

VISIT ATHENS GA



INSIDER GUIDE

VisitAthensGA.com



It's all in the details.

That's what turns good into memorable.

Like being able to stay at the only hotel on the gorgeous University of Georgia campus.

Or having a complimentary shuttle at your disposal to explore our quaint town.

Maybe it's cozying up by our firepits on a cool evening as you relax under the stars.

Perhaps it's sipping a cold drink under our magnificent pecan tree.

It's details like the warm and caring service our team provides you in every interaction.

Or interacting with some of our student workers who strive to make your stay exceptional.

Perhaps it's waking up to a full hot breakfast and unparalleled service.

Maybe it's the little things, like the welcome sweet treat in your room or the fluffy robes in every suite.

Details. That's what makes us different.



UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA
Center for Continuing
Education & Hotel

1197 S. Lumpkin St.
Athens, Georgia 30602

(706) 542-2134
hotel.uga.edu

WE
LOVE
YOU
ATHENS

VISIT
ATHENS
GA

OFFICIAL 2025 ATHENS INSIDER GUIDE



Bringing a **furry friend?**

Look for attractions with the Dawg friendly icon (🐾) and be sure to tag **@VisitAthensGA** and **#DawgoftheWeek** when posting photos with your pooch in Athens for a chance to be featured on our socials!

LET'S STAY
CONNECTED!



@VisitAthensGA

(706)357-4430
VisitAthensGA.com

WE'RE
ALWAYS
OPEN.

THERE'S MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE.

Scan the QR codes in each section for more attractions, information and tips to help you plan your visit.



WHAT'S NEW

Akins Ford Arena

The groundbreaking Akins Ford Arena at The Classic Center sparks a new age of sports, music and entertainment in Athens. Newly opened, this venue takes Athens music and sports a step further by hosting major artists and sports teams, including the Rock Lobsters and UGA Ice Dawgs, who now call the arena home. The Akins Ford Arena also features a permanent display of treasured memorabilia from the Georgia Music Collections of UGA's Libraries. Discover the roots of bluegrass, gospel, soul and rock n' roll in these displays and interactive exhibits.

Athens Rock Lobsters

Get ready to welcome the Rock Lobsters to Athens! This new FPHL professional hockey club is named after the legacy of Athens' own B-52s. Come see the action on the ice at the new Akins Ford Arena. Home games run from December '24 to April '25 so there's plenty of time to support their inaugural season.

RockLobstersHockey.com



EXPLORE ATHENS
WITH TWO EXCITING
**DIGITAL
PASSES!**



Use the **Visit the SEC Pass** to discover the best attractions beyond Sanford Stadium, or dive into the **Athens Beer Trail Pass** to sip your way through the city's top breweries.

VisitTheSEC.com • AthensBeerTrail.com



MONSTER JAM

FIRST TIME EVER

AKINS FORD ARENA JUN 20 – 22

JCB **BKT** **Lucas Oil** **MONSTERJAM.COM**

Competitors shown are subject to change. © 2024 Feld Motor Sports, Inc.



Produced by Feld Entertainment

Disney
ON ICE
presents
FROZEN
&
ENCANTO

AKINS FORD ARENA
APR 24 – 27

WELCOME TO ATHENS

Athens. WE'RE ALWAYS OPEN.

In Athens, we're always ready for the next adventure, always expressing ourselves to the fullest, always celebrating and always playing hard. **We're always open.** Open to welcoming visitors like you into our world of creative energy, academic excellence, lighthearted fun and acceptance of all. We're glad you're here!





ATHENS INSIDER

MAYOR KELLY GIRTZ

“Welcome to Athens, whether it’s your first time here or you’ve returned time and time again. With so much to offer, you may find it hard to leave our charming city.”



WHAT ARE YOU ‘ALWAYS OPEN’ TO EXPERIENCING IN ATHENS?

“Exploring creeks and rivers!”
– @quintessentiallykiley

“Artsy stuff! I want to meet local artists.”
– @weather.feathers

“Dancing!”
– @gloria_g1027

“Having a drink at Hi-lo.”
– @shannonigen





MUSIC

AKINS FORD ARENA

Be sure to check out Athens' newest stage hosting headliners and entertainers from around the globe.

