ATHENS – GENERAL INFORMATION

General information for visitors on transportation, entertainment, doctors, travel, and many other services throughout Athens and Greece: telephone 11888 (operators speak English)

NOTE: When calling Athens from abroad, dial 0030-210+number.
When calling other cities in Greece from abroad, dial 0030-area code+number
If a telephone number has been changed, call General Info 11888.

Emergency/useful telephone numbers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical emergency</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambulance</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Hospitals</td>
<td>14944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacies on duty</td>
<td>14944</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Department</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poison Center</td>
<td>210-7793777</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Information</td>
<td>11888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourist Police</td>
<td>171 or 210 171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Doctors</td>
<td>1016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELPA Road Assistance</td>
<td>10400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic Police (Athens)</td>
<td>210-5230111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athens Airport</td>
<td>210-3530000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Banks

- Monday to Friday from 08.00 to 14.00 Monday. Closed Saturday and Sunday.
- ATM cash machines are located everywhere throughout the city and in all large hotels. The easiest place to change money is at the airport upon arrival.
- Greece’s monetary unit is the Euro. No other currency is accepted and it is best to exchange dollars or other currency at a bank or at the airport. Exchanging money at a bank or official exchange shop will give you the best rate. Foreign currencies and traveler’s checks can be exchanged at all banks, exchange counters and most of the hotels. Major credit cards are accepted in most hotels, restaurants and shops.
- Currency conversion: [http://www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com)

Credit Cards

For lost/stolen credit cards:
- American Express 210-3397250
- Diners Club 210-9290200
- Eurocard 210-9503673
- Mastercard 00800-1188-70303 toll-free
- Visa 00800-1163-80304 toll-free

Exchanging money

- Eurochange:
  - 2 Karageorgis Servias, Syntagma 210-3312462
  - 4 Karageorgis Servias, Syntagma 210-3243882
  - Athens International Airport 24 hours
- Western Union: throughout the city and in many banks and post offices

Post Office
The main Post Office is located on Syntagma Square (210-3237573) and is open:
Monday to Friday: 07:30 – 14:30
Saturday: 07:30 – 14:00
Sunday: 09:00 – 13:30
Post Office branches are located in all neighborhoods and are open only Monday to Friday
07:30 – 14:30.

Mobile phones

Greece uses the same GSM system as most EU countries, Asia and Australia. USA and Japan use a cellular phone system that is incompatible with Europe. To avoid roaming charges, mobile telephony companies in Greece, such as TIM, Vodafone and Cosmote, offer a-la-carte communication services without fixed charges at very low prices. All kiosks, electronic and tourist shops sell phonecards for domestic and international calls.

Medical Services/Pharmacies

- **Hospitals:** Accident and emergency treatment is available 24 hours per day at duty hospitals (Tel: 106 for the hospital on duty or check the International Herald Tribune/Kathimerini).
- **Doctors:** Round the clock service is provided by SOS Doctors (Tel: 1016), who charge a fixed rate for hotel or home visits, and do not accept credit cards.
- **Pharmacists** are well trained and licensed to dispense a wide range of medicines. Pharmacies have the same as shop hours. A schedule of after-hours pharmacies is posted on pharmacy doors, published daily in the International Herald Tribune/Kathimerini, or you may call 1434 for a Greek recording of after-hours pharmacies.

For after-hours pharmacies and on-duty hospitals: 1434
Open the same as shop hours:
Monday, Wednesday, Saturday: 09:00 – 15:00
Tuesday, Thursday: 09:00 – 14:30 and 17:30 – 20:30
Sunday: closed

Taxis-Limousines

- Flat/minimum rate is €3.44.
- From 05:00 to 24:00 the tariff is single (shows “1” on the meter)
- From 24:00 to 05:00 the tariff is double (shows “2” on the meter)
- Additional charges are added covering rate per km inside city limits, rate per km outside city limits, to and from airport, ports, railways and bus stations, baggage of 10kg each, toll booths.
- According to Greek law, taxis drivers should provide, upon request, a receipt for the amount paid, indicating the taxi’s registration number and the driver’s name.

**RadioTaxi**

**Kosmos**
Tel: 18300

**Taxi Top**
Tel: 2152151800

**Taxiplon**
T: 18222

**Limousine services:**
Limousines AAA Royal Prestige 210-9883221
Astra Limousine Service 210-9236755
Convecta Limousine Service 210-3225090
Limousine Service 210-3234120

WSW Skycap Services At Athens International Airport: 210-3530100 or [www.skycap.gr](http://www.skycap.gr).
Provides Meet & Greet, Baggage Handling, Transport Service for both departing and arriving passengers. Three options of taxi, minivan and limousine.

