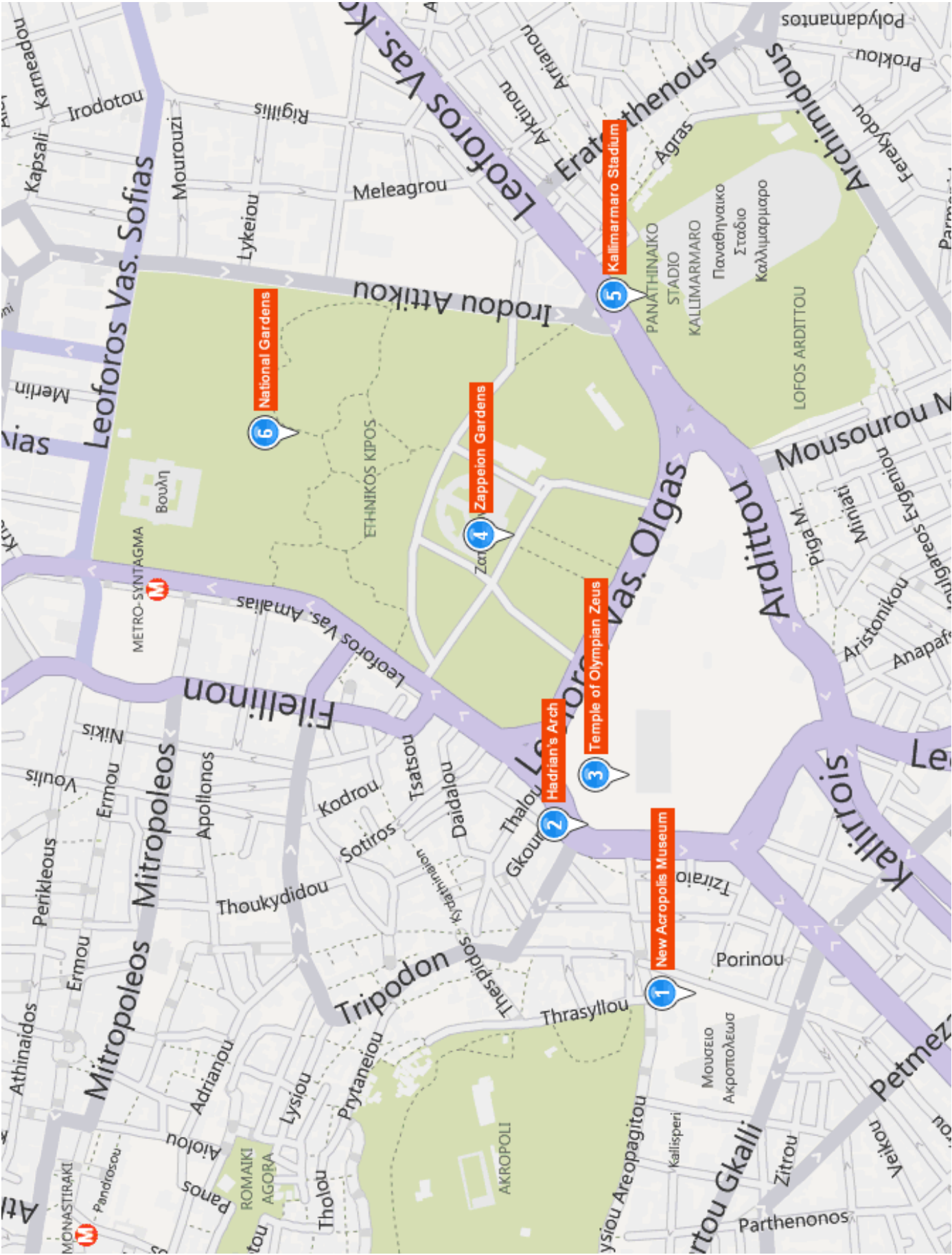
- Don't go there for bargain shopping or overall authenticity