We're Always Open... **TO STRIKING THE CHORD OF** **CURIOSITY**

The vibe and energy that gave birth to trailblazers like R.E.M., the B-52s, and the Drive-By Truckers is alive and well today in Athens, with live music almost every night of the week at famed clubs like the **40 Watt** and **Georgia Theatre**. Top headliners also play at **The Classic Center** and the new **Akins Ford Arena**, which features interactive exhibits of the **Georgia Music Collections of UGA's Libraries**.





ATHENS INSIDERS

MICHAEL LACHOWSKI

Founding member of the band Pylon

Michael and four fellow art students pursued music careers following the success of the B-52s. Limited experience didn't stop Pylon from jamming at house parties, clubs and AthFest.

We were always open to being precociously artsy in every way—and it was a whole lot of fun

– Michael



UGA PERFORMING ARTS CENTER



THE CLASSIC CENTER THEATRE



WUXTRY RECORDS



40 WATT CLUB

ATHENS MUSIC WALK OF FAME

Passing by some of Athens' most famous music venues such as the Georgia Theatre and the 40 Watt Club, the **Athens Music Walk of Fame** honors homegrown music legends like R.E.M. and Hal Johnson.



GEORGIA THEATRE

EXPLORE MORE MUSIC



TASTE & SEE

Nightlife in Athens resembles a small town Nashville. Think neon lights, rooftop views and live music all night. These downtown bars double as music venues, so grab a drink, kick back and enjoy the show.

Hendershots 🐾

Flicker Theatre & Bar

World Famous

Little Kings Club

Nowhere Bar

SHOP MUSIC

Lo Yo Yo Records
Downtown

Wuxtry Records
Downtown

Lexington Vintage
Lexington Rd.

Cillie's
Downtown

MUSIC EVENTS



MORE
MUSIC
EVENTS

ATHFEST
June

**SUNFLOWER
MUSIC SERIES**
Summer

**HIP-HOP
AWARDS**
June

**CLASSIC CITY
AMERICAN
MUSIC FEST**
July 4th
Weekend

**HISTORIC
ATHENS
PORCH FEST**
October

THE PERFECT VENUE FOR YOUR NEXT

BIRTHDAY PARENTS WEEKEND DATE NIGHT VIP TAILGATE
FORMAL DANCE PARTY REUNION PRESENTATION

SPECIAL OCCASION



GET YOUR PARTY STARTED AT LIVEWIREATHENS.COM

GEORGIA MUSEUM
OF ART

Seeking 'Free Inspiration'? Look no further than the Georgia Museum of Art on UGA's campus. The museum houses world-renowned exhibitions and a permanent collection including everything from Renaissance masterpieces to Frank Lloyd Wright Windows, to decorative arts.

We're Always Open...

TO A CONNECTION OF EXPRESSION

In Athens, we form connections through acts of self-expression. Whether we're celebrating differences at **UGA's Spotlight on the Arts** festival, uniting a community of likeminded individuals at the **Athens Pride Parade**, or touching the entire community through masterpieces scattered across the walls of **ATHICA**, art is ingrained in our culture. For further artistic expression, be sure to explore **The Athenaeum** or take a class at **Canopy Studio!**





**ATHICA (ATHENS
INSTITUTE OF
CONTEMPORARY ART)**



**UGA PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER**



ATHENS CREATIVE THEATRE



**LYNDON HOUSE
ARTS CENTER**



**GEORGIA MUSIC
COLLECTIONS FROM THE
UGA LIBRARIES**

**EXPLORE MORE ARTS
& CULTURE**





GEORGIA MUSEUM of ART

UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

I ♥ art

**Become a Friend of the Georgia Museum of Art
at the University of Georgia.**

IT'S FREE!

You'll get our email updates and other perks.
Sign up at jointhemuseum.com



HISTORY AT HAND at UGA Special Collections Libraries

Explore Georgia past and present through history,
music, politics, pop culture, and more!
Join authors, artists, scholars, and community leaders
at special events for all ages

GALLERIES FREE TO THE PUBLIC

HOURS: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 8 am - 5 pm
Tuesday, Thursday 8 am - 7 pm



LIBS.UGA.EDU/SCL



ARTS & CULTURE EVENTS

Catch Athens showing off its true colors.



