



International Student Guide

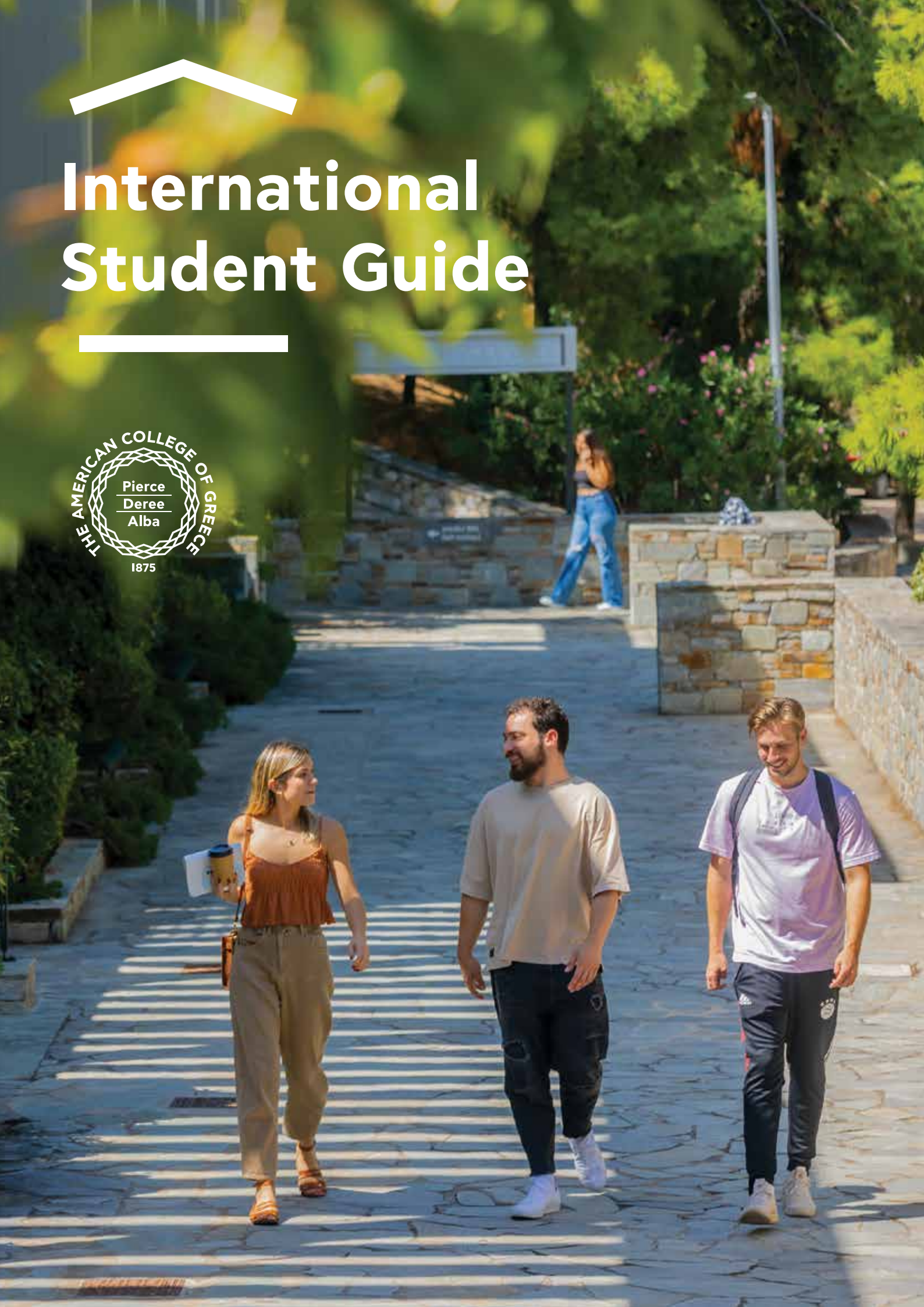


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Welcome to ACG

Welcome message from
David G. Horner, PhD
President of The American College of Greece



Dear Student,

We are delighted that you have chosen The American College of Greece as the destination of your study abroad or undergraduate academic experience. We are certain this will be one of the best experiences of your life.

Our staff has created this International Student Guide with useful information to help you experience all that Greece, Athens, and The American College of Greece have to offer. Additionally, please feel free to stop by the International Student Services Office for any questions you may have.

My office is on the floor above Starbucks in the Center for the Arts; I would be delighted to see you as well.

Once again, welcome and best wishes.

David G. Horner, PhD
President
The American College of Greece

Pre-departure Guide

Before you depart

- Make flight arrangements to get to Athens International Airport (Eleftherios Venizelos).
- Make housing arrangements. In case you are staying at the college residence complex, make sure to fill out all housing forms.
- Attend pre-departure sessions at your home institution, if available.
- Arrange for all required course approvals.
- Meet with a financial aid advisor at your home institution to verify that everything is in order, if applicable.
- Designate a person (i.e. parent, legal guardian, or other) who will be responsible for your financial affairs while you are abroad. You may want to get a signed, notarized power of attorney naming a person who can act on your behalf.
- Encourage parents, legal guardians, and other family members to apply for passports in case they wish to visit you in Greece.
- Read your health insurance plan. Make sure you understand your coverage while abroad, as well as the procedures.
- Be sure to make two photocopies of your passport and visa (if applicable) and leave one with a trusted person at home. Keep the other copies with you to carry around in Greece, so you do not have to carry your passport around.
- Develop emergency contact procedures with your family and friends and provide them with the emergency contacts found in this guide.
- Share your list of important contact information with your home institution.
- Obtain all necessary medical prescriptions, and copies of your prescriptions, as well as adequate supplies of your prescription medicine for your stay in Athens. When travelling carry them in their original container in your carry-on luggage. Make sure that these medications are legal in Greece.
- Pack smart for your stay in Athens. See the sample packing list in this guide for ideas.

What's the weather like in Athens?

Athens enjoys a Mediterranean climate. The dominant feature is alternation between prolonged warm and dry summers and mild winters with moderate rainfall and a lot of sunshine. Greece uses the Celsius scale for measuring temperature (0°C=32°F). For those of you with mathematical skills, the formula to convert degrees Celsius to degrees Fahrenheit is: $F = (C \times 1.8) + 32$

FALL SEMESTER (September - December): expect nice weather when you arrive in September and an average temperature of 28°C (82°F). However, there will be a gradual drop in temperature and you should expect an average of 10°C (50°F) and mild rains in December.

SPRING SEMESTER (January - April): Snowfall is rare in Athens. Average temperature in January and February is 10°C (50°F). In March and April days gradually become warmer to reach an average temperature of 18°C (64°F). Frequently, the weather in late April is warm enough to allow for swimming.