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

## Overview of Day 3

	<b>LEAVE HOTEL</b>	<a href="#">Tested and recommended hotels in Athens &gt;</a>	
	Take Red Metro Line to Akropoli station		
09:30-11:00	<b>New Acropolis Museum</b>	Beautifully presented ancient artifacts	Page 15
	Take a walk to Hadrian's Arch - 15'		
11:15-11:25	<b>Hadrian's Arch</b>	Monumental gateway	Page 15
	Take a walk to Temple of Olympian Zeus		
11:25-12:55	<b>Temple of Olympian Zeus</b>	Magnificent Greek columns	Page 16
	Lunch time		
	Take a walk to Zappeion Gardens		
15:00-15:30	<b>Zappeion Gardens</b>	Perfect for a refreshing walk	Page 16
	Take a walk to Kallimarmaro Stadium		
15:30-15:50	<b>Kallimarmaro Stadium</b>	Beautiful marble stadium	Page 17
	Take a walk to National Gardens - 10'		
16:00-16:45	<b>National Gardens</b>	Tranquil oasis in the city	Page 17
	<b>END OF DAY 3</b>		

Overview of Day 3





## Attraction Details

09:30-11:00

### New Acropolis Museum (15 Dionysiou Areopagitou Street, Athens 11742)

**Opening hours:** Tue - Thurs, Sat, Sun: 8am - 8pm, Friday: 8am - 10pm, Monday: Closed, Jan 1, March 25, Easter Sunday, May 1, Dec 25 and 26: Closed • **Admission:** 5 €

#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The New Acropolis Museum houses all the sculptures and fragments from the Acropolis of Athens. Some 4000 works are on display
- The museum opened in 2009. The original Old Acropolis Museum (1874) became too small to house all the new artifacts uncovered in successive excavations
- The museum was built on an archaeological site. The glass floor gives a view over the ruins of Roman and early Byzantine Athens
- Four of the original 6 Caryatids (female shaped columns) from the Erechthion (an ancient temple in the Acropolis) are displayed here
- Lord Elgin removed one of the Caryatids to decorate his Scottish mansion. It was later sold to the British Museum. The other Caryatids disappeared during Ottoman rule
- Multiple unsuccessful requests were made to reclaim the statue from the British Museum. An area is reserved for the return of the Elgin marbles



#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Admire the impressive modern building from the outside
- Upon entering the museum do not miss the occasionally transparent floor that provides a view of the archaeological excavation
- Follow the well marked exhibition route. It will take you all the way up to the third floor and guide you back to the ground floor
- Watch the informative video in the third floor video area
- Enjoy the splendid view from the top floor
- !

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- It is not allowed to take photos inside
- If you do not have the time for a full visit you can get a free ticket that only gives access to the second floor restaurant area. You can enjoy the view of the Acropolis from the terrace of the restaurant

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

11:15-11:25

### Hadrian's Arch (Leoforos Amalias Street, Athens)

#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Hadrian's Arch is a monumental gateway southeast of the Acropolis. It reminds of a Roman triumphal arch
- The arch stood on a road that connected Athens' city center and the site of the Temple of Olympian Zeus
- Citizens of Athens built the arch to honor Roman Emperor Hadrian for his many benefactions to Athens (e.g. finishing Temple of Olympian Zeus)
- The monument was erected in 132 AD. It is made of Pentelic marble



- It bears two inscriptions: "This is Athens, once the city of Theseus" (facing east towards the old city) and "This is Hadrian's, and not Theseus's city" (facing west toward the new city)

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Admire the 2nd-century gate and try to read the two inscriptions on it

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

## Attraction Details

11:25-12:55

**Temple of Olympian Zeus** (Vas. Olgas Street and Amalias Avenue, Athens)

**Opening hours:** April 1 - Oct 31, daily: 8am - 8pm, Nov 1 - March 31, daily: 8:30am - 3pm,  
Public holidays: Closed • **Admission:** 4 €

**THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- Temple of Olympian Zeus was the largest in mainland Greece. It measured 96m by 40m (315 by 131 ft.) featuring 104 17m-high columns
- Its construction started in 515 BC but, due to political turmoil, completed only some 600 years later in AD 124. The temple was finished by Roman Emperor Hadrian
- The temple housed two colossal gold and ivory statues: Pheidias's statue of Zeus and the statue of Hadrian
- Out of the original 104 columns 15 are still standing
- Pheidias's statue of Zeus was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world
- Athenians erected a two-storey arch for Hadrian next to the temple to thank him for completing the temple and offered the city to him
- Other highlights nearby: Ruins of Ancient Houses, Law Court at the Delphinion, Themistoklean Gates and walls

**THINGS TO DO THERE**

- Walk around the area to see the ancient ruins that surround the remains of the temple
- The highlights are the temple's 15 remaining columns

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

- Save some money by buying a combined ticket that gives access to Akropolis, Agora, Roman Forum, Temple of Olympian Zeus and Kerameikos
- To get the best light for photographs of the columns, visit between 3pm and 4pm
- It is one of the few uncrowded Athens attractions

[\*\*MORE Info and Photos >\*\*](#)

15:00-15:30

**Zappeion Gardens****THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW**

- Zappeion Gardens is a public park adjacent to the National Gardens. It is a 14 ha (35 ac) garden with shady tree-lined promenades
- Zappeion, the imposing edifice in the middle of the park, was the first building constructed specifically for the revival of the modern Olympic Games. It opened in 1888
- One of the main characters behind the Olympic movement was businessman and philanthropist Evangelias Zappas, hence the name of the building and the garden
- During the 1896 Summer Olympics Zappeion was used as the main fencing hall. Today it hosts both official and public meetings and ceremonies

- Next to the Zappeion is Aigli, Athens' oldest open air cinema

**THINGS TO DO THERE**

- Stroll through the park
- Relax on a bench

**TIPS & INSIGHTS**

[\*\*MORE Info and Photos >\*\*](#)

15:30-15:50

## Kallimarmaro Stadium (Vas. Konstantinou Street, Athens)

**Opening hours:** March - Oct: 8am - 7pm, Nov - Feb: 8am - 5pm • **Admission:** 3 €

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Originally the stadium was built in the 4th century BC to host the Panathenian games held every 4 year. Herodes Atticus rebuilt the stadium in marble in AD 143-44
- The stadium's official name is Panathinaiko or Panathenaic Stadium. It is the only major stadium in the world built entirely of white marble
- It was able to hold 50,000 people, the same as the [Roman Colosseum](#)
- The building measured 1 stade (600 Greek feet) in length; hence stems the word stadium
- For a long time the building was neglected and it deteriorated

- After excavation the stadium was rebuilt for the first modern Olympic Games in 1896. In 2004 the Olympic Marathon Race finished here
- Today it is more commonly known as 'Kallimarmaro' (meaning beautiful marble), and serves as a venue for major events and concerts

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Take an audioguide (included in the admission fee) and tour the Stadium

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)



16:00-16:45

## National Gardens (Leoforos Amalias Street, Athens)

### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The National Gardens of Athens is located in the city center behind the parliament. It used to be the Royal Palace's (now Parliament) gardens
- Queen Amalia, King Otto's wife, commissioned the gardens in 1839. Otto was Greece's first king after its independence from Ottoman rule
- More than 15,000 exotic trees, plants and flowers were imported from all over the world and planted here. Many of them are still alive
- The government nationalized the park in 1923 and opened it to the public

- It spans 16 ha (40 ac). Its maze of shady paths with quiet dead ends, duck and turtle ponds, benches, playground and numerous statues make it an ideal place for relaxation
- The estate gives home to a Botanic Museum and a small zoo with birds, wild goats and a donkey

