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Table of Contents



Athens at a Glance	4
Get your bearings, and learn a little about our town.	
Annual Events	8
Don't let that festival slip up on you.	
Lodging	9
Where to stay and what to expect there.	
Art Venues	10
There's a lot of art; here's where to see it.	
Art You Can Do	13
Make your own art with expert instruction.	
Active Fun	14
Take advantage of all the fun things to do around here.	
Live Theater	16
Everybody's stagestruck and acting it out.	
Parks & Recreation	18
There's no excuse for not getting outside and loving it.	
Kidstuff	20
This is a fun town for children, too.	
Books & Records	22
There are some great places to hunt for books and records.	
Movies	23
We've got the usual, and we've got special Athens movie houses.	
Music Venues	24
Here they are, and they're justifiably world famous, most of them.	
Athens Favorites	28
See which places <i>Flagpole</i> readers picked as their favorites.	
Beer Here	31
We brew a lot of beer in Athens, and there's more coming.	
Athens-Clarke County Map	32
Find your way around town.	
Athens & UGA Map	35
See where you are downtown and on campus.	
Restaurant, Bar & Club Index	36
Find a place to eat, drink or hang out—fast.	
Restaurant & Bar Listings	38
Everything you want to know about eating and drinking in Athens.	
Food on the Run	62
There's some tasty stuff out there, if you know where to look.	

flagpole Guide to Athens 2014-2015

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Athens at a Glance

Welcome to Athens, a small town with a big university, which comes right into downtown. There's a high degree of walkability, especially among the intown neighborhoods and on campus. Athens is big enough for all kinds of interesting aspects—music, arts and food, pleasing architecture, outdoor activities—yet small enough that neighbors get to know each other. So enjoy your stay, whether it's a weekend, four years or the rest of your life. Or, if you already live here, browse our guide, anyway. You never know, you might learn yet another reason why people here like Athens so much.

Vital Signs

- **Area:** About 122 square miles—geographically the smallest county in Georgia.
- **Latitude:** 33°57'N (About the same as Kabul, Afghanistan)
- **Longitude:** 83°23'W (About the same as Columbus, OH)
- **Average high temperature:** 51.6°F (January), 89.6°F (July)
- **Average low temperature:** 32°F (January), 69.5°F (July)
- **Average precipitation:** 49.74 inches per year
- **Population (including students):** 116,714 (2010 Census)
- **Demographics:** 65 percent white, 27 percent black, 7 percent Hispanic, 3 percent Asian (2010 Census)
- **University of Georgia enrollment:** 34,536 (Fall 2013)
- **Largest employers:** UGA (10,000), Athens Regional Medical Center (3,000), Athens-Clarke County (1,500), St. Mary's Hospital (1,400), Clarke County School District (1,300)

Recent Accolades

- Best college towns in America (*GQ*, June 2014)
- Fourteen underrated towns you'll want to move to (BuzzFeed.com, May 2014)
- The next great craft beer town (Firstwefeast.com, April 2014)
- Top 10 college towns for grownups (MSN Real Estate, August 2013)
- Ten great small towns for retirement (AARP, April 2013)

How Athens Is Run

Athens residents are represented by 10 commissioners in 10 districts and a mayor, currently Nancy Denson, who is elected at-large. (District maps, contact information and meeting agendas are available at athensclarkecounty.com.) Local elections are nonpartisan and are conducted in May in conjunction with the Republican and Democratic primaries for state and federal office.

Here are some frequently needed numbers:

- Emergencies: **911**
- Police (non-emergencies): **706-613-3345**
- Community Protection Division (code violations like junked cars and trash cans left out): **706-613-3790**
- Animal Control: **706-613-3540**
- Transportation and Public Works (report potholes, etc.): **706-613-3440**
- Solid Waste (your trash wasn't picked up): **706-613-3501**
- Water and sewer: **706-613-3470**

Get Schooled

The Clarke County School District, governed by a nine-member school board, operates 14 elementary schools, four middle schools and three high schools that educate more than 12,000 students. They've mostly improved recently under Superintendent Philip Lanoue in spite of high poverty rates and a sizable percentage of students who are speakers of English as a second language. The 72.3 percent graduation rate in 2013, up two points from 2012, was above the state average. For more information, see clarke.k12.ga.us.

The Athens area also has eight private schools: Athens Academy (PK-12), Athens Christian School (PK-12), Athens Montessori School (PK-8), Monsignor Donovan Catholic High School (9-12), Prince Avenue Christian School (PK-12), St. Joseph's Catholic School (PK-8), Waseca School (PK-5) and Westminster Christian Academy (PK-12).

Town and Gown

UGA is not the only local institute of higher learning. Piedmont College has a small campus in a former church complex on Prince Avenue, and the University of North Georgia has a branch in Watkinsville. But UGA, in addition to being a top public university, is the city's largest economic engine (generating \$2 billion annually in the local economy) and one of its cultural centers as well. UGA is a big part of what makes Athens Athens.

- **North Campus:** Athens was built adjacent to what we now call North Campus across Broad Street from downtown. It's the oldest and one of the most beautiful parts of the city. Don't let the high iron fence put you off. Walk right through the iconic Arch and have a picnic or play frisbee. It's public property and functions like a park for students and townies alike.

