Before you arrive ...

PLAN YOUR VISIT, FIND DEALS, AND SIGN UP FOR E-MAIL NEWSLETTERS FOR TIPS, PACKAGES & SPECIALS, AND BIG EVENT NOTICES.

VisitAthensGA.com
Contents

Top 10 .................................................................... 6
Music ..................................................................... 8
Craft Beer .............................................................. 9
Arts ........................................................................ 10
Culture ..................................................................... 11
Heritage ................................................................. 12
Gardens ................................................................... 13
UGA Sports ............................................................ 14
Outdoors .................................................................. 15
Maps ........................................................................ 16
Dining ...................................................................... 20
More Info ............................................................... 22
Attraction Listings .................................................. 23
Hotels ...................................................................... 29
Events ..................................................................... 31
Savor Local Flavors
Athens is a rising star on the food scene with Top Chef Hugh Acheson among our many talented chefs creating exceptional menus from local, seasonal, and sustainable fare.

Life Unleashed
Celebrate festivals!
Catch the sights and sounds of Athens at seasonal festivals such as summer music & arts at AthFest, a Halloween Wild Rumpus parade through downtown streets, holiday ice skating at The Classic Center, Wine Weekend to warm up your winter, and the Athens Twilight Criterium each spring.

Cheer on the Dawgs
Athens' population doubles on home football weekends, but that’s not the only time to catch some top sports action. UGA is home to 19 Division I sports teams, plus club teams such as the Ice Dogs (yes, ice hockey in Athens!).

Sip a Local Brew
Athens has been called the “Next Great Craft-Brew Town” by FirstWeFeast.com. Learn how award-winning beer is made and sample various styles and flavors at a tour of Terrapin Beer Co., Creature Comforts Brewing Co., and Southern Brewing Company. These local favorites and hundreds more are available at hot spots like Trappeze Pub and The Globe, or check out what’s on tap at Copper Creek Brewing Company.

Explore Downtown
Our restored historic downtown district is teeming with local shops, restaurants, and music venues. You'll uncover vintage and locally made goods plus other choice finds at shops like Agora, Masada, and Frontier. Browse for records at Wuxtry, where members of R.E.M. first met.

Get Your Groove On
Athens has been called “Live Music Central” by The New York Times, and the best college music scene by Rolling Stone. Perhaps best known as home to R.E.M., the B-52's, and Widespread Panic, Athens is still called home by hundreds of bands. See live music nightly at acclaimed venues like the Georgia Theatre and 40 Watt Club.

feel the creative energy
Athens is home to the Georgia Museum of Art, the state’s official museum, along with numerous galleries showcasing the work of local, regional, national, and international artists. Be here on Third Thursdays when galleries offer extended evening hours and special events!

Stroll through a Garden
The State Botanical Garden of Georgia features 313 acres of themed gardens, plus nature trails for hiking and birding and a stunning tropical conservatory. Other local gardens display the best of 19th-century plantings all the way to today’s “Athens Best” at the Trial Gardens at UGA.

Venture Out
Take a walk (or hike, or climb, or kayak) that’s a bit off the beaten path at Athens’ expansive selection of athletic facilities, natural resources, parks, and recreation areas.

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BANDS + BREWS

Spend a night out in one of the best music scenes in America, plus sample some of the most exciting craft brews going.

Athens Music Walking Tour
Download this tour of local musical heritage spots from VisitAthensGA.com/music-tour, or pick up a copy at the Athens Welcome Center or Convention & Visitors Bureau.

Retro Vibes
Head to the UGA Special Collections galleries for interactive exhibits on all things Georgia, including broadcast media and music.

Craft Brewery Tour & Tastings
Spend happy hour at the source of good times and good beer, with a tour, tastings, and live music at Terrapin Brewery, Creature Comforts Brewing Company, and Southern Brewing Company.