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Stroll through the park
- Relax on a bench

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

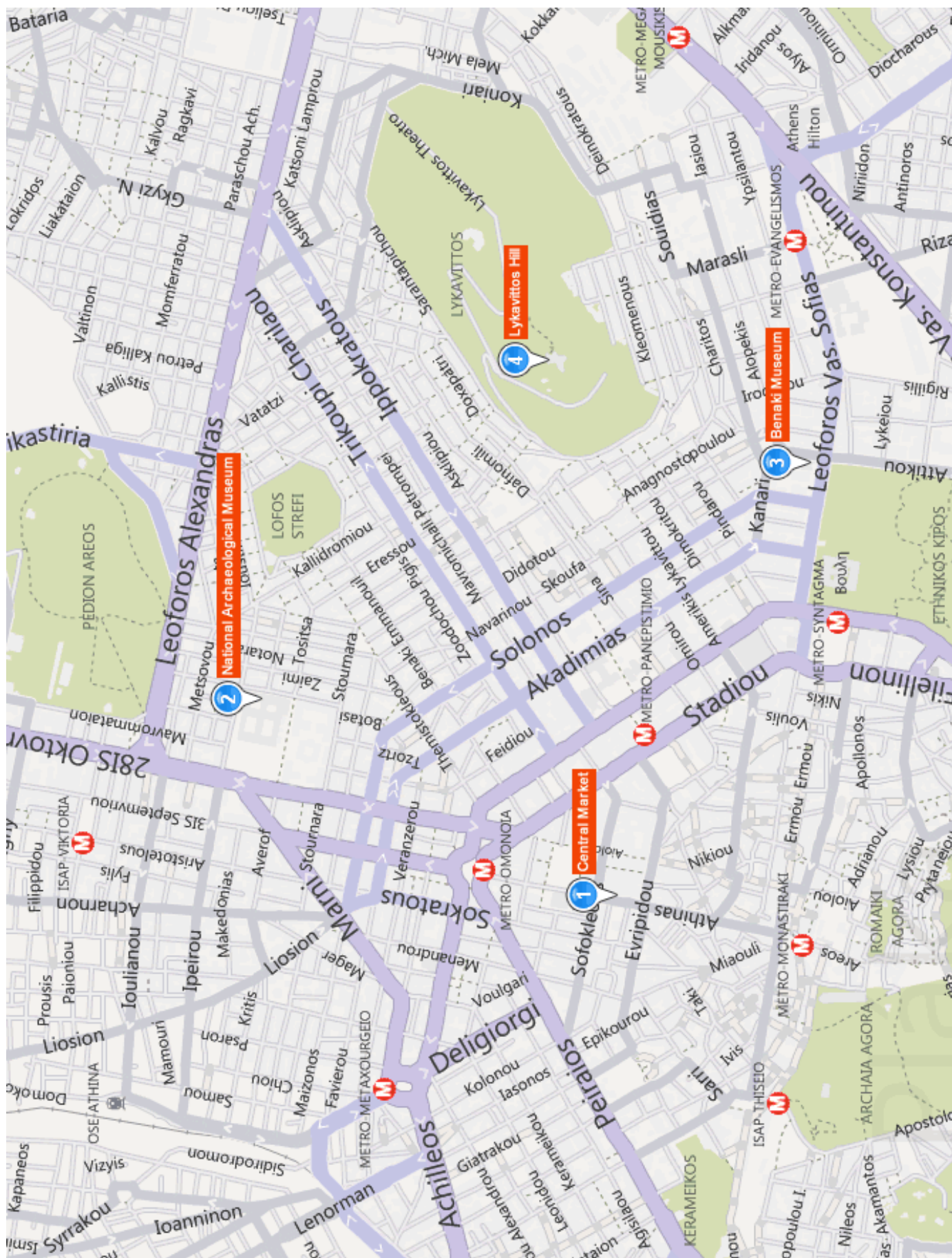
[MORE Info and Photos >](#)



