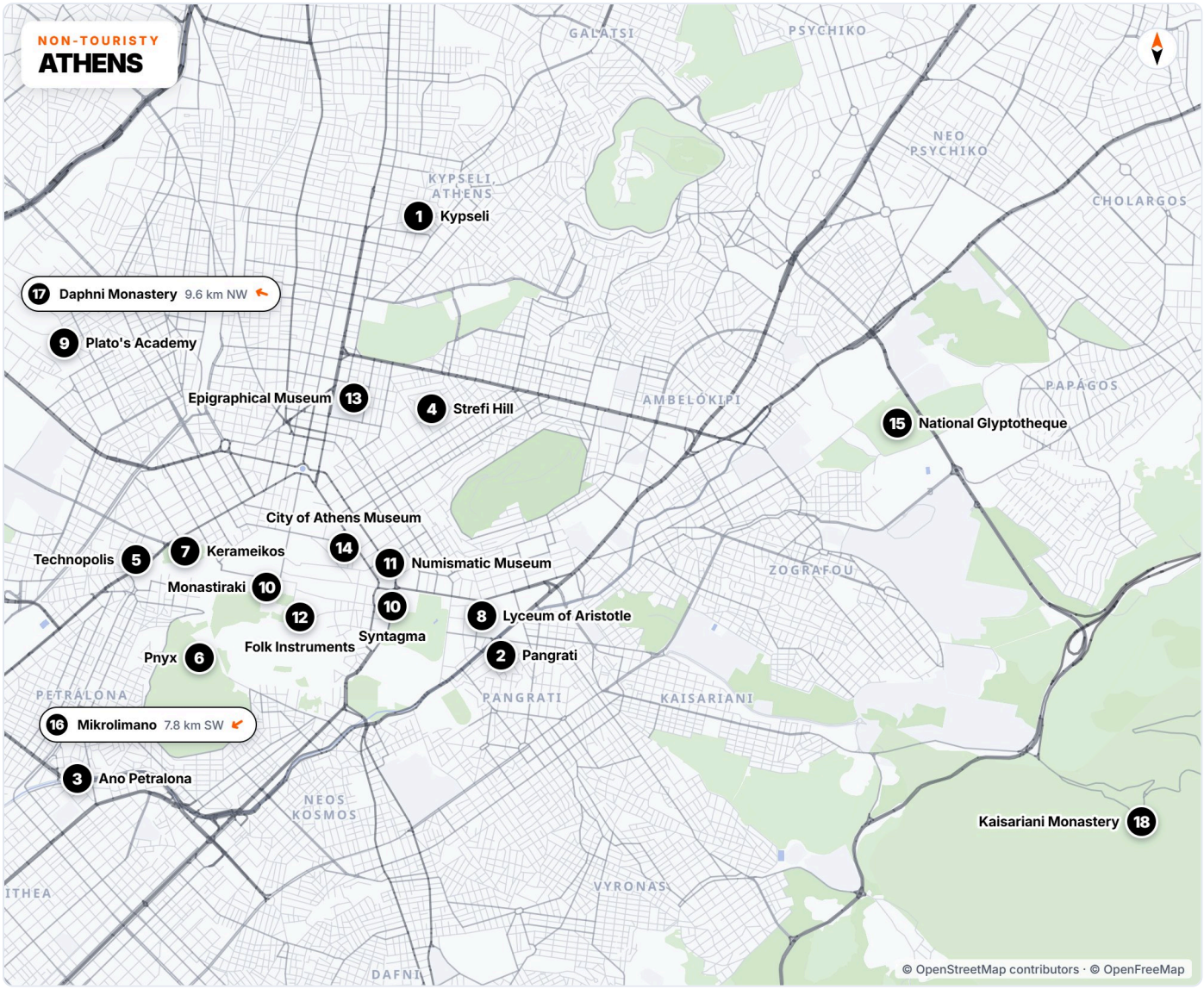
ATHENS AWAY FROM THE CROWDS

18 Non-Touristy Things to Do in Athens

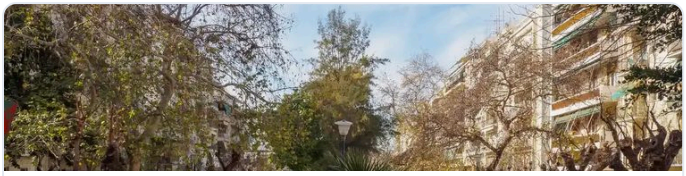
Neighbourhood squares and markets, quiet ancient sites, small museums, a harbour and two monasteries. The numbers on the map match the plans on the next pages.