- **Entertainment:** UGA has departments of theatre, film, dance, music, visual arts and more. All of them constantly produce and showcase cultural events and artifacts, and they really want you to share in these offerings. UGA's master calendar at calendar.uga.edu will tell you everything that's happening on campus. And pay close attention to The Calendar at flagpole.com/events and in the weekly *Flagpole* to stay in the know about campus happenings.

Of particular note are the UGA Performing Arts Center and the Georgia Museum of Art, both located on East Campus off River Road. The performing arts center will host such world-renowned acts as NPR raconteur and author Garrison Keillor, the State Ballet Theatre of Russia and the Count Basie Orchestra during its 2014–2015 season (see pac.uga.edu for more). The art museum (georgiamuseum.org) features an astonishing-for-its size collection that includes works by Winslow Homer, Georgia O'Keeffe and many others, as well as numerous special exhibits and films.

- **Learning:** The university is constantly hosting lectures, seminars, workshops and readings—many of them free and open to the public—by both local and visiting academics, artists, writers and experts in diverse fields. Again, keep an eye on The Calendar in the weekly *Flagpole* and at flagpole.com/events.

Many lectures are held in the historic Chapel on North Campus. Hear a bell ringing? That's the Chapel bell, rung by students to celebrate football victories or, really, any reason at all.

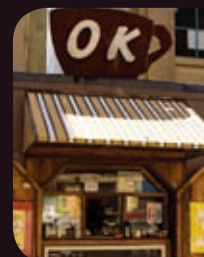
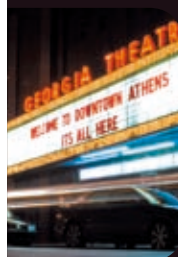
- **Sports:** The Bulldog Nation will be out in force during the seven home-game weekends this fall, often more than doubling the city's population. (Sanford Stadium holds 92,746 people, and tens of thousands more will flood the town and camp out on bar stools for big games.) Be sure to wear red and black to fit in. Avoid yellow (Georgia Tech) and orange (Auburn, Florida, Tennessee) at all costs.

Though it may be hard to believe, football isn't the only game in town. UGA's softball team, for example, advanced to the Super Regional round of the NCAA Tournament this year for the sixth time since 2007. The Gym Dogs women's gymnastics team, too, is routinely one of the best in the country. Other programs have produced stars like John Isner—who won the longest-ever professional tennis match in history, 11 hours and 5 minutes, at Wimbledon in 2010—Bubba Watson, who won the Masters in 2012 and 2014; and Olympic Gold Medalist swimmer Allison Schmitt.

While the high-profile student sports—football, basketball (men's and women's), baseball and gymnastics—charge for tickets, all the others—from tennis to swimming to women's softball and soccer—are free. Visit georgiadogs.com.

continued on next page ►

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How Do I Get There?

- **Bus:** City buses are based at the Multimodal Transportation Center on the eastern edge of downtown at 775 E. Broad St., behind the Classic Center. Buses run every hour or half-hour Monday through Saturday starting at 6 a.m. Some make their last stops at 6 p.m., others at 10 p.m. Adult fares are \$1.75; discounts for multi-ride passes, seniors, children and the disabled are available. UGA students, staff and faculty (including retirees) ride free when they swipe their UGACards. See athenstransit.com for routes and schedules.

UGA buses run more frequently in and around campus, and they're free for everyone, including non-students. For instance, the Milledge Avenue buses make a continuous loop from downtown through campus to Five Points and are free to all. The Health Sciences buses run every 20 minutes from campus along Prince Avenue to Normaltown and back when school is in session. Maps and more for all campus-transit routes at transit.uga.edu.



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For longer-distance travel, Southeastern Stages operates daily inter-city bus service to Atlanta, the Carolinas and beyond; its station is inside the Texaco convenience store at 4020 Atlanta Highway and operates daily from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and 8 p.m.-9:30 p.m. **706-549-2255** or go to southeasternstages.com. Megabus offers daily rides to and from Atlanta, Charlotte, NC and Washington, D.C. for as low as \$1 per fare. Buses depart and arrive at the Multimodal Transit Center every day but Sunday, when they rendezvous at the UGA East Campus Parking Deck. For more info or to book fares, go to us.megabus.com.

- **Rail:** The nearest Amtrak station is in Gainesville, with the next closest in Atlanta. There's one northbound train at night and one southbound train early in the morning. Both are stops on the Crescent line between New York City and New Orleans. Call **800-USA-RAIL** or go to amtrak.com.

- **Air:** As of September, 2014 Athens will be without a scheduled air carrier, though local officials are trying to recruit one.

- **Shuttle:** Groome Transportation runs a full schedule of shuttle vans from the Georgia Center on campus, the Holiday Inn downtown and Athens West Shopping Center on the Atlanta Highway to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta daily. Call **800-896-9928** or go to groometransportation.com.

- **Car:** If you must drive, downtown metered parking is 75 cents an hour, with two-hour time limits from 8 a.m.-6 p.m. (You have to feed the meters until 10 p.m., but the time limit ends at six.) Overstay your quarters and get a \$10 ticket; overextend your time and get a \$15 ticket; fail to pay your fines and get a boot on your wheel. Many of the meters (some of which are kiosks that serve multiple spaces) now take credit cards and even allow you to pay by smartphone, but some are still coin-operated. There are also several parking

decks downtown (see map on p. 35) that cost \$1.50 per hour after the first (free) half hour, up to \$8 a day, with no time limit. Details are available at downtownathensga.com. Most surface lots downtown are operated at night by Prestige Parking, which charges \$5 and will tow you if you “forget” to pay.