MLK DAY PARADE

January

UGA INTERNATIONAL STREET FESTIVAL

April



ATHENS HUMAN RIGHTS FESTIVAL

May

ATHENS PRIDE PARADE

June

Photo: Diane Crowe

NORTH GEORGIA FOLK FESTIVAL

September

LATNX FEST

October



WILD RUMPUS HALLOWEEN PARADE

October



**MORE
ARTS
EVENTS**

SPOTLIGHT ON THE ARTS

November



DAVID HALE

Meet the Artist

David is a local muralist known for many iconic Athens murals, including “Hope” along with “Birds of Heaven,” “Crows” and “Bears Hollow.”

I am always open to finding new ways to remain inspired in Athens.

– David

PUBLIC ART

Athens' most
instagrammable
monuments & murals



The Arch

📍 Broad & College, Downtown



30+ Bulldog Statues

📍 Scattered all over Athens!



Hot Corner: An Athens Legacy

📍 133 East Washington St.



“Hope” mural by David Hale

📍 294 West Washington St.

SHOP ARTS

R. Wood Studio Ceramics

Community

Indie South

ARTini's Art Lounge

Check out **seasonal art pop-up markets** throughout the year, too!



ATHENS INSIDER

SANNI BAUMGARTNER

Owner of Community

Community is a sustainable clothing brand offering one-of-a-kind pieces out of upcycled vintage clothing!

I am always open to conversations about why sustainability is important when designing fashion.

– Sanni



ART IN BLOOM

Bursting with native flora and fauna, the **State Botanical Garden of Georgia** is a must-see attraction for all visitors. The 313-acre garden comprises captivating themed display gardens that also serve as the **Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum** grounds. Or check out two of Athens' other garden gems: **Founders Memorial Garden** and UGA's **Trial Gardens**.



EXPERTLY ROASTING SINCE 1994

Stop by our convenient Athens locations for locally roasted coffee, fresh baked goods, and cold drinks.

VISIT OUR ATHENS AREA CAFES

- BAXTER STREET • DOWNTOWN • EASTSIDE
- EPPS BRIDGE • FIVE POINTS • WATKINSVILLE

VISIT US ONLINE JITTERYJOES.COM



the National

DOWNTOWN

232 W HANCOCK AVE

Since 2007 we've gathered inspiration from the local bounty of Northeast Georgia and Mediterranean traditions. The National welcomes you to become a regular.

LUNCH

Wednesday - Saturday
11 am - 2pm

DINNER

Monday - Saturday
5pm - 9pm

THENATIONALRESTAURANT.COM






FOOD & BEVERAGE


THE NATIONAL
Power Lunch

This Mediterranean-inspired spot offers delicious tapas and large plates that reflect its global influences in an intimate dining setting.



PUMA YU'S
Shrimp Noodle Soup

Even the most cultured foodies will find something new to try here! Puma Yu's chef is a James Beard semifinalist, and it shows in every item on the menu from decadent Thai small-plates to specialty drinks. 🐾



We're Always Open...
TO FEEDING YOUR
SOUL



We've cultivated an immersive food and beverage scene with a flare for local ingredients, soul food and creativity. Diverse in culture and cuisine, no two meals in Athens are alike. Whether you indulge in an upscale take on a southern fave, an authentic international dish or a burger piled high, our restaurateurs know how to nourish mind, body and soul.

EXPLORE MORE



THE EXPAT

Rigatoni Carbonara

You've never had Italian like this! Elevate your next date night with the fresh and elegant creations of The Expat.



CONDOR CHOCOLATES

Gourmet Chocolate

Pick up a Visit Athens Dark Milk Chocolate + Smoked Sea Salt chocolate bar as a souvenir from Condor's downtown location, where you can also witness the making of all the chocolatey goodness! 🐾

SEABEAR OYSTER BAR

Oysters

Craving fresh and high-quality seafood? Look no further than this lively neighborhood oyster bar serving up seafood delicacies and weekly specials.



FOOD & DRINK EVENTS

ATHENS WINE WEEKEND
February

ATHENS BEER FEST
April

HOT CORNER CELEBRATION
June

ATHENS RESTAURANT WEEK
July

SHOP FOOD & DRINK



**INDEPENDENT
BAKING
COMPANY**
Five Points



**ALUMNI COOKIE
DOUGH**
N Thomas St.
🐾



**FARMERS
MARKETS**
Wednesdays
and Saturdays
🐾



ATHENS COOKS
Prince Ave.