“‘I LOVE THE ATHENS AUDIENCE. THEY’RE NOT PRETENTIOUS, BUT THEY DO HAVE HIGH STANDARDS.’
MUSICIAN KISHI BASHI

Dinner
The National is just across Hancock Street from Creature Comforts and is one of Athens’ most notable dining destinations. Continue with the craft beer theme at Trappeze Pub, with an on-point food menu plus extensive selection of beer on tap. Or, dine atop the rooftop of the Georgia Theatre for breathtaking sunset and city skyline views.

Live Music & Club Crawl
Start out at earlier shows you’ll find at The Foundry or a special performance at The Classic Center or UGA’s Performing Arts Center. Stay out late with a national touring act, regional draw, or local favorite in Athens’ acclaimed clubs such as the Georgia Theatre, 40 Watt Club, The World Famous, and Caledonia Lounge.

Lunch
Stop off for a bite at Weaver D’s, whose soul food counter service inspired R.E.M.’s album title, “Automatic for the People.” Dine alongside local musicians at Mama’s Boy or The Grit.
ARTS + CULTURE

Art is everywhere in Athens, from the state’s official art museum to local galleries and studios to lining the walls in restaurants and shops. There are even galleries inside our convention center and at Hotel Indigo.

Georgia Museum of Art
Explore the state’s permanent collection with strengths in American painting and Southern decorative arts, plus exhibitions from around the world. Save time to visit the well-curated gift shop and stop for coffee at the café. Cross the plaza to the Lamar Dodd School of Art to see what students and faculty are creating.

Lyndon House Arts Center
Originally housed within the historic Ware-Lyndon House, the community visual arts complex is a local treasure, with large airy galleries overlooking the Appalachian foothills.

Take some home
In the Lyndon House gallery shop, the Visual Arts Guild of Athens offers a wide selection of works for sale in a variety of media.

Selfie spot!
Strike a pose with Beverly Pepper’s “Ascension,” the steel sculpture outside the Georgia Museum of Art, or with the current exhibit in the GMOA’s Jane and Harry Willson Sculpture Garden, devoted to the display of works by women sculptors.

Lunch: Pulaski Heights BBQ
Head a few blocks outside downtown to this spot known not only for its flavorful meats but also inventive sides and vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options. Pulaski Heights is Southern ‘que, elevated. Enjoy the porch in nice weather and watch the trains go by!

Explore the warehouse
The Chase Street Warehouse District is a hotbed of local artists. Check out innovative, contemporary art at ATHICA: Athens Institute for Contemporary Art, or high flying performance art at Canopy Studio.

Dinner Downtown
Treat yourself to a thick steak at Porterhouse Grill, nouveau Southern cuisine and luscious dessert at the Last Resort Grill, amazing pub fare and extensive craft beer on tap at Trappeze Pub, or a pizza pie masterpiece at Ted’s Most Best, just some of downtown Athens’ dining selection.

Downtown Shopping
Walk down Clayton Street for shop after shop filled with one-of-a-kind and locally made products. Look for R. Wood ceramics to grace your table. Bee Natural luminaries for any décor, and hand-crafted leather goods at Masada. Native America and Frontier are other shops with local flair. Grab some UGA Bulldog gear to mark your time in Athens. Bonus: A college town makes for some of the best vintage shopping around, so check out Atomic Athens, Agora Vintage, Community, and others.

An Evening Out
Headliner entertainers, touring Broadway productions, and top comedians grace The Classic Center Theatre stage. Athens is the proud home of several local theatre companies, as well as the UGA Performing Arts Center, which attracts world-class talent. Be sure to look up the schedules when you’re in town!
Cross over Broad Street in downtown Athens and venture back two centuries to the early days of America’s first state-chartered college, the University of Georgia. Get a glimpse into the lives and legacy of antebellum Athens as you tour historic house museums and accompanying gardens.