On campus, a good rule of thumb is that, if you drive onto campus, you can only park in a deck. Most surface lots are permit-only, and rules are strictly enforced with high ticket fees and towing. Be prepared: call **706-542-PARK** or go to parking.uga.edu—or better yet, just walk, bike or bus free to campus.

- **Taxi:** If you're out drinking, take a cab home if it's too far to walk. There are a bunch of companies in the phone book, or you can usually hail a taxi downtown in front of the Arch on Broad Street late at night. Pro tip: The cabs are large vans shared with other riders, and they tend to fill up, so your route home may be less than direct. And, make absolutely sure that the van you get into is actually a legitimate cab. A permit and fares should be posted on the dashboard, and the vehicle should have a special license plate.

- **Bike:** You can bike just about anywhere and everywhere in Athens. For all your local cycling needs, look to BikeAthens, whose bike map, available around town and at bikeathens.com, is only one of the many excellent resources they have to offer.

- **Hoof It:** You can walk just about anywhere, too. It feels good, and it's good for you and for the environment.

Breakin' the Law

- **Smoking:** It's illegal inside any public building (even bars), in public parks and on most parts of the UGA campus.

- **Drinking:** At a bar and want to sneak a cig outside? Make sure you stay inside the iron railing that delineates a sidewalk cafe from the sidewalk, because open containers are illegal in the public right-of-way, except for the UGA campus on football game days. Last call is 2 a.m. except for Sundays. Bars can't open on Sundays, but restaurants that also sell food and stores can sell alcohol from 12:30 p.m.-midnight.

- **Underage drinking:** The cops are not messing around. If you're under 21 years old and they catch you drinking or with a fake ID, it's not just a ticket. They will throw you in the paddy wagon (seriously) and take you to jail.

Oh, and don't be that guy who can't hold his liquor, either. Fighting, urinating in the street and other forms of jackassery are illegal, too.

- **Bikes:** Bicyclists have to follow the same rules as cars. Aside from that, be polite and be careful (and wear a helmet—it's not the law, but it can be vital to your health). Also, you can't ride on the sidewalk unless you're 12 years old or under, and not even then if you're downtown. Drivers: You are required to give cyclists a three-foot berth when passing.

- **Littering:** Don't. Downtown has trash cans and has receptacles for cigarette butts. Use them. Even better, recycle—there are bins for bottles, cans and paper all over downtown, and your trash pickup provider will come to your house and get your recyclables for free.

- **Cohabitation:** It's illegal for more than two unrelated people to live in houses in areas zoned single-family. If the area is multi-family, it's fine. Check with the ACC Planning Department before signing a lease.

- **Smile:** Cameras mounted downtown are monitored by the police and are recording your every move. Cameras at some main intersections are ready to catch you running a red light.

Do You Want to Know More?

Still need more info on where to go and what to do in Athens? Our welcome centers are a great resource.

- **Athens Welcome Center:** 280 E. Dougherty St., **706-353-1820**, athenswelcomecenter.com. Run by the Athens-Clarke Heritage Foundation, it's in a house museum, one of Athens' oldest structures. Both self-guided and guided tours focusing on local music and historic landmarks are available.

- **UGA Visitors Center:** 405 College Station Rd. at River Road, **706-542-0842**, visit.uga.edu—in a repurposed old dairy barn on east campus. It occupies the southern wing of the Four Towers Building.

- **Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau:** 300 N. Thomas St., **706-357-4430**, VisitAthensGA.com—in the firehall the citizens saved when it was threatened with demolition to make way for the Classic Center in the early 1990s.

- **Oconee County Welcome Center:** 22 N. Main St. Bldg. B, Watkinsonville; **706-769-5197**, visitoconee.com—in an old brick storefront downtown.

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These familiar events anchor the Athens year. Be sure to check *Flagpole's* Calendar in the paper and online (flagpole.com) for the full range of possibilities in addition to these events.

UGA Football 2014 | There are few football experiences to rival seeing a game in Sanford Stadium, but most games sell out. Traffic is heavy before and after games, but light during the games. 2014 home games are **Clemson** Aug. 30, **Troy** Sept. 20, **Tennessee** Sept. 27, **Vanderbilt** Oct. 4 (homecoming), **Auburn** Nov. 15, **Charleston Southern** Nov. 22 and **Georgia Tech** Nov. 29. For updates on game times, go to georgiadogs.com.

Athens Intensified | Sept. 11-13 & 20, 2014 | An exuberantly eclectic music festival. athensintensified.com

North Georgia Folk Festival | Oct. 11, 2014 | This year the festival celebrates its 30th year of music, crafts, art and fun out at Sandy Creek Park. Details at athensfolk.org.

The AthHalf Marathon | Oct. 19, 2014 | Run, and see Athens for a good cause. athhalf.com

The Wild Rumpus Parade and Spectacle | Oct. 31, 2014 | Costumes, music and fun in the streets. wildrumpus.org

The Downtown Parade of Lights | Dec. 4, 2014 | The whole town turns out for the floats, the music and Old-What's-His-Name. athensclarkecounty.com/2589/downtown-parade-of-lights.