SUMMER SESSIONS (May-July): Summer in Greece is warm and dry. The average temperature during the day is 32°C (89°F) and might drop to 25°C (77°F) during nighttime. There are chances you might encounter a heat wave, during which temperatures rise to over 40°C (104°F).

So, what should you pack?



FALL SEMESTER (September - December)

In order to enjoy the last days of summer, moderate weather during fall, and wintry December, please pack accordingly:

- 4-6 T-shirts
- 2-3 pants/skirts/shorts
- 2-3 sweaters/hoodies
- Long-sleeve shirts (layering)
- Cardigan
- Pajamas
- Warm slippers
- One set of workout clothes (if you plan to hit the gym or work out outdoors)
- Coat/jacket (water resistant with zip pockets and removable lining)
- 2-3 nice outfits (dress/pants/skirt) for special/formal occasions
- 2-3 pairs of walking/comfortable shoes
- Flip-flops (especially for showering at hostels and using swimming pools)
- 1 light & 1 medium-weight jacket
- Umbrella
- Hat/cap

SPRING SEMESTER (January - April)

For winter and spring you may pack:

- 2-3 pants/skirts
- 2-3 sweaters/hoodies
- Long-sleeve shirts
- Cardigans
- Pajamas
- Warm slippers
- One set of workout clothes (if you plan to hit the gym or work out outdoors)
- Coat/Jacket (water resistant with zip pockets and removable lining)
- 2-3 nice outfits (dress/pants/skirt/dress) for special/formal occasions
- 2-3 pairs of walking/comfortable shoes/ boots
- 1 medium and 1 heavy-weight jacket
- Isothermals (for layering)
- Umbrella
- Warm hat, gloves and scarf
- 4-6 T-shirts
- Flip flops (especially for showering at hostels and using swimming pools)
- Swim suit, because sometimes the weather can get summery in April.

SUMMER SESSIONS (May-July)

- 4-6 T-shirts
- 2-3 pants/skirts
- Cardigan
- Light jacket or light hoodie
- Pajamas
- One set of workout clothes and trainers (if you plan to hit the gym or enjoy the outdoors)
- Flip-flops (especially for showering at hostels and using swimming pools)
- 2 nice outfits (dress/pants/skirt) for special/formal occasions
- Swim suit
- Beach clothes
- Hat/cap
- Sunglasses

Tip: We strongly recommend you use sunscreen on sunny days even during the winter months.

Money

- Have an emergency fund of at least €500.
- Bring the recommended amount of money for settling-in costs. Check with the Office of International Student Services for specific recommendations.
- Make sure you have the credit and debit cards you plan to use and make sure they can be used internationally.
- Leave a photocopy of these cards with a responsible person at home.
- Plan a realistic budget. Take into account travel, housing, meals, souvenirs, entertainment, and the occasional shopping.
- Contact your bank to discuss your planned study abroad semester and matters concerning your accounts – i.e. withdrawal fees, daily ATM limits, how your cards will function overseas, setting up online accounts, etc.



Arrival Checklist

Here is a checklist of things to do after your arrival in Athens:

- Contact your family to let them know you have arrived safely.
- Attend Student Orientation on campus.
- If you have not already done so, buy your course books and school supplies. Ask the staff at the International Student Services Office (ISS) for more information.
- Make a photocopy of your passport and keep the original in a safe place.
- If applicable, make an appointment with the ISS staff about obtaining your residence permit.
- Sign up for ACG clubs and extra-curricular activities. Ask the ISS Office for more information.



International Student Services (ISS)

The Office of International Student Services helps all study abroad and international students prior to their arrival and for the duration of their stay at ACG. Here are some of the services we provide:

- Visa assistance (if needed)
- Residency permit issuance assistance (if needed)
- International Student Orientation
- Organization of events and outings
- Excursions to unique cultural destinations in Greece
- Emergency assistance
- Incoming mail services for resident students

If you have any questions prior to your arrival or during your stay, please contact:

International Student Services

Office: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1471

Cell/Mobile: +30 6932764437 / +30 695 783 5087

iss@acg.edu

On-Campus Services



ACG is accredited in the United States by the New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE). It offers students a wealth of services, including:

Student Success Center

The Student Success Center (SSC) is a one-stop service point for all ACG students. The SSC staff can help you with certificates, registration, academic advising, validation matters, credit transfer, tuition payments, or any other question about ACG.

Student Affairs

The Office of Student Affairs enhances ACG students' college experience on and beyond the campus by enabling them to actively participate in student groups and activities; build skills towards professional and personal excellence; take advantage of study abroad opportunities; and receive the necessary healthcare and educational counseling to ensure life balance. Educational programming at ACG Student Affairs is developed to encourage a strong sense of community among all students, faculty and staff, while involving students in areas such as institutional governance and community service.

Career Services

At the Office of Career Services, all Deree students and alumni can:

- Identify their strengths and interests and how these fit with the requirements of work in various industries and positions.
- Enrich their experience through volunteering.
- Create their resume with the assistance of a Career Counselor, and develop a career plan.
- Explore local and international internship opportunities.
- Learn how to implement an effective job search and study effective interview techniques.
- Discover graduate study opportunities.
- Explore international job positions using the Goinglobal platform.

Counseling Center

The ACG Counseling Center is available free of charge to students who wish to discuss concerns or personal issues that they may be facing. Professional counselors offer one-on-one counseling in full confidentiality.

Library

The John S. Bailey Library at ACG is an invaluable resource for students. Library services include access to millions of online books; articles and databases; tens of thousands of printed resources; book-borrowing; course reserves; computer terminals; printing; and help with locating resources.

Student Academic Support Services (SASS)

SASS is a service available to all ACG students. Through one-to-one and group workshop sessions, SASS learning facilitators support the development of academic and study skills at the undergraduate and graduate level across all schools.

Computer Labs

ACG has two major computer labs. One is located in the Arts Center next to Starbucks and features 36 PCs and 4 Mac computers, laser and inkjet printers. The other is located in the Communications Building (CN) and features all PCs along with inkjet and laser printers.

Athletics

ACG's state-of-the-art fitness center provides students with a full range of fitness equipment. ACG also has an Olympic-size swimming pool, soccer field and track, basketball and volleyball courts, a climbing wall, tennis courts and more. There are plenty of intercollegiate teams and intramural sports to choose from.