Tour Your Itinerary

UGA North Campus
Take a stroll through historic North Campus, which is modeled after Yale University and is the setting of some of the oldest buildings in Athens, dating back to the start of classes in 1801.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia
Explore the gardens and five miles of trails at the 313-acre preserve that is the state’s official botanical garden. A stunning tropical conservatory is surrounded by themed gardens showcasing native and international flora. The grounds also include the Garden Club of Georgia State Headquarters and the lovely Day Chapel. Bring your binoculars; the Garden is an Audubon-designated Important Bird Area. Grab a refreshment at the garden café.

Museum Mile
Athens’ four historic house museums represent differing architectural styles from different decades of the 19th century. Download a self-guided tour, pick one up at the Athens Welcome Center or Convention & Visitors Bureau, or make a reservation for a guided Classic City Tour. Choose the Athens Heritage Tour – a 90-minute driving tour of historic districts and landmarks – or the “Museum Mile” – a two-hour tour of all four antebellum interiors. Don’t miss seeing the authentic period gardens at each house museum.

Lunch
Dine on refined Southern cuisine at The Place – the upstairs dining area overlooks UGA’s historic North Campus!

Dinner
Dine at Five and Ten, from nationally-acclaimed Athens chef Hugh Acheson. The restaurant is located along S. Milledge Avenue in the Five Points historic district, in a circa-1920 Colonial Revival home by architect Fred Orr.

State Botanical Garden Gift Shop
An added bonus is the wonderful gift shop at the State Botanical Garden, featuring a wide range of local products.

Get More!
Take a UGA Arboretum walking tour. VisitAthensGA.com/gardens.
SPORTS + RECREATION

Athens more than doubles its population on home football weekends with a tailgate scene that can’t be beat! The UGA sports action goes on far beyond football season, and, best of all, admission to most UGA sports events is FREE!

**Your Itinerary**

**Refuel**  
Channel the “other” type of football at The Royal Peasant, a traditional-style English pub named one of America’s Best Sports Bars by CNN Travel. Or, head to Blind Pig Tavern for huge burgers and huge TV screens, plus interactive options from darts to trivia.

**Fun Gear**  
Sport the Power G when you pick up any and all Georgia Bulldog items imaginable at emporiums like the UGA Bookstore on the heart of campus, or head downtown to the Clubhouse, Dawg Fanz, or Red Zone.

**Let Them Run!**  
Keep the kids occupied at Memorial Park and Bear Hollow Zoo, which includes a lake, picnic shelters, and playground area, plus a nature trail and dog park. The small zoo includes many species of Georgia’s native wildlife — the wooded setting stays shady for comfort in the summer months.

**Just Escape**  
Hit the links at the UGA Golf Course, one of the best college courses in the country and designed by Robert Trent Jones. For an indoor challenge, try one of Athens’ escape room experiences at Escape the Space or Urban Enigmas.

**Selfie spot!**  
Get your picture made with one of the bulldog statues found throughout town! #SeeAthensGA

**More Family Fun**  
Other family favorites include Sandy Creek Nature Center’s interactive animal exhibits and ADA-accessible trails, the indoor Active Climbing facility, the Tony Hawk-designed Skate Park of Athens, and Classic City Rollergirls and UGA Ice Hockey matches at The Classic Center Arena.

**Rollin’ on the River**  
Visitors may not realize that the North Oconee River flows right by downtown Athens. A 3.5-mile Greenway linear park is open sunrise to sunset for all types of non-motorized uses, including dogs on leashes. Over 50 interpretive heritage markers are placed along a half-mile stretch by Dudley Park. Enjoy the beauty of the river with a one- to two-hour kayak trip from Big Dogs on the River, on the Middle Oconee River.

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WHERE THE LOCALS EAT

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Pulaski Heights BBQ
Kate Belgum, @kbelgum1 recommendation via Instagram

Hometown Boy Made Good:
Peter Dale
Chef-owner, The National; co-owner, Seabear and Condor Chocolates

“I’M A PETER DALE FAN”
COOPER HUDSON, MAMA’S BOY CO-OWNER

More that made the list:
Sr. Sol
Chorizo and Lengua Tacos

ExploreGeorgia’s Culinary Explorer Jennifer Hill Booker raves, “Fresh and authentic, these tacos are served garnished simply with onion, minced cilantro, and wedges of fresh lime.” Named one of “Jennifer’s Top 10” plates in Georgia!