A Taste of Athens | Feb. 22, 2015 | Samples from top restaurants, caterers and distributors. communityconnection211.org/taste

Slingshot | Mar 26-28, 2015 Music, electronic art, technology and comedy spread out all over downtown. slingshotathens.com

Dancing with the Athens Stars | Apr. 18, 2015 | Celebs paired with dancers raise money for Project Safe. project-safe.org/Dancing-with-the-Athens-Stars.html

FLUKE! | Apr. 11, 2015 | See what's happening with local comics, and meet the people who make them. flukeathens.com

Boybutante Ball | Apr. 18, 2015 | The glamorous drag show that fights AIDS lights up the 40 Watt Club with glamor and entertainment. boybutante.org

Athens Americana Festival | Apr. 23-26, 2015 | A whole weekend for Americana and roots music. athensamericana.com

Twilight Criterium | Apr. 24 & 25, 2015 | Few thrills match this downtown race under the street-lights. athenstwilight.com

Indie South Fair | First weekends in May & December | This large outdoor market of folk and functional art also has a "Back to Cool" fair on Aug. 23, 2014 and a Valentine's fair on Feb. 14, 2015. indiesouth.com

Human Rights Festival | May 2 & 3, 2015 | Speakers, live music, food and kid stuff celebrate democracy. athenshumanrightsfest.org

Hot Corner Festival | June 13, 2015 | Food, music and fellowship call attention to Athens' African-American roots. facebook.com/hotcornerath

Flagpole Athens Music Awards | June 18, 2015 | Musicians get awards voted by *Flagpole* readers, and live music fills the Morton Theatre.

flagpole.com

AthFest Music, Arts and Kids Festival | June 17-21, 2015 | Hundreds of local bands plus an artists' market, kids' activities, food and drink attract music-loving fans to downtown Athens. athfest.com



Lodging



Welcome to Athens, and enjoy your stay! There are plenty of choices downtown, out-from-town and out-of-town for just about any pocketbook. Keep in mind that Athens is a football town, so for most of these lodging choices, "seasonal rates apply" on game weekends and at other times. Rates shown here are the hotel's starting standard reservation charge without payment in advance or discounts for groups and affiliations. You'll pay an additional 14 percent in state and local taxes.

Symbols: ☕ Breakfast Available | 📶 Internet Available | 🐾 Pets Okay | 🏊 Pool | 🍷 Hotel Bar | 🧊 Refrigerator | 🍳 Kitchen Available | ❤️ Fitness Center

Downtown

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170 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-546-7311
bestwestern.com/colonialinnathens
\$70 | 70 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Comfort Suites

255 North Ave. • 706-995-4000
choicetohotels.com/hotel/ga467
\$80 | 73 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Courtyard by Marriott

166 N. Finley St. • 706-369-7000
marriott.com/AHNCY
\$129 | 105 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Days Inn

230 N. Finley St. • 706-543-6511
daysinnathens.com
\$64 | 75 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Foundry Park Inn & Spa

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-549-7020
foundryparkinn.com
\$99 | 119 rooms | The spa provides a full range of therapies from massage to waxing and skin care. The Melting Point, a live music venue and restaurant, is open through the evening | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Georgia Center Hotel

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-1311
georgiacenter.uga.edu/hotel
\$109 | 193 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Georgia Gameday Center

250 W. Broad St. • 706-583-4500
gagamedaycenter.com
\$139 | 133 apartment-style rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Hilton Garden Inn

390 E. Washington St. • 706-353-6800
hiltongardeninnathens.com
\$119 | 185 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Holiday Inn

197 E. Broad St. • 706-549-4433
holidayinnathensga.com
\$85 | 210 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Holiday Inn Express

513 W. Broad St. • 706-546-8122
hiexpressathensga.com
\$63 | 160 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Hotel Indigo

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0430
indigoathens.com
\$126 | 130 rooms | An eco-friendly "green" hotel with LEED gold

certification, an art gallery off the lobby and the Rialto Room, a live music venue | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Travelodge

898 W. Broad St. • 706-549-5400
travelodge.com
\$48 | 40 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

North Athens

Bulldog Inn

1225 Commerce Rd. • 706-543-3611
bulldoginn-athens.com
\$40 | 51 rooms | 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

South Athens

The Colonels on Angel Oaks Farm

3890 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-559-9595
thecolonels.net
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Westside/Mall

America's Best Inn

2715 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-549-1530
americasbestinnathens.com
\$47 | 45 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Budget Host Inn/Campus Inn

3425 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-549-0251
campusinnmotelathens.com
\$50 | 38 rooms | 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Candlewood Suites

156 Classic Rd. • 706-548-9663
candlewoodsuites.com/athensga
\$75 | 97 rooms | 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Comfort Inn

3980 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-227-9700
comfortinn.com
\$79 | 69 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Country Inn & Suites

236 Old Epps Bridge Rd. • 706-612-9100
countryinns.com
\$79 | 81 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Hampton Inn

2220 W. Broad St. • 706-548-9600
hampton-inn.com/hi/athens
\$109 | 112 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Howard Johnson

2465 W. Broad St. • 706-548-1111
hojo.com
\$70 | 99 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Microtel Inn

1050 Ultimate Dr. • 706-548-5676
microtelinn.com
\$50 | 61 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Perimeter Inn