The Ultimate Athens FOODIE ITINERARY



BRUNCH
(A foodie staple)

MAMA'S BOY
Serving biscuits bigger than most appetites, this diner has made a name for itself among locals and visitors alike. 🐾



LUNCH
(Eat hearty)

PREACHER GREENS
Pair your Southern favorites with the freshest "greens" around! From collards to brussels, this is Southern comfort your mama would approve of!



LUNCH
(Good for your soul)

DAWG GONE GOOD BBQ
It's all in the flavors at this counter-service joint. Enjoy BBQ loaded with all the southern fixins. 🐾



DINNER
(Kick back & relax)

CALI N TITO'S
This hot spot offers authentic Latin cuisine and some of the best vibes in town. 🐾



DINNER
(Wine & dine)

OSTERIA OLIO
Experience Italian dining at this luxurious restaurant where craft cocktails, fine wine and delicious dishes come together for an unforgettable experience.

TERRAPIN
BEER CO. ATHENS, GA

BREWED
IN *Athens*
FOR *Athens*
SINCE 2002

EXPLORE, ENJOY, AND DRINK RESPONSIBLY. | TERRAPIN BEER CO. | ATHENS, GA
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VISIT US!



Cocktail and Wine-Forward Bar
Serving Seasonal Thai Food

355 Oneta St Suite D 400 A, Athens, GA • (706) 850-0709 • pumayus.com



We're Always Open...

TO WHAT'S

ON TAP

Discover new brews on tap with the Athens Beer Trail! This unique trail takes you to 5 local breweries for the ultimate Athens brewery experience. Simply access a digital pass and start your beer adventure! As you visit each spot, check in to earn points. Visit all 5 to become an official member of the Brew Crew and get a beer-related prize!

GET THE BEER TRAIL PASS



Creature Comforts
271 W.
Hancock Ave.



Akademia
150 Crane Dr.



Authentic Brewing Co.
108 Park Ave.

OTHER BOOZE & BREWS



Jittery Joe's 🐾
All over Athens



Tapped Athens
The Bottleworks



1000 Faces Coffee 🐾
Downtown



Oak House Distillery
Macon Hwy



Choco Pronto
Baxter Street



Bar Bruno 🐾
Five Points



The Old Pal 🐾
Normaltown



The Lark Winespace
Downtown



Georgia Theatre Rooftop
Downtown



**Normaltown
Brewing Co.**
425 Barber St.



**Terrapin Beer
Co.**
265 Newton
Bridge Rd.

A professional ice hockey game in progress. A player in a red and white uniform with the number 10 is in the foreground, skating towards the right. Other players in grey and red uniforms are visible behind him. The arena is filled with spectators in the background.

SPORTS

ROCK LOBSTERS

We're Always Open...
TO BEING A NEXT LEVEL
CHAMP

No one does game day like we do, and Athens' sports legacies run deeper than football! While the roars of **Sanford Stadium** cheering on The Dawgs is an experience not to be missed, it's also worth catching the **Gym Dawgs** flying through the air, sharing a green with the **UGA golf team** or witnessing the pro cycling race of the year at **Twilight Criterium**. Better yet, check out the brand-new Akins Ford Arena, home to the **Rock Lobsters** professional hockey team and **UGA's Ice Dawgs!**



GEORGIA BULLDOGS



ATHHALF



UGA GYM DAWGS



UGA GOLF COURSE

The spacious green of this highly-ranked golf course is wide open for public use!



TWILIGHT CRITERIUM

GAME DAY ESSENTIALS

Uniform: Find Bulldog swag at **Red Zone, The Clubhouse** or the **UGA Bookstore**.

Warmup: Practice cheering on the Dawgs before the game with some of the best tailgating in the country and the Dawg Walk.

Ticket: Don't forget your ticket! UGA football is in high demand, but many other UGA sports offer reasonably priced or free admission.

SPORTS EVENTS

Classic City Marathon
January

G-Day
April

Athens-to-Atlanta Road Skate
October

Twilight Criterium
April

AthHalf
October

EXPLORE MORE SPORTS



OPEN TO MORE

SCAN FOR MORE GREAT THINGS TO DO IN ATHENS.



Outdoors

Miles of shady terrain and the **Oconee River** make Athens perfect for a day of hiking and biking. Ride over the historic Athens Branch of the Georgia Railroad on the **Firefly Trail** which features a multi-purpose path that's accessible for everyone!