Dining Services

We offer three on-campus dining/refreshment options for our students:

- The "Dipnosofistirion" food hall
- The CN snack bar
- Starbucks

On Campus Contact Information

The American College of Greece

6 Gravias Street 153 42, Aghia Paraskevi, Greece
t: +30 210 600 9800/9

Office of International Student Services

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1028
iss@acg.edu

Office of Housing and Residential Services

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 5006, 4901
residencelife@acg.edu

Office of Student Affairs

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1029
studentaffairs@acg.edu

Academic Advising Office

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1431
dc.adv@acg.edu

Registrar's Office

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1331
registrar@acg.edu

Student Success Center

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1326
ssc@acg.edu

John S. Bailey Library

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1348
library@acg.edu

Office of Athletics

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1365
dc.athletics@acg.edu

IT Help Desk

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1356
helpdesk@acg.edu

Business Office

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1404
cashier@acg.edu

SASS

t: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1273
sass@acg.edu



Emergency Contact Information

You may contact us 24/7 at the following numbers:

International Student Services

Cell/Mobile: +30 6932764437 / +30 695 783 5087

Housing and Residential Services

Cell/Mobile: +30 694 6569295/ +30 6937317587

You may also wish to contact your country's embassy or consulate in Athens. Go to www.athensinfo.com/gr/genembassies.htm for a complete list of embassies and consulates in the Greek capital, including contact information.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

European Emergency Service:	112
Police:	100
Ambulance:	166
Fire Department:	199
Coast Guard:	108

Registration, Attendance, Grades & Transcripts, Credit Transfer



Adding or Dropping a Course

International students should first consult with their advisor and then make any necessary changes with the Registrar. Some fees may apply.

Attendance

Class attendance is mandatory. During semesters, students may miss a maximum of nine class sessions for Mon-Wed-Fri courses or six class sessions for Tue-Thu courses. During summer sessions, students may miss up to six hours of class (three days). Professors have the option to set stricter standards of attendance for the courses they teach.

Checking Grades

During student orientation, you will receive instructions on how to use our online registration

portal - myACG - where you can check course schedules, grades, and unofficial transcripts. We will supply you with credentials so you can access myACG.

Transcripts/Credit Transfer

The Office of the Registrar will send an official transcript of your grades to your home institution after the completion of your session, semester or year abroad at ACG. Please provide the contact information of your home institution's registrar to the ACG Student Success Center upon your arrival.

Please note that it is ultimately the student's responsibility to verify that courses taken at ACG are transferrable to their home institution.

Residence Permit

In order to live and study in Greece beyond the validity of your original student visa (if required), you will need to apply for a residence permit. If you know that you will be staying longer than what your entry visa states (i.e. degree-seeking students or study-abroad students staying for more than one semester), it is mandatory that you apply for a residence permit as soon as you arrive in Greece. Contact the Office of International Student Services for assistance.

Buying Books

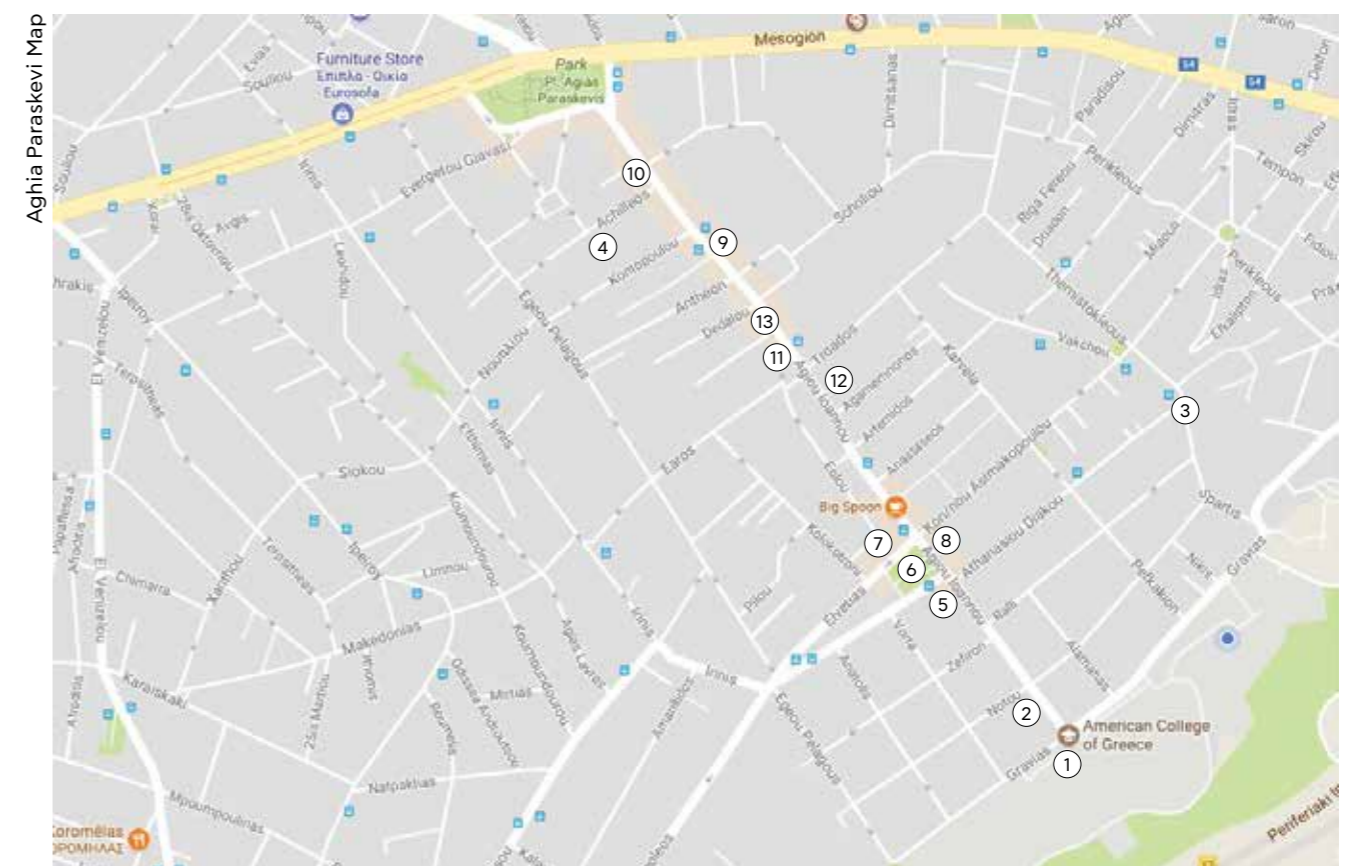
Students will find the required course textbook or e-book list on the ACG website (<http://www.acg.edu/academics/textbooks>) in advance of each semester/session. This practice makes the book acquisition process more efficient and less expensive. Students are free to choose how they will purchase their textbooks and are expected to acquire them prior to the start of classes. To avoid delays with some on-line providers, it is recommended that you place your order a minimum of 21 days in advance. Examples of on-line textbook providers: www.alibris.co.uk, www.amazon.de, www.bookdepository.com

Note: Please note that buying books from providers outside the EU (ie US, UK etc), might incur extra custom charges

The ACG Neighborhood



ACG is located in the residential area of Aghia Paraskevi, which is located just 10 km (6 miles) from the center of Athens. Numerous restaurants, shops, cafes and banks are located along Aghiou Ioannou Street, Aghia Paraskevi's main street, which runs from the ACG campus to the main square of the Aghia Paraskevi area. The map below indicates some useful places for you to know as you explore the area:



1. The American College of Greece, 6 Gravias Street
2. Local cafes, mini-market and stationery store
3. ACG Residences (R1, R2, R3 Buildings), 28 -31 Athanasiou Diakou Street
4. ACG Residences (R4 Building), 3 Achilleos Street
5. Mini-Market, corner of Aghiou Ioannou & Anthypolohagou Tassopoulou Str.
6. Aghiou Ioannou Square; bus stop for B5, 407, 406 buses leading to metro station (s)
7. Restaurant places, local cafes
8. Kiosks
9. Super-Market
10. Post Office
11. Alpha Bank (44-46 Aghiou Ioannou Street) with ATM
12. Eurobank (45 Aghiou Ioannou Street) with ATM
13. Piraeus Bank (40 Aghiou Ioannou Street) with ATM

ACG Campus Map



Shops and Restaurants Operating Hours

Aghia Paraskevi has a rich variety of retail shops, located on and around Aghiou Ioannou Street. Please note that not all stores have identical schedules. Below are some typical operating hours:

Local Small Retail Store Hours

M & W: 09:00–15:00
T, Th & F: 09:00–14:00 and 17:30–21:00
Sat: 09:00–15:00
Sun: CLOSED

Supermarket Hours

M–F: 09:00–21:00
Sat: 09:00–20:00
Sun: CLOSED

Pharmacy Hours

M & W: 08:00–14:00
T, Th & F: 08:00–14:00 & 17:00–20:00
Sat & Sun: Most are closed but some are always in operation for emergencies. You can find the ones open on any given weekend or night posted at the entrance of all pharmacies, or by asking one of our Resident Assistants (RAs).

Restaurants / Cafes

Restaurants are generally open between noon and midnight for take-out; if you are planning on dining out, keep in mind that the dinner rush starts at around 21:00, so some restaurants may not fire up their kitchen until after 19:00. Cafe hours vary, but those on Aghiou Ioannou Street are typically open from 09:00 to past midnight.

Mail Services



Mailing Address

Incoming mail services are provided for students residing in the ACG Residences. If there is a delivery or customs charge for the package, it is the responsibility of the student to pay it. Please use your ACG Housing address, which will be provided upon check-in for your incoming mail. If you need to send anything before your arrival please use the below address:

Your Full Name
c/o Office of International Student Services
The American College of Greece
6 Gravias Street
15342, Aghia Paraskevi, Greece

NOTE: Please make sure to prepay any purchases you make (i.e. **do not** select pay on delivery option)

Postal Services

There is a post office near the main square of Aghia Paraskevi, 8 Aghiou Ioannou Street. Open to the Public: M-F 07:30-14:45.

Buying Stamps

You can buy stamps at the local post office and at some kiosks ('pe-ree-pte-ro'). To save time, we recommend that you buy Greek stamps for your primary mailing destination all at once. The minimum cost of a postcard stamp or lightweight letter to the U.S. is approximately 1 euro.

Mailing Important Letters or Packages

While it is fine to send postcards from Greek mailboxes, we highly recommend that you send important letters or packages registered or via courier. Your Resident Assistant (RA) will recommend courier companies you can use.

Banking & Money Tips

Banking/ATMs

There is an ATM of the National Bank of Greece located on the ACG campus. ATMs are also available outside every bank and operate 24/7. Should you need to use services that require a visit to one of the many bank branches on Aghiou Ioannou Street, typical bank operating hours are as follows:

M - Th: 08:00-14:00 F: 08:00-14:00 Sat & Sun: CLOSED

Currency Exchange

If you are planning on exchanging cash while in Greece, it is advisable to do so upon arrival at the airport. You may find the Euro exchange office right inside the arrival terminal. Alternatively you can withdraw Euros directly through ATM's in Greece or exchange money in your home country prior to your arrival.

Losing a Credit Card

You should make a photocopy or copy down important credit card information from the bank that issued your credit card, so you know whom to call in case your credit card is lost or stolen. In the unfortunate event that you lose your wallet and need to cancel your credit cards, you may also use the following local numbers:

MasterCard: 00-800-11-887-0303 Visa: 00-800-11-638-0304
American Express: +30 210 3397250 Diners: +30 210 929 0200

You will need to provide the following information:

- Name of the card holder
- Name of the card issuer

Tips for Handling Money Safely

- Avoid carrying on you large amounts of cash.
- Keep your wallet in your front pocket and/or your purse strapped across your torso, or use a money belt.
- Do not flash large wads of money when paying a bill.
- Make sure your credit card is returned to you after each transaction.
- Deal only with authorized agents when you exchange currency, buy airline tickets or purchase souvenirs.
- If your possessions are lost or stolen, report the loss immediately to the local police.
- Keep a copy of the police report for insurance claims and as an explanation of your plight.

Keeping in Touch



Cell Phones

Although international cell phone plans may work in Greece, we recommend that you purchase a Greek SIM card or *pay as you go* phone (in case your telephone does not accept SIM cards) to minimize calling costs. If your telephone does accept SIM cards, you may purchase one from a cellular provider within walking distance from the College: Cosmote, Wind or Vodafone.

Important Note: When purchasing a *pay as you go* phone, you must have your passport with you.

Dialing Internationally

White pages information - Greece:
11880 and www.xo.gr

White pages information - international: 11889
To place an international call from Greece:

00 + Country code + area code + tel. number.

Examples: **US** 00-1-212-555-5555,

France 00-33-6-1234-5678

Tips for a Trouble-Free Stay

Health



International Health Insurance

All international students are required to carry international health insurance to cover any illnesses and/or accidents. Proof of your international health insurance must be provided prior to your arrival. Your home institution may provide health insurance for study abroad students, so please check with your study abroad office. If you are not feeling well, please contact the ACG nurses or the ISS office so you can get guidance and help.

Medical Prescriptions

If you are already taking prescription medication, it is recommended that you bring with you an adequate supply to last for the duration of your stay in Greece.

Please keep a copy of the prescription with you during your flight to Greece, and store the medicine in your luggage in their original container. If you need to fill a prescription while you are in Athens, there is a pharmacy located across the street from the College's main gate. The pharmacist there is fluent in English.

ACG Health & Wellness

The ACG Health & Wellness Center offers health services and wellness coaching. We have three nurses working on campus that provide first aid as well as advice and referral to hospitals and/or specialists.

We encourage you to visit our wellness coach for a tailor-made wellness program. Schedule an appointment for a one-on-one consultation on any of the following:

- Set exercise goals based on your lifestyle
- Eating patterns and making healthy food choices
- How to lessen addictive habits
- Feel better in your body
- Discover ways to increase your energy
- Find ways to relieve stress

In case you need to be hospitalized, ACG cooperates with some of Greece's best private hospitals that offer ACG students optimal care at advantageous rates. ACG personnel will help you sort through insurance-related issues.