3791 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-548-3000
perimeterinn.com
\$52 | 32 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Sleep Inn and Suites

109 Florence Dr. • 706-850-1261
sleepinn.com/hotel-athens-georgia-ga656
\$80 | 65 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

Springhill Suites by Marriott

3500 Daniels Bridge Rd. • 706-353-8484
springhillsuitesathens.com
\$104 | 99 rooms | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊 ❤️

In Lands Not So Distant

Ashford Manor Bed & Breakfast

5 Harden Hill Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-2633
ambedandbreakfast.com
\$89 | 9 rooms in an 1893 Victorian house and adjacent cottage on 5 acres | Ages 16 and up | ☕ 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

Butler Motor Inn

173 S. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-769-7781
\$40 | 18 rooms | 🏊

Fair Havens Bed & Breakfast

75 Old Edwards Rd., Arnoldsville • 706-208-8900
fairhavensplantation.com
\$125 | 6 rooms in an 1825 house and adjoining cottage on 30 acres | ☕

Camping

Bell Acres Resort

158 Bell Acres Rd., Maysville • 706-677-2931
nudistresortga.com
\$20 | 4 cabins/2 campers | tent camping/RV hookups | 60-acre family-oriented nudist resort | 🐾 🏊 🧊

Broad River Outpost

7911 Wildcat Bridge Rd., Danielsville • 706-795-3242
broadriveroutpost.com
\$1 camping on wooded site with showers. No RV's | 🐾

Pine Lake

5540 High Shoals Rd., Bishop • 706-769-5486
pinelakervcamp.com
\$45 | 3 cabins | RV & tent camping, bathhouse | Checks/cash only | 📶 🏊 🍷 🧊

The Sandbar

3435 King Hall Mill Rd., Bowman • 706-245-4163
thesandbarbroadriver.com
\$75 | 2 cabins | tent camping | 🐾

Watson Mill State Park

650 Watson Mill Rd., Comer • 706-783-5349
gastateparks.org/watsonmillbridge
\$75 | 3 cabins (sleep 8) | RV & tent camping | 🐾





Although Athens is full of artists, most of the art you'll see is on display in local businesses. The Athens Cultural Affairs Commission is working to remedy that, with a focus on public art, especially. Third Thursday, a partnership among several of the venues listed below, hosts special events and open houses from 6–9 p.m. on the third Thursday evening of the month, with a calendar posted at 3thurs.org as well as listings in *Flagpole's* calendar in the paper and online at flagpole.com. The Athens Area Arts Council organizes an arts roundtable monthly to foster discussion and networking.

ARTini's Art Lounge

296 W. Broad St. • 706-353-8530 • artinisartlounge.com

ARTini's is a wine-plus-painting-class venue that offers a stepping stone to original artistic creation, but it also has its own gallery, which presents regular rotating exhibitions (and participates in the occasional Pulaski Street Art Crawl). It also organizes summer art camps and figure-drawing nights. Open Mon. 6–8:30 p.m., Tues.–Sat. 12:30–10 p.m.

Athens Institute for Contemporary Art (ATHICA)

160 Tracy St., Unit 4 • 706-208-1613 • athica.org

This nonprofit gallery in a cool space in the Tracy Street warehouses organizes regular exhibitions that sometimes focus on Athens but also draw from the larger creative scene across the country. This next year will bring exhibitions focusing on the art of the Elephant 6 music collective and, most likely, the annual "Emerges" show, which concentrates on new local artists. Lots of programming accompanies exhibitions, including kids' events, storytelling and poetry as well as traditional kickoff parties. During exhibitions, ATHICA is open Thurs. 1–9 p.m., Fri.–Sun. 1–6 p.m. and by appointment, with reduced hours in the summer.

Brick House Studio

1892 Athens Rd., Crawford • 706-540-4022 • lamarwood.com

Painter Lamar Wood teaches regular classes in the historic Langston-Daniel House down toward Crawford, on Highway 78. Open by appointment only or during special events.

Chappelle Gallery

25 S. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-310-0985 • facebook.com/pages/chappelle-gallery

Run by Jerry and Kathy Chappelle out of the historic Haygood House, Chappelle Gallery in downtown Watkinsville shows and sells the work of many local and national artists in media from paintings and drawings to metal, fiber, wood and jewelry. The gallery hosts open houses throughout the year and offers framing services. Mon.–Sat., 10 a.m.–5 p.m.

Ciné

234 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-353-3343 • athenscine.com

Ciné isn't just an art-house movie theater. It's also a venue for seeing art. The small gallery runs down both walls as you walk in and hosts regular exhibitions by mostly local artists. Open the same hours as the theater, which vary, but you don't have to buy tickets to a movie to check out the art or to enjoy the opening receptions.

The Circle Gallery

285 S. Jackson St. • 706-542-8292 • ced.uga.edu/gallery/

Part of UGA's College of Environment and Design and housed in the former art school building on Jackson Street (a landmark of modern design in Athens), the Circle Gallery hosts shows with an environment or design focus several times a year. Featured artists have included Cheryl Goldsleger and Nils Folke Anderson. Open Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–6 p.m. during the academic year and by appointment in the summer.