### Car rental agencies

- **Avis** 210-6879600
- **Budget** 210-8981444/800-1180012
- **Europcar** 210-2882151
- **Hertz** 210-6264000
- **National** 2103493428
- **Michael Stamou Luxury rentals** 210-9222442-3

### Courier Services

- **DHL** 210-9890000
- **UPS** 210-9984000
- **ACS** 210-8190000/801-5001111
- **Express City** 210-8219959
- **Geniki Tahidromiki** 210-2108056464
- **Speedex** 210-9943100

### Shops

**Retail and pharmacies**
Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays: 09:00 – 15:00
Tuesdays, and Thursdays: 09:00 – 14:30 and 17:30 – 20:30
Sundays: Closed

**Supermarkets**
Mondays – Fridays: 09:00 – 21:00
Saturdays: 09:00 – 20:00
Sundays: Closed

### Business Services (translations and secretarial support)

- **Businet** 210-9531730
- **International Business Services** 210-7245541
- **Executive Translation & Interpreting Services** 210-7783698, [www.executiveservices.gr](http://www.executiveservices.gr)
- **Intertranslations** 210-9225000, [www.intertranslations.gr](http://www.intertranslations.gr)

### Florists

- **Bouquet, Kolonaki** 210-3616454
- **Dromoloulouda, Sydagma** 210-3232321
- **Petridis** 210-6728370

### Bookstores (foreign language)

- **Compendium, Syntagma** 210-3221248
- **Eleftheroudakis, Syntagma** 210-3258440
- **Folia tou Bibliou (The Book Nest), center** 210-3231703
- Kauffman (mostly French), center 210-3222160
- Libro, Kolonaki 210-7247116

Other:
- Public, Syntagma 210-3242860 (+ music, electronic, computer/photo/mobile accessories)
- FNAC, The Mall 210-6305555 (+ music, electronic, computer/photo/mobile accessories)

Electricity

Electrical voltage in Athens is 220 AC, 50 Hz. A transformer kit with a European round/2-prong plug is necessary if you intend to use any electrical appliances which are not compatible with this voltage.

Time Zone

Athens Daylight Saving Time is two hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

Tipping

At hotels and restaurants tipping at a rate of 5-10% of the total is common. Taxi drivers and porters expect tips.

Newspapers & Press (foreign language)

Hotels, kiosks on Syndagma Square, Kolonaki Square, Kifissia, Glyfada, carry major international newspapers & magazines from around the world. The Athens News is a daily English language paper which focuses on Athens and Greece and some international news.

Weather

Winters during the mid-November to end of February period can be cold, with daytime temperatures occasionally falling to low single digit figures (centigrade). The likelihood of rain is higher, mostly in January and February. Summers (mid-May to end September) are hot and dry with 28-38 C degrees the expected range. Spring and autumn tends to have a sample of both summer and winter weather, in temperature and rainfall, usually somewhere in between the two - but these periods are typically mild.

ATHENS: approximate temperatures by month (°C)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ATHENS: approximate temperatures by month (°F)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Kosher in Athens

Jewish Community Organization Athens: 210-3252823
Sightseeing in Athens

For complete information on: history of Athens, general information, transportation in Athens, maps, hotels, restaurants, entertainment, cultural agenda, shopping, sports, local customs, traveling with children, beaches, off the beaten path, walks in the city, traps and warnings, excursions, car rental, travel agents, photo gallery, and much more….

http://www.athensguide.com/museum.html

Bus 400: The cheapest and easiest sightseeing tour in Athens. With €5 you will get to see the most interesting sights of the city. You can hop on and off as often as you like, the ticket is valid for the whole day. The bus departs at Irakliou Street (National Archeological Museum) every 30 minutes (07:30 – 21:00). The full tour takes about one and half hours. www.oasa.gr

More Information on Athens and Greece may be further found at the National Greek Tourist Office (NGTO/EOT): 210-8707000, http://www.eot.gr or http://www.visitgreece.gr

Public Transportation

General information on transportation may be obtained at telephone 185 or:
- www.oasa.gr, www.ethel.gr (buses)
- www.ametro.gr (metro)
- www.proastiakos.gr (suburban railway)
- www.tramsa.gr (tram)
- www.ose.gr (trains)

Clothing Size Conversion Chart

Women's Clothing:
- American: 10 12 14 16 18 20 22
- British: 32 34 36 38 40 42 44
- Continental: 38 40 42 44 46 48 50

Women's Shoes
- American: 6 6.5 7 7.5 8 8.5 9
- British: 4.5 5 5.5 6 6.5 7 7.5
- Continental: 36 37 38 39 40

Suits, Overcoats, Sweaters
- American: 34 36 38 40 42 44 46
- British: 34 36 38 40 42 44 46
- Continental: 44 46 48 50 52 54 56

Collar Sizes
- American: 14 14.5 15 15.5 16 16.5 17
- British: 14 14.5 15 15.5 16 16.5 17
- Continental: 36 37 38 39 40 41 42

Men's Shoes
- American: 5.5 6.5 7 7.5 8.5 9 10 10.5 11 11.5
- British: 5 6 7 8 9 10 11
- Continental: 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

National Holidays

January 1 New Year's Day (Protochronia)
January 6 Epiphani (Theofania)
April/May (movable) Ash Monday (Kathari Defera)
March 25  Independence Day  
April/May (movable)  Easter Sunday (Pascha)  
April/May (movable)  Easter Monday  
May 1  Labor Day (Protomagia)  
June (movable)  Holy Spirit Monday (Agiou Pnevmatos)  
August 15  Assumption of the Virgin Mary  
October 28  1940 refusal to yield to the Axis  
December 25  Christmas Day (Christougena)  
December 26  Day after Christmas

How to cross the road in Athens!

Do not presume that all cars will stop at a red traffic light - they do not. And do not presume that a one-way street may not have traffic going in both directions; scooters and mopeds especially, routinely ignore traffic direction regulations. The way to approach all this is simple, when you cross the street look at what car and driver are doing (not what they "should" be doing). If a green light shows that it's OK to cross you must first, look for yourself to see that all cars have stopped and none are still approaching the junction, then proceed and keep watching. Presume that motorized vehicles have right of way.