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THE Athens Vibe



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Athens

LIFE UNLEASHED

Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau

Official 2022-23 Athens Visitors Guide

Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau

300 N. Thomas St.

Athens, GA 30601

(706)357-4430

VisitAthensGA.com



@VisitAthensGA

#myathensvibe



Bringing a furry friend?

Look for attractions with the
Dawg friendly icon 🐾

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

Athens Beer Trail

Excitement is brewing! Six craft breweries make up the Athens Beer Trail. Grab a field guide from the Welcome Center and journey to all six for a prize. 🐾

Athens Music Walk of Fame

Many noteworthy artists call Athens their hometown. Follow the Athens Music Walk of Fame and discover the stories behind the sounds using the Walk of Fame app. 🐾

Porcelain & Decorative Arts Museum

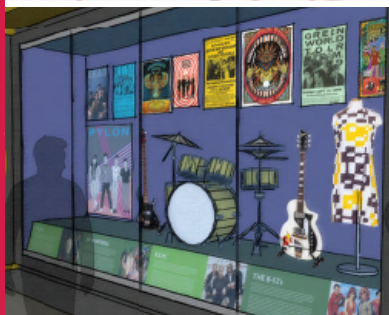
Art and nature live in harmony at UGA's Porcelain & Decorative Arts Museum. Observe collections of whimsical porcelain art pieces that are drawn from botanical inspiration over the centuries.

What's Next

Classic Center Arena

Featuring Displays and Exhibits from the GA Music Hall of Fame

The groundbreaking Classic Center Arena sparks a new age of sports, music and entertainment in Athens. Set to open in early 2024, this new addition will take the music and sports scenes a step further by hosting major artists and sports teams, including the UGA Ice Dawgs, who will call the new arena home. The Classic Center Arena will also display the contents of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame in the concourse. Discover the roots of bluegrass, gospel, soul and rock n' roll in these displays and interactive exhibits.



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Athens. It's a Whole Vibe

An art student who dresses as **vibrant** as the street art that inspires them. A sports fanatic in constant pursuit of The Dawgs' next **iconic** win. A regular who spends their weekends indulging in **bold** flavors at a local hotspot. A band member scribbling song lyrics in a coffee shop by day and delivering an **electric** set by night.



What is 'The Athens Vibe' to you?

"Live. Different. A championship college town for the ages."

- @twaller81

"Abundantly quirky"

- @shannonigen

"Classic"

- @asansbury

"Marvelous"

- @daniel_lopez_castillo47

Let us know what the Athens Vibe means to you with the hashtag #myathensvibe

>> THIS OR THAT? Athens is more...

Exciting
74%

Soothing
26%

Comfortable
31%

Quirky
69%

Lively
78%

Peaceful
22%

THE VIBE IS...
Vibrant
Iconic
Bold
Electric

No matter who you
are, the Athens
VIBE is whatever
you make it.



>> **Georgia Theatre**

You never know who you may catch on a visit to The Georgia Theatre. Widespread Panic, Zac Brown Band and R.E.M. are among many icons that have rocked out on this stage.

>> **Classic Center Theatre**

Photo: Wingate Downs Photography

INSIDER TIP

Follow the steps of those that put Athens on the map with the **Bands & Brews** itinerary. Discover the joint that inspired an R.E.M. album, dine where rockstars once sat and finish the night with a concert in the Classic City with a brew in your hand the whole way. Scan the QR code on this page for the itinerary.

>> **40 Watt Club**

>> **Wuxtry Records**

>> **Live Wire**

Photo: Brasher Media

>> **Athens Symphony**

Musical trailblazers like R.E.M., the B-52s and the Drive By Truckers played a huge part in creating the sound of Athens. Today, a subculture of local indie artists are known to take stages around Athens every night in retro digs like the **40 Watt Club** and **Flicker Bar**. Grab a cocktail and catch one of their shows or check out **The Classic Center**, which hosts headliners and entertainers from around the globe.

Electric

Music and Moments



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

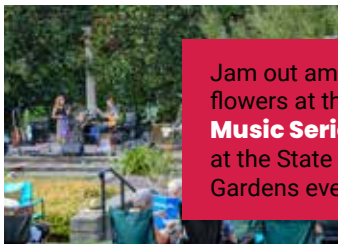
Atomic Athens Downtown

Cillie's Downtown

Music Events

AthFest, a 3-day music and arts festival happening every June, perfectly captures the sound of Athens.

You can't get more Athens than BBQ, bluegrass and beer and that's just what you'll get at the **Classic City American Music Fest** over the Fourth of July weekend.



Jam out among the flowers at the **Sunflower Music Series**, hosted at the State Botanical Gardens every June.

Witness high energy performances and vote for your favorite local Hip Hop artists at the **Hip Hop Awards** in March.

Vibe to the beat of the banjo at the **North GA Folk Festival** happening each October.