The Classic Center

300 N. Thomas St. • 706-208-0900 • classiccenter.com

In addition to being a conference and events venue, the Classic Center has its own Cultural Foundation, which partially exists to fund the purchase of local art for display in its galleries. Some of that art is on view permanently, as is "Nest," a sculpture by Maureen Kelly that hangs in the atrium, and some of it changes out semi-regularly, due to the capable hands of curator Didi Dunphy.

Farmington Depot Gallery

1001 Salem Rd., Farmington • 706-769-5379 • farmingtondepotgallery.net

You wouldn't think Farmington would have much of an arts community, but this historic train depot houses a regional fine arts gallery that hosts regular exhibitions of work by area artists as well as fun events. Festifool, its annual spring artists' market, has local art, barbecue, music, hayrides and more. Open houses frequently include live music. Jan.–March, Thurs.–Sun., 12–5 p.m.; Apr.–Dec., Thurs.–Sun., 11 a.m.–7 p.m., plus by appointment.

The Gallery @ Good Dirt

485 Macon Hwy. • 706-355-3161 • gooddirt.net

Good Dirt is better known for the clay classes it offers, for both pros and beginners, but it also runs a gallery for pottery with rotating exhibitions. Founder Rob Sutherland's work is often featured, and artists can rent spaces. The website provides a schedule of classes, openings and summer camps. Open daily 10 a.m.–5 p.m. and by appointment.

Gallery@Hotel Indigo-Athens

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0434 • indigoathens.com/amenities/galleryhotel-indigo

Smart contemporary work makes up regular exhibitions at this gallery inside the downtown boutique hotel. Most shows have a group focus and a theme, as with recent exhibitions devoted to tiny works or works on paper. Local artist and curator Didi Dunphy puts things together, and she has a reliably interesting eye. Glass Cube, just outside the entrance to the hotel, serves as an experimental project space. Artists' happy hours and fun receptions also occur often. Open the same hours as the hotel lobby.

Georgia Museum of Art

90 Carlton St. • 706-542-4662 • georgiamuseum.org

Come four times a year, and you'll always see something different on display at the state's official art museum (located on UGA's East Campus), which has both a large permanent collection and hosts temporary exhibitions of paintings, prints, decorative arts, fashion, video and more. Admission is free, as are almost all of its many events: films, lectures, late-night art parties with a DJ, teen studio workshops and Family Day once a month. Ike & Jane retails coffee, sweets and sandwiches Tues.-Fri. in the lobby. The museum is open Tues., Wed., Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 1-5 p.m.

Lyndon House Arts Center

293 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3623 • athensclarkecounty.com/lyndonhouse

Run by the Athens-Clarke County government, the arts center has large galleries upstairs and down, with regular exhibitions. It also features classes (for all ages), summer camps, a gift shop and the Ware-Lyndon House museum, with period decor and information about Athens history. The Annual Juried Exhibition will turn 40 in 2015, and new director Didi Dunphy has big plans in the works to freshen LHAC's image and offerings. Open Tues. and Thurs., 12-9 p.m., and Wed., Fri. and Sat. (home football games excepted), 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Mini Gallery

261 W. Washington St. • facebook.com/minigallery

Athens' tiniest art gallery, run by *Flagpole* cartoonist Missy Kulick ("Tofu Baby"), is crammed into a closet-sized space at the back of Low Yo Yo/Get Rad Skateshop downtown. Open Thurs. & Fri. 6:30-9 p.m. and Sat. & Sun. 3-6 p.m.

The Myers and Bertelsmann Galleries at Athens Academy

1281 Spartan Ln. • 706-549-9225 • athensacademy.org

Athens Academy, a local private preK-12 school, includes these two lovely galleries on its large campus. Although they do feature work by students, there's more to see than that, with exhibitions by local artists on occasion. The galleries are open during the academic year during school hours.

Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation (OCAF)

34 School St., Watkinsville • 706-769-4565 • myocaf.com

Like many cultural arts foundations, this one in Watkinsville (OCAF for short) has an expansive arts mission, but it has a nice gallery space for visual arts and organizes a number of exhibitions each year. Annual events include Southworks, a juried art exhibit and artists' market; "Perspectives," the Georgia pottery invitational; a holiday market and a members' exhibition. It also offers classes for all ages. Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and by appointment.

UGA Lamar Dodd School of Art Galleries

270 River Rd. • 706-542-1511 • art.uga.edu/galleries

Art turns up all over the building at UGA's renowned art school next to the Georgia Museum of Art, but it also has dedicated gallery spaces that feature rotating exhibitions. Some of the work is by students, some by faculty and some by invited artists or visiting artists. This next year promises a show from ceramist Ji Man Choi, BFA exit shows and more. Regular events include receptions and lectures by artists and art historians. Galleries open Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., except for university holidays and Third Thursday.

Visionary Growth Gallery

2400 Booger Hill Rd., Danielsville • 706-363-0393 • visionarygrowth.com

Robert Lowery's Visionary Growth Gallery shows folk art and art brut in an open space in rural surroundings, with free-range pigs just outside. Exhibitions are somewhat less frequent than previously but always interesting. Last year brought a show called "Horsepower" that featured images of equines and motorcycles. The gallery also offers classes, photography and help with promotion to artists with disabilities and creates large-scale art-quality prints. Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and by appointment.

www.flagpole.com



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295 E. Dougherty St., Athens, GA 30601

www.foundryparkinn.com

www.meltingpointathens.com



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Art You Can Do

Does this artist town inspire you in a million directions? Want to make jewelry? Capture the magic of sports photography? Try your hand at pottery? Or just knock back a few while painting a personal masterpiece? We've got you covered with all kinds of classes, workshops and do-it-yourself studios for all ages and skill levels.