Culture Shock



If you experience culture shock or wish to discuss personal matters with a professional counselor, one-one confidential counseling by qualified professionals is available at the ACG Counseling Center. Access to the Counseling Center is free for all ACG students.

Common Symptoms of Culture Shock

You may have one or a combination of the following symptoms; which may vary from person to person:

- Feelings of sadness and loneliness
- Over-concern for your health
- Headaches and allergies
- Insomnia or excessive sleeping
- Feelings of anger, depression, vulnerability
- Idealizing your own culture
- Feeling lost or confused
- Feeling shy or insecure
- Overwhelming sense of homesickness
- Trying too hard to adapt and becoming obsessed with the new culture
- Questioning your decision to study abroad

Dealing with Culture Shock *

There are several things you can do in order to deal with culture shock:

- First, fight the urge to retreat and be alone. Instead, get involved: join a club, try out for a sports team, or talk to other students in your class. Be sure to go out and explore your neighborhood. Join all the school excursions and go on a few on your own or with friends.
- Read more about the culture, history and the people. Also, try to relax your grip on your own culture so you can be open to learning and understanding.
- Try not to give in to the temptation of criticizing your host country. Consciously seek logical reasons behind everything that seems strange, difficult or confusing. Try to look at every aspect of your experience from the perspective of your hosts.
- Resist making derogatory jokes or comments about your host country and avoid people who do this.
- Get to know people in your new surroundings whom you can ask questions about the new culture and to whom you can confide in. This could be a fellow student or teacher, or a friend.

* The information in this section has been adapted or cited from the following sources: www.moving.about.com, www.kidshealth.org, Kohls, L.R. (1984) *Survival Kit for Overseas Living*. Intercultural Press, and NAU Pre-departure handbook.

Safety



Safety Tips

- Be especially cautious in or avoid areas where you may be more easily victimized.
- Do not use shortcuts, narrow alleys or poorly lit streets.
- Try not to travel alone at night.
- Do not go to or leave bars alone or with strangers.
- Do not accept food or drink from strangers.
- Do not discuss travel plans or other personal matters with strangers.
- Let someone you trust know of your plans. Keep them informed if you change your plans.
- Avoid scam artists by being wary of strangers who approach you and offer to be your guide or sell you something at bargain prices.
- Beware of pickpockets, especially in crowded places. They often have an accomplice who will jostle you, ask you for directions or the time or otherwise distract.
- Wear the shoulder strap of your bag across your chest and walk with the bag away from the curb to avoid drive-by purse-snatchers.
- Avoid public demonstrations and other civil disturbances.
- Avoid walking by yourself in the areas of Omonia or Victoria late at night.
- Learn a few phrases in the local language or have them handy in written form so that you can signal your need for police or medical help.
- Make a note of emergency telephone numbers you may need: ACG, police, fire, your hotel, and the nearest embassy or consulate of your country.
- If you are held up, do not fight back – give up your valuables.

Hotel Safety Tips

- Keep your hotel door locked at all times. Be sure of the identity of visitors before opening the door of your hotel room.
- Do not meet strangers in your hotel room, or at unknown or remote locations. Meet visitors in the lobby.
- Do not leave money and other valuables exposed in your hotel room while you are out. Use the hotel safe.
- If you are out late at night, let someone know when you expect to return.
- If you are alone, do not get on an elevator if there is a suspicious-looking person inside.
- Read the fire safety instructions in your hotel room. Know how to report a fire, and be sure you know where the nearest fire exit and alternate exit are located. (Count the doors between your room and the nearest exit; this could be a lifesaver if you have to crawl through a smoke-filled corridor.)

Avoiding Legal Difficulties

When you are in a foreign country, you are subject to its laws. It is your responsibility to be aware of the laws of Greece or any other countries you may be visiting, so you should familiarize yourself with legal expectations in the countries you intend to visit.

Drug Violations

More than 1/3 of international citizens incarcerated abroad are held on drug charges. Some countries do not distinguish between possession and trafficking, and many have mandatory sentences – even for possession of a small amount of marijuana or cocaine. Some people have been arrested for purchasing prescription drugs abroad in quantities that local authorities suspected were for illicit use. If in doubt about foreign drug laws, ask local authorities or the nearest embassy or consulate of your home country.

This information has been adapted and reprinted from the Travel.State.Gov website, a service of the Bureau of Consular Affairs. For additional information, visit: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en.html>

Traveling Around Greece

Transportation within Athens



Metro

Three metropolitan rail lines and one suburban railway operate in Athens. The Green Line is a regular train, whereas the Red and Blue Line are underground trains (metro/subway).

The Green Line runs all week from 05:00 – 00:30, whereas the Red and Blue Lines run: Sun-Th 05:30 to midnight and Fr-Sat 05:30-02:00.

The Metro station closest to the Aghia Paraskevi campus is **Aghia Paraskevi** (on the Blue line); Nomismatokopeio is also relatively close to campus and more easily accessible by bus.

Buses

There are two types of buses in Athens: Blue buses and electric trolley buses (which are purple/yellow). Blue buses run daily approximately from 05:00–00:00 and trolley buses run daily approximately from 05:00–23:00. For more information on public bus transportation, visit www.oasa.gr.

Tram

There are three tram lines, all of which travel along and/or end up at one of Attica's many beaches. Two tram lines begin in the center of Athens (Syntagma Square) and head south to the sea, whereas the third line travels west to east along the shoreline. These lines are ideal for visits to the seaside or the beach:

- Line 3 : SEF (SEF is the Peace & Friendship Stadium in Faliro) – Asklipio Voulas
- Line 4: Syntagma Square – SEF
- Line 5: Syntagma Square – Asklipio Voulas

For more information, you can visit www.stasy.gr

Taxis

Finding a taxi in Athens is usually an easy task; as long as the taxi sign on top of the cab is lit, you can just flag it down, get in and give the driver your destination. The minimum tariff for taxi transportation is €3.50; between midnight and 05:00 am, prices are doubled. We strongly recommend you download apps for taxis because it is safer and more convenient. You can use local Greek apps like *FreeNow*, *Uber* and *Taxi Plon*. Some but not all cabs accept credit/debit cards, so you should have some cash handy.

Transportation to/from Airport

When using public transportation to reach the airport, ticket prices are as follows:

Metro: €10 (for more information please visit: www.oasa.gr)

Buses: €6 (from Aghia Paraskevi take X95 express bus)

Suburban Railway: prices vary depending on station of departure.