Heirloom Cafe
Lamb Meatloaf

“CRAB CAKE BENEDICT OR A SAUSAGE, EGG, AND CHEESE BISCUIT FROM MAMA’S BOY. SALMON AND GRITS FROM LAST RESORT.”
— SANDY A. VIA FACEBOOK

“CALI ‘N TITOS. LOVE THE FEELING LIKE I’M IN THE TROPICS, AND THE VEGGIE CUBANO AND MADUROS (I’M VEGETARIAN FOR 20+ YEARS).”
— TIMI CONLEY, LOCAL MUSICIAN

Home.made:
The Mayberry sandwich

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AROUND ATHENS

Numbers to Know
Police, fire, ambulance emergencies: 911
Non-emergency police dept.: 706-613-3330

HOSPITALS & URGENT CARE
Athens Regional Medical Center:
1199 Prince Ave.,
706-475-7000
St. Mary’s Hospital: 1230 Baxter St.,
706-389-3000
Reddy Urgent Care: 283 E. Broad St.,
706-850-9800, and 1061 Odoory Rd.,
Suite 102, 706-621-7555

Getting around
AIRPORT
Athens-Ben Epps Airport
706-613-3420 (charter service)
AthensAirport.net

Ground Shuttle to/from
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport
Groome Transportation
19 trips daily
706-410-2363
GroomeTransportation.com

Bus
Athens Transit System
706-613-3434
AthensTransit.com
Mega Bus
877-462-6342
MegaBus.com
Southeastern Stages
706-549-2255
SoutheasternStages.com

Taxi
5 Star Taxi: 706-549-2224
Golden Taxi: 706-543-5646
United Taxi Cab: 706-549-0808

TAXES
7% local/state sales tax; additional 7% hotel/motel occupancy tax

OUR GOVERNMENT
In 1991, the Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County became the 28th consolidated city-county government in the United States and the third in Georgia.

ATLANTA INFORMATION & TOURS
ATHENS CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU
300 N. Thomas St., 1st floor of historic fire hall at The Classic Center
8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday
706-257-4430
VisitAthensGA.com
Downtown Map, D3
Plan your visit! Get expert local advice to make the most of your visit.

ATHENS TOURS & TRANSIT/ ATHENS BREWERY & ATHENS WINEY TOURS
678-835-8082
AthensToursandTransit.com
A variety of tours; choose from breweries, wineries, heritage, gardens, food, and more. Also offering shuttle service for weddings and special events.

ATHENS WELCOME CENTER/ CLASSIC CITY TOURS
280 E. Dougherty St.
10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday, noon-5 p.m. Sunday
706-353-1820
AthensWelcomeCenter.com
Downtown Map, D2
Make this your first stop for brochures, guided heritage tours, and a wide variety of self-guided tours and maps. Shuttle service also available.

UGA VISITORS CENTER
405 College Station Rd., UGA campus, 30602
706-542-0842
Visit.uga.edu
UGA Map, D6
Free guided campus tours daily.

VISUAL ART
ATHICA: ATHENS INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
60 Tracy St., Unit 4
706-389-5450
AthensInstitute.com

CINÉ
234 W. Hancock Ave.
706-953-3343
AthensCine.com

VISITOR INFORMATION & TOURS

THE CLASSIC CENTER THEATRE

ALL LISTINGS LOCATED IN ATHENS, GA 30601 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.
Dining guide

FARMVIEW MARKET
2610 Edenton Highway, Madison
844-210-7020
FarmviewMarket.com
Stop by the Farmview Market café for simple, delicious farm-to-table fare. Breakfast includes Southern staples like biscuits, house-made sausage and pancakes. For lunch enjoy garden-fresh salads, sandwiches and daily special entrees fresh from the farm.