Stroll through wetlands and riverbanks at the **Oconee Rivers Greenway**. This unique greenway includes hiking and multi-use trails that any outdoor adventurer can enjoy.

Besides admiring the outdoor scenery, there are also points of interest to see including **Easley's Mill Overlook** where you can see the historic saw and grist mill.

If you still need your nature fix, a trip to **Memorial Park** is always a great time as this 72 acre park includes basketball courts, picnic areas, a swimming pool and other fun amenities.



Family Fun

Take your little ones to the **Alice H. Richards Children's Garden** located at the **State Botanical Garden** where they interact by watering the garden, tasting edible plants and digging for fossils!

Looking for a day of adventure for the family? Encounter wildlife at the **Bear Hollow Zoo** home to native Georgia species including black bears, owls and so much more.

Spend the day exploring the outdoors at the **Sandy Creek Nature Center** and commemorate your fun day by taking the kids to the **Frog Pond Gift Shop** before heading out. From educational toys and nature puzzles to plush animals and snacks, there's so much to choose from and all proceeds go towards funding the center!



History

Don't leave without visiting **UGA's North Campus**, the birthplace of public higher education in America and the site of **The Arch** and **Chapel Bell**. For more historic Athens, take the **Welcome Center's Historic Athens Tour**, explore the interactive exhibits at **UGA's Special Collections**, and visit the **Morton**, a restored African-American vaudeville theatre.



Book Your Stay!

Whether you plan to stay near the action downtown, on UGA's historic campus or farther off the beaten path, Athens offers stays for every traveler. And don't forget your furry friends! We'll welcome your Dawgs like our own!



ATHENS FARMERS MARKET

Shopping List

- FRESH PRODUCE + MEATS!!
- BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS
- DELICIOUS PREPARED FOODS
- COOL + UNIQUE LOCAL ART / HOME GOODS
- A BEVERAGE FOR STROLLING~
- PLUS SO MUCH MORE!!!

Saturday Markets
 @ Bishop Park
 9AM-1PM (JAN-FEB)
 8AM-12PM (MAR-DEC)

2nd YEAR ROUND!

WE 😊
DOUBLE
EBT/SNAP!

Wednesday Markets
 @ Creature Comforts
 5PM-8PM
 (MAR-NOV)



The Classic Center

Akins Ford Arena

Historic Athens Welcome Center

UGA N Campus

Lyndon House Arts Center

Athens Music Walk of Fame

**Morton Theatre/
Hot Corner**

TRR Cobb House Museum



Interactive Map of Athens Attractions



To US 441 S >>>

Mitchell St

E Campus Rd

S Jackson St

Baldwin St

Sanford Stadium

GA Museum of Art
UGA Performing Arts Ctr

Carlton St

Founders
Memorial
Garden

Sanford Dr

UGA Trial
Garden

University of
Georgia Campus

S Lumpkin St

Special Collections
Libraries

State Botanical
Garden of GA
3.5 miles south >>>

Sanford Dr

To S Milledge Ave >>>

The Tree That
Owns Itself

Baxter St

E Clovehurst St

S Finley St

S Pope St

S Church St

S Harris St

S Milledge Ave

Deering St

To Atlanta Hwy >>>





VISITOR INFORMATION

Visit Athens

300 N. Thomas St.
Athens, GA 30601

(706) 357-4430

VisitAthensGA.com

**Open to giving us a
follow?**



@VisitAthensGA

Historic Athens Welcome Center

280 E. Dougherty St.
Athens, GA 30601

(706) 353-1820

AthensWelcomeCenter.com

Daily Athens Tours!

University of Georgia Visitors Center

Four Towers Building
405 College Station Rd.
Athens, GA 30602

(706) 542-0842

Visit.UGA.edu

Daily UGA Tours!



Boutique rhythm-based indoor cycling studio

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 [@purveloathens](https://www.instagram.com/purveloathens)

Your destination for History & Hospitality

Daily Tours

Group Tours

House Museum

Gift Shop



BOOK A
TOUR GUIDE

Historic Athens Welcome Center

Open daily, 10 am - 5 pm
280 E Dougherty St
706-353-1820




INTRODUCING ATHENS' NEWEST STAGE




WHERE UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS
COME TO LIFE

NOW OPEN



 @AkinsFordArena

[AkinsFordArena.com](https://www.AkinsFordArena.com)

 @AkinsFordArena