There is a suburban railway train departing for the airport approximately every 30 minutes

Regional Travel

National Buses (KTEL):	www.ktelattikis.gr
National Railways Organization:	www.trainose.gr/en
Piraeus Port information:	www.olp.gr/en
Rafina Port information:	www.rafinaport.gr
Bluestar Ferries:	www.bluestarferries.com/en
Hellenic Seaways:	www.hellenicseaways.gr/en
Minoan Lines:	www.minoan.gr/en/crete
Anek Lines:	www.anek.gr
Athens International Airport	www.aia.gr
Olympic Air	www.olympicair.com
Aegean Airlines	en.aegeanair.com

Important Notice: If you are planning to travel outside Greece, be sure to check with the Office of International Student Services before booking your tickets to ensure that your travel & residence status permit re-entry into Greece.

Losing a Passport

If you lose your passport, the first thing to do is to contact the embassy or consulate of your country for assistance. In addition, please contact the nearest police station.

For a complete list of embassies and consulates in Athens, along with contact information, visit: <http://www.athensinfo.com/gr/genembassies.htm>

You will likely need to go to your embassy or consulate in person and appear before an official to obtain a replacement passport. At the embassy or consulate, you will need to complete a new passport application. If possible, bring with you a copy of your lost passport, the serial number, name, place/date of birth, and date/place where passport was issued. To avoid losing your passport make sure you carry a photocopy and leave the original in a safe place.

Shopping in Athens

If you want to go shopping, here are some typical store hours

Small store hours: M, W: 09:00-15:00. T, Th, F: 09:00-14:00 and 17:30-21:00. Sat: 09:00-15:00. Sun: Closed

Large Department stores: M-F: 09:00-21:00. Sat: 09:00- 20:00.

Supermarkets: M-F: 08:00-21:00. Sat: 08:00-20:00.

In tourist areas such as Plaka and Monastiraki, shops are open late and on Sundays.

Shopping Malls*

There are two major shopping malls and an outlet-shopping village within a reasonably short metro or bus ride:

The Mall Athens:

Take the Metro (Blue Line) to **Doukissis Plakentias** station and from there switch to the suburban railway in the direction of Kiato; get off at **Neratziotissa** station.

Golden Hall:

Located on Kifissias Avenue, you can follow the same route to get to the The Mall, and use the Golden Hall shuttle right outside the **Neratziotissa** station. Alternatively you can take a taxi from Mesogeion Avenue to Golden Hall that will cost 9-10 euros (one way).

Mc Arthur Glen (Discount Village):

McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Athens is located in Spata. Take the metro (Blue line) to Doukissis Plakentias station and then take the public bus 319: **Doukissis Plakentias** Metro Station - Spata - Designer Outlet.

For **IKEA** lovers in Athens there are two IKEA stores:

- One is near the Athens International Airport. You can go there by taking the buses or metro to the airport.
- The second is located on 96 Kifissou Avenue, in Aigaleo. There is a Blue line metro station in Aigaleo.

*Open Monday–Friday: 10:00–21:00; Saturday: 10:00–20:00.

Flea Markets and Shopping Areas

The Monastiraki flea market on Ifestou Street is the main flea market in Athens and an attraction of the old city with Middle Eastern ambience. It is accessible by Metro (Blue line, **Monastiraki** station) and is definitely worth a visit.



Tasting Greece

Here are just a few items we recommend you try before you leave Athens

Greek coffee & loukoumades

Greek coffee is taken to a whole new level when you have it prepared in hot sand. Get off at Omonia station (Green and/or Red Line) then take pedestrian Aioulou Street to *Krinos* confectionary and enjoy your Greek coffee, along with *loukoumades*, a traditional doughnut pastry smothered in honey and dusted with walnuts and cinnamon.

For a more modern take on a traditional taste, visit the sixth floor cafe of the Attica Department store on Panepistimiou Street (Red Line, stop **Panepistimio**) where you can enjoy hot sand-prepared Greek coffee with spoon sweets, overlooking one of Athens' busiest areas.

Step into Modern Greek history at Melina Cafe in Plaka, a coffee shop dedicated to the Greek politician and actress Melina Mercouri.

Krinos: 87 Aioulou Street, Athens

Attica Department Store: Between Panepistimiou & Stadiou Streets, Athens

Melina Cafe: 22 Lysiou Street, Athens (Plaka)

Souvlaki, kebab & tzatziki

Walking into *Bairaktaris* on Monastiraki Square (**Monastiraki** metro stop, Green and/or Blue Line), a tavern dating back to 1879, is like walking into a living, part of Athens' history. *Thanassis*, another staple taverna of Monastiraki square, right across the street from *Bairaktaris*, boasts a specialty kebab (a long cylindrical-looking burger made of lamb and beef) with pitta bread, roasted tomato and onions- if you want tzatziki (yogurt, garlic and cucumber sauce) you have to order it separately.

Bairaktaris: 2 Monastiraki Square, Athens

Thanassis: 69 Mitropoleos Street & Monastiraki Square, Athens

Greek mezedes

There is no way you can visit Greece and not taste *mezedes*: bite-size morsels, several cooked in wine, some served hot and some cold. Mezedes are offered in a wide range to please all types of taste buds: roasted octopus, octopus in wine sauce, broiled shrimp, lemon shrimp, fried calamari, stuffed calamari, mussels in lemon sauce, traditional sausage, pork bits in wine sauce, *keftedes* (fried meatballs), baked *feta*, fried *graviera* cheese, stuffed baked potatoes, stuffed grape leaves, eggplant puree, and so many more creative, tasty tidbits. And of course a *mezes* is not complete without a sip of Greek *ouzo*, *tsipouro*, or wine.

Scholarhio: 14 Tripodon Street, Athens – Plaka (Blue Line, Monastiraki stop)

Gazohori: 2 Dekeleon Street, Athens – Gazi (Blue Line, Keramikos stop)

Avli: 12 Aghiou Dimitriou Street (Blue Line, Monastiraki stop)

Roasted chestnuts

Follow your nose to any one of the mobile carts along the busy Athens window shopping areas like Ermou or Aioulou streets and pick up some roasted chestnuts in paper bag to munch on while wandering around the center of Athens.



Must-Sees



Ancient Agora

The Agora was the heart of ancient Athens, the focus of all political, commercial, administrative, and social activity. It also functioned as the religious and cultural center, as well as the seat of justice.

The Changing of the Guard

Outside the Parliament on Syntagma Square, at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, you can see the changing of the evzone guard. The most spectacular change of the guard takes place on Sundays at 11 am. The change starts with a parade from the evzone camp on Irodou Attikou Street, across from the Presidential Residence moving through Vassilissis Sophias avenue toward Syntagma Square. An evzone is a member of the Presidential Guard. The evzone unit was founded in 1868. The foustanela (a kind of kilt) and the "tsarouhi" (shoes with pompoms), became a symbol of the War of Independence.

Lycabettus Hill

If you would like to savor a great view of the city, head for Lycabettus Hill. To get there, follow the "Telepherique" signs to the corner of Kleomenous and Ploutarchou streets, between Kolonaki Square and the Athens Hilton. The panorama from the top is priceless – all the way to Mount Parnes in the north, south to Piraeus and the Saronic Gulf, with the Acropolis sitting like a ruminative lion half way to the sea. There is also a cafe/restaurant at the top of the hill.