BUFFALO’S CAFE
196 Alps Road, Suite 49
706-548-7183
Buffalo’sCafe.com
Student and guest artist performances range from the classics to contemporary and original works.

THEATER & PERFORMANCE ARTS

CANDY STUDIO
160 Tracy St., Ste. 6
706-549-8501
CandyStudio.org
Area Map, 15, G2
Watch aerial artists fly high during performances at this non-profit community art center.

SPECIAL ADVERTISING SECTION

ART GALLERIES & SHOPS

AGORÀ VINTAGE
238 E. Broad St.
706-255-2623
AgoraVintageShop.com

ATHENS JEWELERS
THE ART OF IT ALL
260 N. Jackson St.
706-549-6960
Facebook.com/ATHeneJewelers

AURUM STUDIOS
125 E. Clayton St.
706-546-8828
AurumStudios.com

GALLERY AT THE CLASSIC CENTER
300 N. Thomas St.
706-208-0900
ClassicCenter.com

CREATE-YOUR-OWN ART
ARTISTS
2440 W. Broad St., Ste. 3
706-356-8530
ArtistsArtLounge.com

CLAYFULLY CREATED
2440 W. Broad St., Ste. 5
706-356-5002
ClayfullyCreated.com

UPONTOWN ART
3061 Atlanta Hwy. Ste. D
706-208-7377
UpontownArt.com/Athens

THEATER & PERFORMANCE ARTS

CANDY STUDIO
160 Tracy St., Ste. 6
706-549-8501
CandyStudio.org
Area Map, 15, G2
Watch aerial artists fly high during performances at this non-profit community art center.

CLASSIC CENTER THEATRE
300 N. Thomas St.
706-357-4444
ClassicCenter.com
Downtown Map, D3
Upcoming 2016-2017 performances include Once, Pippin, and Enis Loves, plus Elf and The Nutcracker at the holidays.

MORTON THEATRE
195 W. Washington St.
Tickets: 706-613-3771
Info: 706-613-3770
MortonTheatres.com
Downtown Map, C3
See a play or music performance at this restored African-American vaudeville theatre, opened in 1910 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
230 River Rd., UGA Campus
30065
706-542-4400
Paci.uga.edu
UGA Map, 14, G4
Catch innovative and cutting-edge performances from the world’s best musicians and dancers in all genres, including classical, jazz, ballet, and folk.

THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA DEPARTMENTAL PRODUCTIONS
Drama.uga.edu
706-542-4400
Dance.uga.edu
706-542-4415
Music.uga.edu
706-542-3737
Student and guest artist performances range from the classics to contemporary and original works.

LOCAL THEATRE COMPANIES

ARTHEIS CREATIVE THEATRE
233 Gran Elen Dr., 30606
706-613-3628
ArtHeisClareCounty.com
Area Map, 17, G4
CIRCLE ENSEMBLE THEATRE
706-360-2175
CircleEnsembleTheatre.com

ROSE OF ATHENS THEATRE
706-340-9181
RoseOfAthens.org
TOWN AND GOWN PLAYERS
115 Greely Ave.
706-548-3894
TownandGownPlayers.org
Area Map, 16, G2

COFFEE ROASTERS

1000 FACES COFFEE
584 Barber St., 30601
706-534-8860
www.1000facescoffee.com
Area Map, A2

JITTERY JOE’S COFFEE ROASTING
425 Barler St.
706-227-2161
JitteryJoe.com
Area Map, A2

GARDENS

FOUNDERS MEMORIAL GARDENS
245 S. Milledge Ave.
706-542-1244
BotGarden.uga.edu
Area Map, 31

SOUTH GARDEN
325 S. Lumpkin St., UGA Campus, 30602
GardenClub.uga.edu
Area Map, 31

1200 feet of hiking trails, a tropical conservatory, and themed gardens. Audubon-nominated birding area. Special events and programs held year-round. Gift shop, cafe, Dogwood Festival.