## Overview of Day 4

	<b>LEAVE HOTEL</b> <a href="#">Tested and recommended hotels in Athens &gt;</a>	
	Take Green or Red Metro Line to Omonia station	
09:30-10:30	<b>Central Market</b> —————	Tasty Greek delicacies <a href="#">Page 20</a>
	Take a walk to National Archaeological Museum - 30'	
11:00-12:30	<b>National Archaeological Museum</b> —————	Widest collection of ancient Greek art <a href="#">Page 20</a>
	<b>Lunch time</b>	
	Take a walk to Benaki Museum	
14:00-15:30	<b>Benaki Museum</b> —————	Eclectic and unique art collection <a href="#">Page 21</a>
	Take a walk to the funicular station at the end of Ploutarchou street	
	Take the funicular to the top of Lykavittos Hill - 60' in all	
16:30-17:30	<b>Lykavittos Hill</b> —————	Best panoramic view of the city <a href="#">Page 21</a>
	<b>END OF DAY 4</b>	





## Attraction Details

09:30-10:30

### Central Market (42 Athinas Street, Athens)

Opening hours: Mon - Sat: 6am - 3pm

#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Central market on Athinas Street is Athens' main market hall. It is one of the liveliest places in the city
- Vendors sell all sorts of meat, fish, vegetable, cheeses, dried nuts, sweets, herbs and spices
- The market's vibrant atmosphere itself, without shopping, makes a visit well worth it
- The bustle, the loud and energetic sounds filling the air and the mixture of spice fragrances engage all senses



- There is a market 6 days a week (closed Sundays) starting at 6 am. It is an ideal place to start a day

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Stroll the market and shop for some tasty specialities: feta cheese, herbs, dried nuts
- Do not miss the incredible Greek fruits

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

11:00-12:30

### National Archaeological Museum (44 Patission Street, Athens 10682)

Opening hours: April 1 - Oct 31, Tue - Sun: 8am - 7:30pm, April 1 - Oct 31, Mon: 12:30pm - 7pm, Nov 1 - March 31, Tue - Sun: 8:30am - 3pm, Nov 1 - March 31, Mon: 1:30pm - 8pm, Public holidays: Closed • Admission: 7 €

#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- The National Archaeological Museum is the largest Greek museum. Its rich collection includes the most important Greek artifacts from prehistory to late antiquity
- Originally it was opened to house the finds from the 19th c. Athenian excavations. Later finds from all over Greece were brought here
- More than 11.000 exhibits are on display including prehistoric and antique sculptures, vases, pottery, minor objects and more
- It is housed in an imposing end of 19th century neoclassical building



- The highlights include famous works from the great Bronze Age cultures described by Homer to the Golden Age of Classical Athens and beyond

#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- You will get an orientation map with your entrance ticket. It will guide you through the well marked galleries of the museum
- Free admission to the museum on the first Sunday of April, May, June, September and October

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Discover the museum to see the richest collection of artifacts from Greek antiquity worldwide

14:00-15:30

## Benaki Museum (1 Koumbari Street and Vas. Sofias Avenue, Athens)

**Opening hours:** Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9am - 5pm, Thursdays: 9am - 12midnight, Sundays: 9am - 3am, Tuesdays: Closed, Public holidays: Closed • **Admission:** 6 €



### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Benaki Museum is a world class art museum in central Athens. Antonis Benakis established the museum in 1930 in memory of his father, Emmanouil Benakis
- The Benakis family used to be one of Athens' most prominent families. Emmanouil Benakis was a wealthy merchant and politician
- The museum is housed in a mansion that once belonged to the influential family
- Since the 2000 re-opening the museum's main focus is Greek art showing the evolution of Greek painting, sculpture and handicrafts
- Other collections such as Islamic or Chinese art have been moved to satellite museums
- Over 20 000 items are on display