Plan, numbered as in the list Farther out: distance and direction from Syntagma

1. Walk Fokionos Negri to the Kypseli Municipal Market
2. Spend a morning in Pangrati and Mets, from Platia Proskopon to the First Cemetery
3. Eat at a neighbourhood taverna in Ano Petralona
4. Shop the Saturday farmers' market on Kallidromiou and climb Strefi Hill
5. See the old gasworks at Technopolis in Gazi
6. Stand on the Pnyx and follow the paths of Philopappos Hill
7. Walk through the Kerameikos cemetery
8. Visit the Lyceum of Aristotle
9. Find Plato's Academy in a neighbourhood park
10. Look at the excavations inside Syntagma and Monastiraki metro stations
11. Have a coffee in the garden of the Numismatic Museum
12. Hear the Museum of Greek Folk Musical Instruments in Plaka
13. Read the stones at the Epigraphical Museum
14. Step into the Museum of the City of Athens
15. See the sculpture park of the National Glyptotheque in Goudi
16. Eat fish by the harbour at Mikrolimano
17. See the mosaics of Daphni Monastery
18. Visit Kaisariani Monastery on Mount Hymettus

The 18 plans, one by one



1 Walk Fokionos Negri to the Kypseli Municipal Market

A 600-metre pedestrian promenade built over an old stream, lined with cafés and lawns, leads to the Kypseli Municipal Market, a modernist building of 1935 that now hosts workshops and bazaars.

Access	Public space
When	Any day for the promenade; events at the market vary
Getting there	Victoria station, then Kypseli on foot



2 Spend a morning in Pangrati and Mets, from Platia Proskopon to the First Cemetery

Café life on Platia Proskopon, then the First Cemetery of 1837, an open-air sculpture museum where Heinrich Schliemann is buried and Chalepas's Sleeping Maiden stands near the church of Saint Theodore.

Access	Public space
When	Mornings, for the cafés and a cemetery visit in daylight
Getting there	Pangrati and Mets



3 Eat at a neighbourhood taverna in Ano Petralona

Old-school tavernas, all-day bars and an outdoor cinema share the streets of a residential district. Oikonomou, open for almost a century, keeps to plain Greek cooking.

Access	Free with a drink or meal
When	Lunch or dinner
Getting there	Ano Petralona



4 Shop the Saturday farmers' market on Kallidromiou and climb Strefi Hill

One of the largest farmers' markets in Athens fills Kallidromiou Street on Saturday mornings, with fruit, fish, olives and honey under mulberry trees. Strefi Hill, in the same district, looks out over the city.

Access	Public space
When	Saturday mornings for the market; the hill at any time of day
Getting there	Exarchia

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5 See the old gasworks at Technopolis in Gazi

The old gasworks of Athens, closed in the mid-1980s, now hold exhibitions, festivals and fairs, with the Industrial Gas Museum, a café and the city's only Skywalk on the grounds.

Access	Museum ticketed
When	Wednesday to Sunday for the museum; daytime into the evening in winter
Getting there	Gazi, at Peiraios 100

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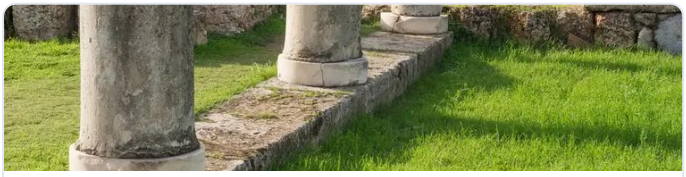


6 Stand on the Pnyx and follow the paths of Philopappos Hill

The hilltop where the assembly of ancient Athens met, in view of the Parthenon, part of one stretch of hills with Philopappos Hill and the Hill of the Nymphs. The ground is uneven and only partly step-free.

Access	Free admission
When	Daytime, any day
Getting there	Acropole or Koukaki stops, as listed for the church on Philopappou Hill

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7 Walk through the Kerameikos cemetery

The main cemetery of ancient Athens, with funerary stelae, the Sacred Gate, the Dipylon and a small museum. Since 2026 the visit route is larger and exits on Agion Asomaton Street.

Access	Ticketed
When	Daily, 08:00 to 15:00 from 1 November to 31 March; longer hours in summer
Getting there	Thissio (line 1) or Kerameikos (line 3)

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8 Visit the Lyceum of Aristotle

Remains of the gymnasium where Aristotle taught from 335 BC, found in 1996, on a circular path under olive, cypress and pomegranate trees beside the garden of the Byzantine and Christian Museum.