All listings located in Athens, GA 30601 unless otherwise noted.
TRIAL GARDENS AT UGA
220 W. Green St., across from the UGA Coliseum
706-542-2471
ugaTrailchart.uga.edu
UGA Map, B4
See horticulturists in action as they determine the “best of the best” plants for our region’s high heat and humidity.

HERITAGE
ATHENS WELCOME CENTER/ CHURCH-WADDEL BRUMBY HOUSE (1820)
280 E. Dougherty St.  706-553-2520,  866-455-1820, 706-353-1820, 280 E. Dougherty St. Athens Welcome Center/ Heritage is the home of this UGA graduate, Confederate general, and principal author of the Confederate Constitution. It was used as a house museum and residence. Its restoration in 1954 served as a model for later self-guided and guided tours available at the UGA Visitors Center (p. 23).

UGA SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARIES
300 S. Hull Street, UGA Campus, 30602 706-542-7123 liba.uga.edu/aul
UGA Map, B2
Historical and cultural treasures are revealed in a magnificent setting of university, highlighted by Georgian architecture.

TAYLOR-GRADY HOUSE (1844)
634 Prince Ave.  706-549-8688 TaylorGradyHouse.com
Downtown Map, A2
This National Historic Landmark was the home of newspaper editor and Confederate general, and principal author of the Confederate Constitution. It was used as a house museum and residence. Its restoration in 1954 served as a model for later self-guided and guided tours available at the UGA Visitors Center (p. 23).

LOCAL MUSICIAN TIMI CONLEY
WARE-LYDON HOUSE (1856)
293 Hoyt St.  706-613-3623 AthensClarkeCounty.com/LyndonHouse
Downtown Map, C1
The home of this UGA graduate, Confederate general, and principal author of the Confederate Constitution. It was used as a house museum and residence. Its restoration in 1954 served as a model for later self-guided and guided tours available at the UGA Visitors Center (p. 23).

THE CLASSIC CENTER
300 N. Thomas St.  706-547-4444 ClassicCenter.com
Downtown Map, D4
Stroll through the original campus of the nation’s first state-chartered university, highlighted by Greek Revival architecture, beautiful gardens, and a magnificent setting for music, lecture, and special events.

uga.X, ‘Que’
April-December.

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CELEBRATE!
Festivals & Events

Complete event calendar: VisitAthensGA.com/events

AUGUST 2016
Classic City BBQ Festival, Aug. 19-20

SEPTEMBER 2016
Insectival, Sept. 17

OCTOBER 2016
North Georgia Folk Festival, Oct. 8
AthFest Fitness Expo & Half Marathon, Oct. 8-9
Athens-to-Atlanta Road Skate, TBA
Lickskillet Festival, Oct. 22
Halloween in the Clubs and Wild Rumpus, Oct. 28 weekend

DECEMBER 2016
Downtown Parade of Lights, Dec. 1
Independence Day Celebration, July 4

MARCH 2017
Classic City Brew Fest, Apr. 9
Athens Twilight Critérium and American Music Festival, TBA

APRIL 2017
UGA International Street Festival, Apr. 8
Plantapolooza! TBA
G-Day Football Game, Apr. 22

FEBRUARY 2017
Indie South Fair Holiday Hooyay, Dec. 3-4
Now Year’s Eve, Dec. 31

JUNE 2017
Athens Slingshot, TBA
Athens Twilight Critérium and American Music Festival, TBA

MAY 2017
Memorial Day in Memorial Park, May 29

JUNE 2017
AthFest, TBA
Hot Corner Celebration, TBA

JULY 2016
Classic City American Music Festival, July 2

SEASONAL: Athens and West Broad Farmers Markets, April-December
Sunflower Music Series, June-September

WHAT AN AMAZING GEM WE HAVE WITH ATHENS: SMALL-TOWN CHARM, HUGELY TALENTED CHEFS. CAN’T RECOMMEND A TRIP HERE ENOUGH.”

— TRAVEL JOURNALIST @ KPORDS

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