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Discover the museum and learn about Greek history and culture from the Stone Age to the 20th century
- The exhibition contains icons, sculptures, textiles and costume collections
- Do not miss the café on the top floor that offers amazing view

### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- The entrance to the museum is free every Thursday
- Although there is not audioguide available the well written English descriptions next to each artifact will give you ample information

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

16:30-17:30

## Lykavittos Hill



### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Lykavitos Hill is a 277 m (908 ft) high limestone hill in Athens. It is the highest point of the city
- The hill is clad with pine trees with pleasant footpaths running through them
- The name Lykavitos means: the one [the hill] that is walked by wolves. Legend has it that long ago wolves took refuge in the area
- At its peak is a 19th Chapel of St. George. It provides a fabulous panoramic view of the city both day and night
- Also on the top lies a large open-air theater. It hosts numerous events and concerts including the summer Lykavittos Festival where bands play with the sun going down behind them

### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Take the funicular railway (daily every 30 min) to the top of the hill. The ride takes around 10 minutes
- Take a walk on the top and take a look at the picturesque small chapel of St. George
- If you fancy a coffee have a break in the café
- Enjoy the fabulous view of the city

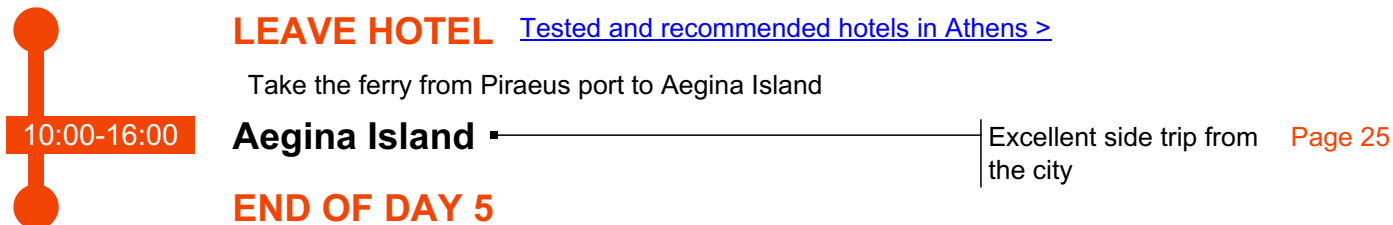
### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- A restaurant and a café are also located on the top. Both are rather expensive
- The hill is a steep climb. We recommend taking the funicular instead

[MORE Info and Photos >](#)