ARTini's Art Studio, Gallery & Lounge

296 W. Broad St. • 706-353-8530 • artinistartlounge.com

Art lounge by day, featuring Wi-Fi and local art available for purchase, and artist studio by night, ARTini's offers participants instructor-led painting in a spacious setting while enjoying a favorite beverage. Saturday "ARTeenies" kid sessions, too.

Athena Jewelers

269 N. Jackson St. • 706-549-6869 • athenajewelers.com

More studio than jewelry store, Athena Jewelry offers private (up to three people) jewelry-making classes, customized to fit your skill level from beginner to advanced, as well as a place to sell it.

Clayfully Created

2440 W. Broad St. • 706-395-5002 • clayfullycreated.com

Clayfully Created meets you halfway in creating unique pottery masterpieces—you pick out a favorite piece of pottery to paint in your own style, and they'll glaze and fire it for you. They even have "pottery to go" boxes so you can paint at home.

Community

119 N. Jackson St. • 706-316-2067 • shopcommunityathens.com

Wearing your art is the ultimate in self-expression. Community offers denim and T-shirt revamp workshops that teach people how to redesign their classic clothes, as well as evening basic and intermediate sewing classes that focus on how to construct and tailor a garment.

Double Dutch Press

1377 Prince Ave. • 706-546-0994 • doubledutchpress.com

So many surfaces, so many colors! Totes, T-shirts, stationery, paper—Double Dutch Press workshops teach various printing methods, including screen-printing, linocut, woodcut and stamp-making.

Good Dirt

485 Macon Hwy. • 706-355-3161 • gooddirt.net

Still going strong in its 17th year, Good Dirt is a community clay studio that encourages everyone to play in the dirt with year-round pottery classes—or a simple "Try Clay" class—for adults and children. Also check out their gallery of pottery by local artists.

The Loft

1035 Baxter St. • 706-548-5334 • loftartsupply.com

Once inspired, you need supplies—and maybe some guidance and more inspiration. From student to professional, the Loft offers a wide variety of art supplies, Saturday classes, workshops and demonstrations, including bookmaking, painting and calligraphy.



JOSHUA L. JONES

Lyndon House Arts Center

293 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3623 • athensclarkecounty.com/lyndonhouse

Gallery exhibitions and a historic house museum serve as a backdrop at The Lyndon House Arts Center, where adults and youth may take a variety of classes, including stained glass, photography, cartoon illustration and metalsmithing.

Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation (OCAF)

34 School St., Watkinsville • 706-769-4565 • ocaf.com

Arts education is a major aspect of the OCAF mission, and their classes and workshops cover a range of artistic expression, including literary arts, jewelry and metalwork, pottery, painting, drawing, sculpture and even bagpipes.

The Pearl Girls

585 Barber St., Suite D • 888-870-7390 • thepearlgirls.com

Tahitian elegance in Athens, GA—who knew? Learn the art of creating jewelry with fine pearls. The Pearl Girls offer supplies and classes in pearl stringing and knotting, on site or in their Distance Education Class.

Revival Yarns

297 Prince Ave. #19 • 706-850-1354 • revivalyarnsathens.com

Knit and purl your way through private lessons or BYOP (Project) as Revival Yarns helps you improve your technique. They also offer free introductory knit and crochet classes with the purchase of your initial supplies.

Sewcial Studio Sewing & Quilt Shop

160 Tracy St., Studios 5 & 6 • 706-247-6143 • headyfiberarts.com

From creating simple pillowcases and potholders to needle-felted art quilts and thread-painting, Sewcial Studio classes will help you "Make Friends with Your Sewing Machine." They also sell beautiful, unusual fabric.

Smokey Road Press

675 Pulaski St., Unit 600 • 315-283-1538 • smokeyroadpress.com

Want to print your own stationery on 19th Century letterpress machines? Use a 4th Century bookbinding style to create a wedding guest book? Create gorgeous shadow boxes? Smokey Road Press offers a variety of classes, and sells custom, ready-made products.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia

2450 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-542-1244 • botgarden.uga.edu

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia offer a comprehensive series of courses on native plants along with informal garden rambles, and classes on digital plant photography and flower arranging.

Treehouse Kid & Craft

815 W. Broad St. • 706-850-8226 • treehousekidandcraft.com

For kids and crafters of all ages, Treehouse offers responsibly made (often local) products, and hosts a variety of DIY classes and workshops, including drawing, flower arranging and puppet-making, as well as a variety of creative summer camps.

UGA Continuing Education

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-542-3537 • georgiacenter.uga.edu

The Center for Continuing Education at the University of Georgia offers a variety of online and classroom courses in photography, including sports, night and portrait.

Uptown Art Uncorked

3061 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-208-7337 • uptownart.com/athens

Bridal showers, corporate gatherings, or maybe just an evening of making new friends: Uptown Art Uncorked instructors guide you to paint your personal vision while sipping your favorite drink during a relaxing evening, a daytime party or an off-site event.