Acropolis, Makrygianni, Thissio and Monastiraki

To get to the Acropolis you will need to take the Blue line metro to Syntagma; from there transfer to the Red Line and get off at the **Acropolis** station.

The following is a tour route of downtown Athens suggested by ACG students:

After arriving at the Acropolis metro station, follow the signs toward Dionysiou Areopagitou Street, a beautiful pedestrian way that borders the Acropolis hill and connects with the pedestrian street of Apostolou Pavlou leading into the ancient neighborhood of Thission.

At first, you will find yourself in the area of Makrygianni. As you walk onto Dionysiou Aeropagitou Street from the station and face the Acropolis, you'll see Hadrian's Arch to your right, and the walkway around the Acropolis to your left. Opposite, there is a statue of Ioannis Makrygiannis – a leading figure in the 1821 War of Independence – and behind him Vryonos Street leading into the area of Plaka.

Follow Dionysiou Aeropagitou around the Acropolis, stop to look at the Parthenon, and do not forget to check out the ancient amphitheater of Herod Atticus, where music, dance, and theater performances still take place during the summer.

A bit further, you'll see the brilliant new Acropolis Museum, where many of the Parthenon sculptures and other impressive finds from the Acropolis are kept.

Soon after, you will reach a fork in the road; the road to your left heads up to Philopappou Hill, while continuing on your right you will reach Thission. Walk

past the church of St. Dimitrios and the rocky cell where Socrates was imprisoned according to legend; then head up towards the monument of Philopappou.

Also visit the historic Pnyx Hill, located between the Hill of the Nymphs and the Hill of the Muses, which in Classical times was the gathering point for the Citizen's Assembly. Head back down to the fork of Dionysiou Aeropagitou Street and continue along Apostolou Pavlou Street, until you reach Thission, with its historic and neoclassical buildings. You will find many coffee shops, bakeries, tavernas, retail stores and galleries around the area. Stop for some coffee in one of Thission's quaint cafes and then continue on your walk, past the Thission train station and up Ermou Street (which eventually becomes a pedestrian street).

A little further on and to your right you will find the ancient cemetery of Kerameikos, where part of the Themistoklean wall that once surrounded ancient Athens still stands, as does the Sacred Gate, and where numerous legendary figures of the ancient past were buried.

From Thission station, you can take a right turn and head up Ermou Street, passing miscellaneous shops and then seeing Avyssinias Square on your right, where every Sunday the antique market sprawls out, and up to Monastiraki train station.

On Monastiraki Square you will see many tourists, fruit-sellers as well as the Monastery of Pandanassa

and the Tzistarakis Mosque. To the right of Monastiraki metro station you'll find the flea market, a winding pedestrian street full of stores selling clothes, accessories and souvenirs. Walking through it will take you to Andrianou Street, lined with neoclassical houses now transformed into busy cafes. Stop on one of the side streets for a quick ouzo and meze plate, and then head up towards Plaka.

National Archaeological Museum of Athens

The National Archaeological Museum of Athens is the most important archaeological museum in Greece and the richest in the world when it comes to ancient Greek art. Its collections are representative of all the cultures that flourished in Greece in antiquity.

Temple of Olympian Zeus

The Temple of Olympian Zeus (Olympieion) was an enormous structure, the largest temple in Greece, exceeding even the Parthenon in size. After the construction of the temple of Zeus, the Athenians honored Hadrian by building an arched gateway in the northwest corner of the sanctuary. The arch bears two inscriptions. The one on the side facing the Acropolis (west facade) reads "This is Athens, the ancient city of Theseus" while the other, on the side facing the sanctuary and the extension of the city by Hadrian, reads, "this is the city of Hadrian and not of Theseus."



Athens Archaeological Sites & Museums



Acropolis of Athens

Package ticket price €15 (free entrance for EU students)
Valid for: Acropolis of Athens, Ancient Agora of Athens, Archaeological Museum of Kerameikos, Museum of the Ancient Agora, North slope of Acropolis, Olympieio, Roman Agora of Athens, South Slope of Acropolis.

Admission is free on the following days:

- March 6 (in memory of Melina Mercouri)
- April 18 (International Monuments Day)
- May 18 (International Museums Day)
- The last weekend of September (European Heritage Days)
- Sundays between November 1 and March 31
- October 28 (National Holiday)

Museum of the Ancient Agora

24 Andrianou Street, tel.: + 30 21 0321 0185

Admission is free on the following days:

- Sundays in the period between 1 November and 31 March
- The last weekend of September (European Heritage Days)

National Archaeological Museum

44 Patision Street, www.namuseum.gr

Acropolis Museum

15 Dionysiou Areopagitou Street, www.theacropolismuseum.gr

Athens Ancient Agora Museum

Stoa of Attalos, Ancient Agora, tel.: +30 210 321 0185

Kerameikos Museum

148 Ermou Street, tel.: +30 210 346 3552

Epigraph Museum

1 Tositsa Street, tel.: +30 210 821 7637

Numismatic Museum

12 Panepistimiou Street (Iliou Melathron)

Goulandris Museum of Cycladic and Ancient Greek Art

4 Neofytou Douka Street, www.cycladic.gr

National Historical and Ethnological Museum

13 Stadiou Street, tel.: +30 210 323 7617

Benaki Museum

1 Koumbari str. & Vas. Sofias Avenue, www.benaki.gr

Piraeus Benaki Museum (Piraeus Str. Building)

138 Piraeus Street (Gazi), tel.: +30 210 345 3111

Byzantine and Christian Museum

22 Vas. Sofias Avenue, www.byzantinemuseum.gr

War Museum

2 Rizari Street, www.warmuseum.gr

Museum of the City of Athens

5-7 Paparrigopoulou Street (9 Klathmonos Square), www.athenscitymuseum.gr

Athens Municipal Gallery

Piraeus Street, Koumoundourou Square, tel.: +30 210 323 1841

Frissiras Museum

3-7 Monis Asteriou Street, Plaka, www.frissirasmuseum.com

Greek Popular Art Museum

17 Kythathinaeon Street, Plaka, tel.: +30 210 322 9031

Greek Traditional Musical Instruments Museum

1-3 Diogenous Street, Plaka

Ceramics Collection

Tzistaraki Mosque, Monastiraki, tel.: +30 210 324 2006

Theatrical Museum

50 Akadimias Street, tel.: +30 210 362 9430

Places of Worship

Greek Orthodox

- Aghia Paraskevi Church. Located on Aghia Paraskevi Square
- Metropolitan Cathedral of the Annunciation, Mitropoleos Street, Open daily: 07:00–19:00, Sunday Mass at 06:30 (in Greek)