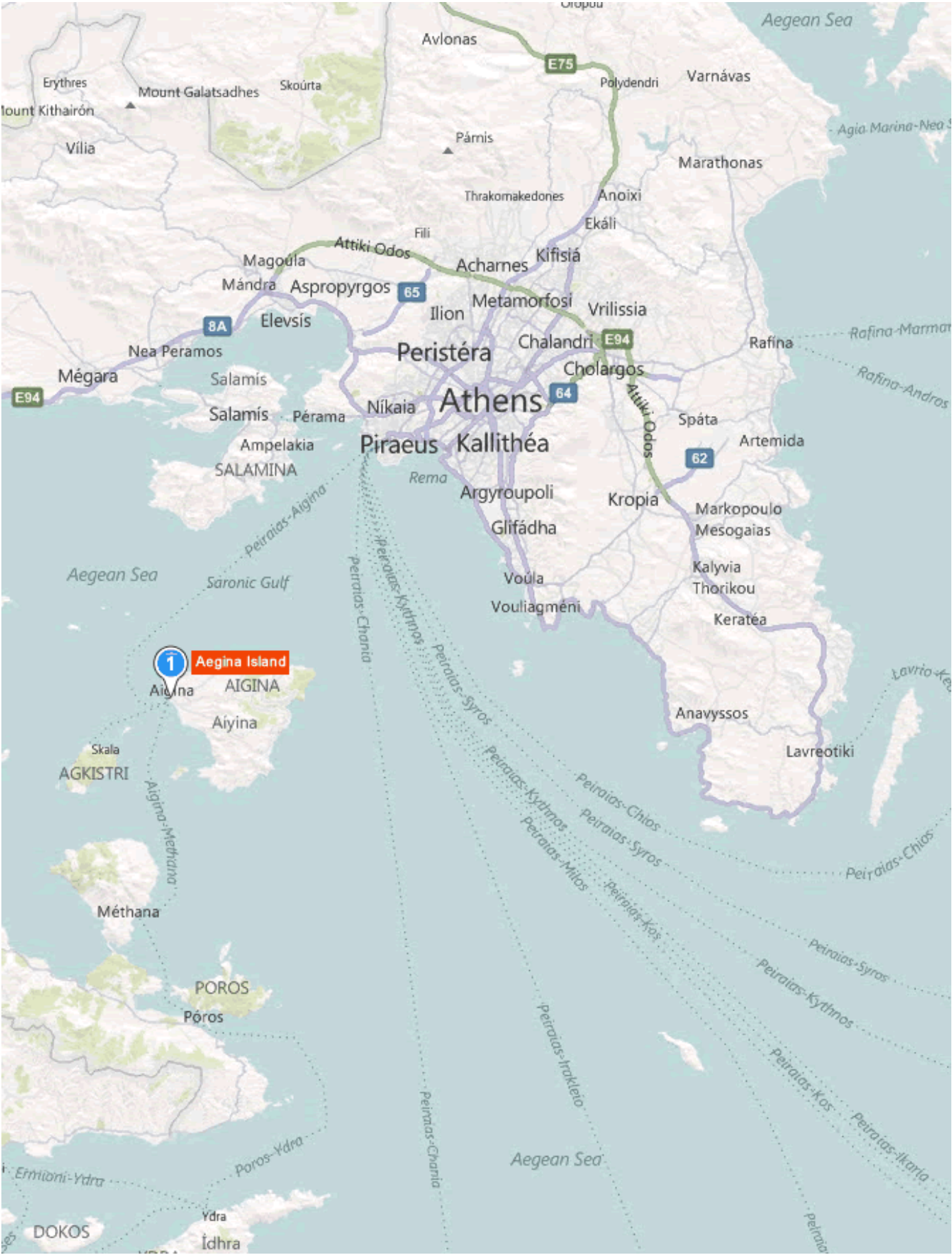


## Overview of Day 5





Overview of Day 5



## Attraction Details

10:00-16:00

### Aegina Island



#### THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Aegina Island is an island about 28 km (17 mi) from Athens in the Aegean Sea. The island's largest town is also called Aegina
- The island is best known for its tasty pistachios and the Doric Temple of Aphaia
- The well preserved Aphaia Temple was built in the 5th century BC when Aegina's power was comparable to that of Athens
- The town has a lovely 19th century port

#### THINGS TO DO THERE

- Take a regular ferry (Hellenic Seaways, Nova Ferries) from Piraeus port. They run very frequently
- The ferry will take you to the main town on the island
- From there take the first boat to the island of Angistri (20 min by boat). It is a small paradise. Swim, relax and take a lunch
- Take a boat back to Aegina and discover the port area

- Take the local bus (or rent a quad) to the Temple of Aphaia (direction Agia Marina)
- Head to one of the beaches of Agia Marina (take the bus or a long walk)
- From there take the ferry back to Piraeus
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#### TIPS & INSIGHTS

- Do not miss the delicious pistachio ice cream
- On your way back to Piraeus try the flying dolphin hydrofoil (weather permitting)
- If you are interested in more islands you can do the islands Aegina, Hydra and Poros in one day
- See [this site](#) for more detailed information

**[MORE Info and Photos >](#)**