Save Your Date at LiveWireAthens.com



TYL3R DAVIS
and Peter Dante
6.9.2022
Photo courtesy of
Brasher Media

» Georgia Museum of Art

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

» ATHICA (Athens Institute of Contemporary Art)



» UGA Performing Arts Center



» Town & Gown Players

Photo: Matt Hardy



» Lyndon House Arts Center



» UGA's Spotlight on the Arts

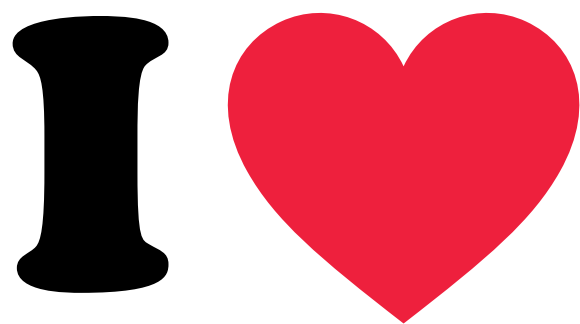
Vibrant

Culture and Creativity

Art is ingrained in the culture, community and overall vibe of Athens. Whether it's a mural on the side of a building downtown, a mass of fairies, goblins and monsters storming the streets of Athens during the **Wild Rumpus Halloween Parade** or a piece of artwork that touches the entire community without leaving the walls of **ATHICA**, you're bound to encounter it.

EXPLORE MORE ARTS & CULTURE »





GEORGIA MUSEUM of ART

UNIVERSITY OF
GEORGIA

art

Join the Georgia Museum of Art at the University of Georgia for free!
You'll get our email updates and other perks. Admission is always free.
Sign up at jointhemuseum.com.

Visit the museum on UGA's East Campus Tuesday through Sunday.

Arts & Culture Events

>> Catch Athens showing off its true colors

Travel country to country without a passport at **UGA's International Street Festival** every April.



The entire UGA community comes together for tons of events during **Spotlight on the Arts** each November.

Advocate for change among community activists at the **Athens Human Rights Festival**, each May.



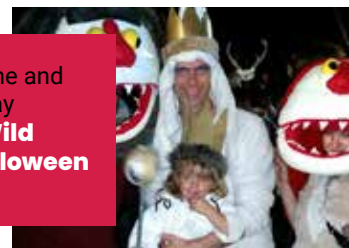
Photo: Diane Crowe

Celebrate the LGBTQ+ community every June at the **Athens Pride Parade**.

Visit during **Latinx Fest** in the October and experience the sights and sounds of Latin America.

Honor Martin Luther King at the **MLK Day Parade**.

Grab a costume and dance your way through the **Wild Rumpus Halloween Parade**.



Public Art

Athens' most
instagrammable
monuments & murals



The Arch

📍 Broad & College, Downtown



"Hope" mural by David Hale

📍 294 W. Washington St



30+ Bulldog Statues

📍 Scattered all over Athens!



Hot Corner: An Athens Legacy

📍 133 East Washington St

Shop Arts

**R. Wood Studio
Ceramics** 🐾

Community

Indie South



INSIDER TIP

Enjoy a city-wide art exhibition every third Thursday of the month in Athens! Half a dozen local art galleries open to the public all evening to showcase the city's impressive visual arts displays.



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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 is composed of captivating themed display gardens that also serve as the grounds of the **Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum**. Be sure to visit the **Children's Garden** with the little ones during your visit. Looking for more of a secret garden? **Founders Memorial Garden** and **UGA's Trial Gardens** are two hidden gems you won't want to miss.



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>> **Ted's Most Best**
Any Pizza!

This pizza joint delivers in quality and variety with their wood fired pizza. Their huge patio and sandbox makes it a family friendly affair! 🐾

>> **The National**
The Power Lunch

The National creates International flavors from local ingredients. They're known for colorful, Mediterranean dishes. 🐾



>> **Five & Ten**
Lobster

Offering an elegant take on southern food, Five & Ten is the perfect addition to your date night itinerary.



>> **Condor Chocolates**
Chocolate Box

Witness the making of this chocolatey goodness at Condor's new downtown location. 🐾



>> **White Tiger**
BBQ Plate

Ever tried Gourmet BBQ? This BBQ joint specializes in it! No trip to Boulevard is complete without indulging in White Tiger.



Bold

Flavors and Fare

The Classic City storms the food and beverage scene with its flare for local ingredients, soul food and intricacy. Diverse in culture and cuisine, no two restaurants in Athens are alike. Whether in an upscale take on a southern fave, an authentic international dish or a burger piled high and served across a bar, you'll taste the vibe of Athens in every bite.

Explore More



Food & Drink Events

The best time to indulge in Athens' cuisine is **Restaurant Week**. For one week in July, eateries around Athens offer incredible curated menus and specials.

Sweet aromas fill the air during **Athens Wine Weekend**. Relish the art of winemaking over delectable sips and bites for 3 days in February.

Celebrate African-American heritage every June in Athens with music, dance and most importantly, soul food at **Hot Corner Celebration**.