Roman Catholic

- St. Dionysius Roman Catholic Cathedral, 24 Panepistimiou Street, Daily Mass at 07:00, Sundays: 07:00–10:00 (Greek); 19:00 (English)
- Italian-Speaking Community, 7 Gilfordou Street (Victorias Square) Weekend Mass at 11:00
- French-Speaking Community, Carmelites Chapel, 16 25th Martiou Street, Paleo Iraklio, Mass Thursdays at 08:30
- St. Paul's Catholic Church, 4 Kokkinaki Street, Kifissia (very close to the subway terminal), Masses held on Sundays at 11:30 and Wednesdays at 07:00

Protestant Non-Denominational

- St. Andrew's International Protestant Church, Sunday services take place at two locations: at 09:00 in St. Catherine's British School, 77 Leoforos Sofokli Venizelou, Lykovrissi; and at 11:45, 66 Sina, Downtown Athens
- Glyfada Christian Center, a full Gospel church, 117 Saki Karagiorga Street, Ano Glyfada, Sunday Mass at 10:00 and Wednesday at 19:00

Russian Orthodox

- Church of the Savior Lykodimos, 21 Philellinon Street, Amalias Avenue. This is the largest medieval period building in Athens, Greece, dating from the eleventh century

Anglican

- St. Paul's Church, 27 Filellinon Street, Athens; www.anglicanchurchathens.gr

Baptist

- Bible Baptist Church (Entrance to the American Community School), Services: Wednesdays at 19:00 (Bible Study) & Sundays at 11:30
- Grace Baptist Church, 27 Sliman Sophias, Ampelokipi, Mass at Sundays 11:00 and Wednesdays at 18:00

Pentecostal

- Hellenic International Christian Fellowship, 18 Pan. Tsaldari Street, Kifissia, Sunday Service: 11:00–14:00

Jewish

- Beth Shalom Synagogue, 8 Melidoni Street, Thission, Friday 07:30, Saturday 08:30 & 19:30 (Please make sure that you have with you your passport or identity card with you)

Other Churches

- Church of Christ, 10 Evrou Street, Ambelokipi (close to the US Embassy), English Services: Sunday 18:00–19:30
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, 15 Meandrou (Ilisia), 1st floor, Services every Sunday at 10:00 and 13:00 in Greek with English translation

Key Words & Phrases in Greek

The first column provides the word in English, the second the word in Greek, and the third the pronunciation of the Greek word.

Basic Words

Yes:	ΝΑΙ	[Neh]
No:	ΟΧΙ	[O-hee]
Please:	ΠΑΡΑΚΑΛΩ	[Pa-ra-ka-lo]
Thank you (very much):	ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ (ΠΟΛΥ)	[Ef-ha-ris-to (po-lee)]
You are welcome:	ΠΑΡΑΚΑΛΩ	[Pa-ra-ka-lo]
Excuse me:	ΣΥΓΓΝΩΜΗ	[Seeg-no-mee]
I am sorry:	ΛΥΠΑΜΑΙ or ΣΥΓΓΝΩΜΗ	[Lee-pa-me] [Seeg-no-mee]
I don't understand:	ΔΕΝ ΚΑΤΑΛΑΒΑΙΝΩ	[Den ka-ta-la-ve-no]
I don't speak Greek:	ΔΕ ΜΙΛΑΩ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ	[De mi-lao e-li-ni-ka]

When You Meet Someone

I speak a little Greek:	ΜΙΛΑΩ ΛΙΓΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΑ	[Mi-lao li-ga e-li-ni-ka]
Hello:	ΓΕΙΑ ΣΟΥ	[ya-soo]
How are you ?:	ΤΙ ΚΑΝΕΙΣ?	[ti ka-nis?]
Fine, thank you:	ΚΑΛΑ, ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΩ	[Ka-la, ef-ha-ris-to]
What's your name?:	ΠΩΣ ΣΕ ΛΕΝΕ?	[Pos se le-ne?]
My name is...:	ΜΕ ΛΕΝΕ...	[Me le-ne...]
Nice meeting you:	ΧΑΡΗΚΑ	[Ha-ri-ka]
Goodbye:	ΑΝΤΙΟ	[Adee-o]
Good morning:	ΚΑΛΗΜΕΡΑ	[Ka-lee-me-ra]
Good evening:	ΚΑΛΗΣΠΕΡΑ	[Ka-lee-spe-ra]
Good night:	ΚΑΛΗΝΥΧΤΑ	[Ka-li nee-hta]

In Case of Emergency

Help!:	ΒΟΗΘΕΙΑ!	[voee-thee-ah](voitheia)
Police:	ΑΣΤΥΝΟΜΙΑ	[a-stee-no-mee-a] (asti-no-mia)
It's an emergency:	ΕΙΝΑΙ ΕΠΕΙΓΟΝ	[ee-neh e-pee-gon])ei-nai – epi-gon
I'm lost:	ΕΧΩ ΧΑΘΕΙ	[e-ho ha-thee]
I need a doctor:	ΧΡΕΙΑΖΟΜΑΙ ΓΙΑΤΡΟ	[hre-a-zo-me ya-tro]

Common International Conversions

Temperature

Fahrenheit to Celsius: $C = (F-32) / 1.8$ Celsius to Fahrenheit: $F = (C * 1.8) + 32$

Clothing sizes

Sizes of clothing may vary, so you should use these charts for approximation only.

Women's sweaters, coats & suits

European	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48	50
UK	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22
USA	2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20
USA LETTER	XS	S	S	M	M	L	L	1X	1X	2X

Women's pants

US (inches)	24	25	27	29	31	33	36
Int'l (cms)	60	63	68	73	78	83	90

Men's sweaters, coats & suits

European	42	44	46	48	50	52	54	56	58
UK	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
USA	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48

Men's pants

US (inches)	28	30	32	34	36	38	40	42	44	46	48
Int'l (cms)	71	76	81	86	91.5	96.5	101.5	106.5	112	117	122

Other metric conversions

1 Kilogram = 2.2 pounds = 35.2 ounces

1 liter = 2.113 pints

1 meter = 3.28 feet

1 gram = 0.035 ounce

1 km = 0.62 miles

1 mile = 1.61 km

Contact us

The International Student Services team is here to serve all international students at ACG. If you need assistance during your time at ACG, please pass by our Office, email, or call us.

International Student Services

Office: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 1471

Mobile: +30 693 2764437 / +30 695 7835087

iss@acg.edu

Housing and Residential Services

Office: +30 210 600 9800 ext. 5006, 4901, 5553

Mobile: +30 694 6569295 / +30 693 7317587 / +30 698 0607180

residencelife@acg.edu

DISCLAIMER: While every possible care was taken to ensure all of the information is accurate, we cannot be held responsible for any changes in information that may occur after publication.



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The American College of Greece admits students of any race, color, sexual orientation, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sexual orientation, national and ethnic origin in the administration of its educational policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

ACG is a smoke-free campus