Access	Ticketed
When	Daily, 08:00 to 15:00 from 1 November to 31 March; longer hours in summer
Getting there	Evangelismos metro station, 3 minutes on foot

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9 Find Plato's Academy in a neighbourhood park

Traces of the school Plato founded around 387 BCE, among them the Gymnasium and the Square Peristyle, spread around a neighbourhood park in Kolonos.

Access Public space
When Daytime
Getting there Akadimia Platonos, in Kolonos, a few metro stops from Syntagma Square



10 Look at the excavations inside Syntagma and Monastiraki metro stations

Finds from the metro works on show inside the stations: amphorae, oil lamps and a 4th century BC tomb at Syntagma, and the Roman-era channel of the Eridanos at Monastiraki.

Access Public space inside the stations
When Daily, during metro operating hours
Getting there Syntagma and Monastiraki stations



11 Have a coffee in the garden of the Numismatic Museum

An 800-square-metre garden with Greek plants and copies of ancient statues behind the Schliemann mansion designed by Ernst Ziller. Its café keeps longer hours than the museum.

Access Free with a drink or meal (cafe); museum ticketed
When Cafe daily from morning to late evening; museum closed on Tuesdays
Getting there Syntagma metro stop



12 Hear the Museum of Greek Folk Musical Instruments in Plaka

1,200 Greek folk instruments in a Plaka mansion of 1842, with headphones at each display case to hear the instruments being played.

Access Ticketed
When Closed Tuesdays; winter mornings to mid-afternoon, summer longer
Getting there Monastiraki (lines 1 and 3)

Stop in the Athens audio guide



13 Read the stones at the Epigraphical Museum

The largest collection of ancient Greek inscriptions in the world, at Tositsa 1, housed alongside the National Archaeological Museum.

Access Ticketed
When Closed on Tuesdays; in winter open from morning to mid-afternoon
Getting there About 8 minutes on foot from Victoria metro station (line 1), or about 12 from Omonia

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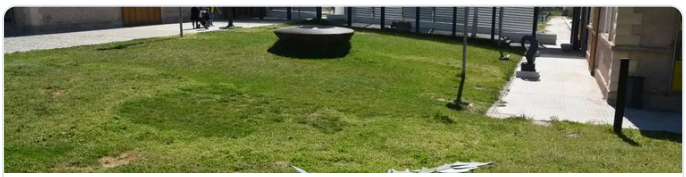


14 Step into the Museum of the City of Athens

The Old Palace on Klafthmonos Square, home of King Otto and Queen Amalia for seven years, with a piano of 1830 in Amalia's quarters and an interactive 3D model of Athens.

Access Ticketed
When Closed on Tuesdays; opens at 10:00 at weekends and 09:00 on other days
Getting there Klafthmonos Square, in the historic centre of Athens

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15 See the sculpture park of the National Glyptotheque in Goudi

Modern Greek sculpture in the former Royal Stables at Goudi, with a 6,500-square-metre park of large outdoor works.

Access Ticketed
When Closed on Tuesdays; otherwise open from morning to mid-afternoon
Getting there Katechaki metro station (line 3)

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16 Eat fish by the harbour at Mikrolimano

A small harbour below Kastella in Piraeus, lined with fish tavernas from Papaioannou to the Michelin-starred Varoulko Seaside. Panorama, up in Kastella, looks down on the bay.

Access Public space
When Hours set by each restaurant
Getting there Piraeus, below Kastella

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17 See the mosaics of Daphni Monastery

An 11th-century monastery at the end of Iera Odos, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for the mosaics of its katholikon and the Pantocrator in the dome.

Access	Free admission
When	Daily except Tuesday, mornings to mid-afternoon in winter
Getting there	Chaidari, at the end of Iera Odos



18 Visit Kaisariani Monastery on Mount Hymettus

A Byzantine monastery on the wooded slope of Mount Hymettus, with a church and bathhouse from its foundation and narthex frescoes of 1682, set around a courtyard.

Access	Ticketed
When	Closed on Tuesdays; otherwise mornings to mid-afternoon
Getting there	Kaisariani Forest, on Mount Hymettus; about 20 minutes from the centre by car

More of Athens

The guide to tourism in Athens ranks the main sights, the Athens tourist map marks them on one page, and the tourist office in Athens page lists where to ask for information in person.

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