Shop Food & Drink

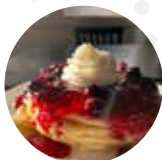
Independent Baking Company
Five Points

Five Points Growlers
Five Points

West Broad Farmers Market on Saturdays 🐾
Five Points

Athens Farmers Markets on Wednesdays 🐾
Buena Vista Heights

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

(Good for your health)

The Grit

Vegetarian or not, these healthy and hearty meals will satisfy any craving. 🐾



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)*

home.made

This chef blends southern cooking with her New Orleans roots for a unique flare.

CREATURE COMFORTS BREWING CO. SNOW TIRE



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MON-THURS • 5-10 PM

FRIDAY • 3-10 PM

SATURDAY • 12-10 PM

SUNDAY • 1-6 PM



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Follow the Athens Beer Trail

Grab a Field Guide from the Athens Welcome Center, and follow the beer trail through this All-American Beer Town. Collect stamps as you kick back at each of the 6 local breweries while sipping from flights crafted right in the heart of Athens. Visit all 6 to become an official member of the Brew Crew and redeem for a beer-related prize!

Learn More



Other Booze & Brews



Jittery Joes
All over Athens 🐾



1000 Faces Coffee
Downtown 🐾



Tapped Athens
The Bottleworks



Oak House Distillery
Coming Soon



The Old Pal
Normaltown

Photo: Athens Magazine and Evermore Photo



Creature Comforts
271 W. Hancock Ave.



Akademia
150 Crane Dr.



Authentic Brewing Co.
108 Park Ave.



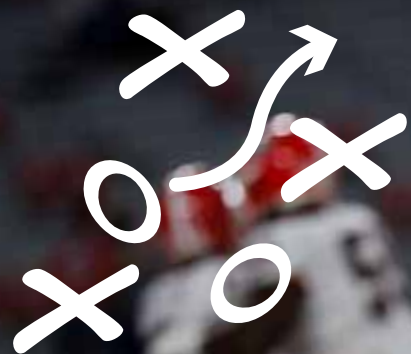
Normaltown Brewing Co.
149 Oneta Street #6B2



Terrapin Beer Co.
265 Newton Bridge Rd.



Southern Brewing Co.
231 Collins Ind Blvd.



Iconic Teams and Touchdowns



>> **Georgia Bulldogs**

The roars of **Sanford Stadium** will ring louder this year than any other. With a lively tailgating scene, a loyal fanbase and of course, the reigning college football national champions, no one does game day like Athens. But, UGA and Athens' sports legacy permeates deeper than football. Catch the **Gym Dawgs** flying through the air, share a green with the **UGA golf team** or witness the pro cycling race of the year at **Twilight Criterium**.



>> **UGA Golf Course**

All are welcome to use this highly-ranked, public golf course.

Photo: Wingate
Downs
Photography



>> **UGA Ice Dawgs**

The Ice Dawgs are perennial fan favorites. Come cheer them on at The Classic Center Arena.



>> **UGA Gym Dawgs**



>> **Butts Mehre
Heritage Museum**



>> **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

G-Day
April

**Athens-to-Atlanta
Road Skate**
October

Twilight Criterium
April

AthHalf
October

EXPLORE MORE
SPORTS >>



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ACROSS THE STREET FROM THE CLASSIC CENTER



Outdoors

Miles of tree-covered terrain and the Oconee River makes Athens perfect for hiking and biking. Ride over a piece of history on the **Firefly Trail**, built atop the historic Georgia Railroad, stroll along wetlands and riverbanks at the **Oconee Rivers Greenway** or check out **Memorial Park** for trails, picnic areas and more.



History

No Athens visit is complete without visiting **UGA's North Campus**, the birthplace of public higher education in America, full of landmarks like **The Arch** and the **Chapel Bell**. For more of historic Athens, take the Welcome Center's **Historic Athens Tour**, explore the **Special Collections Library** or visit **The Morton Theatre**, a site of African-American heritage.

**There's *More*
to the Vibe**



« SCAN FOR MORE

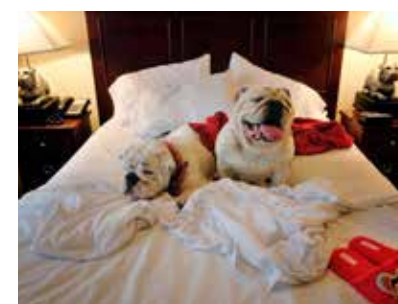


Family Fun

Little ones can water a garden, taste edible plants, dig for fossils and more at the **Children's Garden** at the State Botanical Garden, encounter wildlife at the **Bear Hollow Zoo** or embark on indoor and outdoor exploration at the **Sandy Creek Nature Center**.

Lodging

Whether you plan to get in on the action downtown, admire UGA's historical campus or escape a little farther off the beaten path, Athens offers plenty of stays. Don't forget your furry friends! It wouldn't be the home of the Dawgs without them.







Visitor Information

Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau

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