Active Fun



Ready for a little action beyond the clubs and bars? Maybe drift down the Oconee River? Swing from a trapeze or pole dance? Hit the disc golf course before some indoor rock climbing? Athens has all of that and more.

Active Climbing

665 Barber St. • 706-354-0038 • activeclimbing.com

Want to boulder? Learn and experience the beauty and safety of rock climbing in an air-conditioned facility. Active Climbing also hosts parties of all ages, from kids to grandparents.

Aerofit Athens

165 Coile Dr. • 706-354-8844 • aerofitathens.com

Who doesn't love bouncing on a trampoline? With 16 interconnected trampolines and six TRX stations, Aerofit Athens gets you into shape, from simple jumping to more advanced flipping and non-stop circuits, on the trampoline and off. Parties, classes and on your own.

Athens Acro Yoga

athensacroyoga@gmail.com • facebook.com/athensacroyoga

A combination of yoga, acrobatics and strength-training, Athens Acro Yoga holds classes and impromptu jams for those who want to be fit and relaxed but are not yet ready to run away to the circus.

Athens Area Men's Baseball League

297 Hoyt St. • 706-207-8939 • aambl.com

It's about classic baseball—aluminum bats need not apply. All men ages 18–80 who share the passion for the glove, regardless of skill level, are welcome. All games are played at Thomas N. Lay Park.

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400 Bob Holman Rd. • 706-742-2738 • facebook.com/AthensDiscGolf

From pre-beginners to tournament pros, the Athens Disc Golf Club welcomes anyone who'd like to throw some plastic at the 22-hole Sandy Creek Park course. Membership not required.

Athens Vertical Pole Dance Academy

160-6a Tracy St. • 706-347-3708 • avpda.com

Want to let loose and experience what your body's capable of? Enjoy the grace and skill of Canopy while staying grounded? AVPDA offers fitness classes, workshops and parties for adults of all ages and abilities. No experience necessary.

Big Dog's on the River

2525 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-353-6002 • bigdogsontheriver.com

Kayak through three separate shoals of the beautiful Middle Oconee River before landing near downtown Athens. Cabana available for weddings and parties.

BikeAthens Group Ride

149 Tracy St. • bikeathens.com

Wanting to hit the road with fellow two-wheelers? Throughout the year, BikeAthens hosts leisurely, law-abiding group bicycle rides through town and longer Agro Cycle Tour trips to outlying farms.

Broad River Outpost

7911 Wildcat Bridge Rd., Danielsville • 706-795-3242 • broadriveroutpost.com

Choose your relaxing river ride from a variety of kayaks and canoes, from half-day to multi-night camping trips. Beginner and kid friendly.

Canopy Studio

160-6 Tracy St. • 706-549-8501 • canopystudio.com

Gracefully dance in the air—while hanging from a trapeze or silks—under the watchful guidance of Canopy instructors, or just relax and enjoy their

student performances at this non-profit community center. All ages, skill levels and physical ability welcome.

Classic City Rollergirls

The Classic Center Arena • 300 N. Thomas St. • classiccityrollergirls.com

Spend an evening cheering the Classic City Rollergirls as they block, cut and skate their way around the track. Think you can take them on? Join their bootcamp and find out. Year-round season.

Georgia Food Tours

Different meeting places • 706-410-1111 • georgiafoodtours.com

By popular demand, Athens Food Tours has expanded its tasty reach to Georgia Food Tours, giving you (or your private or corporate party) more choices from downtown to bicycle and farm tours. They'll even help you spring a surprise romantic picnic.

Leap Trapeze

160 Collins Industrial Blvd. • 706-705-2055 • leaptrapeze.com

Admit it—you've always wanted to be on the flying trapeze since you were a kid. With a high-flying trapeze rig, safety net and expert instructors, flying is safe and fun for the whole family. Plan a private party, take a class or watch a performance in this outdoor space.

The Sandbar

3435 King Hall Mill Rd., Bowman • 706-245-4163 • thesandbarbroadriver.com

The Sandbar shuttles you to the start of your kayaking adventure, so you can relax all the way to the restaurant and your car—or cabin or tent. All ages and skill levels welcome.

Skate Park of Athens

4440 Lexington Rd. • athensclarkecounty.com/524/Skate-Park

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Hedda Gabler

by Henrik Ibsen. October 14-19

The Great Gatsby

by Simon Levy & F. Scott Fitzgerald. November 6-16

A Lesson Before Dying

by Romulus Linney & Earnest J. Gaines. February 3-8

Mein Kampf

by George Tabori. February 19 - March 1

Hot Georgia Sunday

by Catherine Trieschmann. March 24-29

Much Ado About Nothing

by William Shakespeare. April 9-19

706-542-4400 drama.uga.edu

UniversityTheatreUGA @UGATheatre



Another opening, another show! It happens all the time in and around Athens, where there is a high concentration of people with the talents, skills and desire to make theater. But it's all only worth it if there are audiences to come, react and appreciate. So, take your pick and keep your eyes on these theater groups in *Flagpole's* weekly calendar in the paper and on flagpole.com. They're all worth watching. There's nothing like live theater.

Arts!Oglethorpe

info@artsoglethorpe.org • artsoglethorpe.org

Venue: The Historic Crawford Schoolhouse, Crawford

A!O has turned an old schoolhouse into an efficient little theater through a lot of hard work. They'll present *Always a Bridesmaid* in November 2014, and then they'll do some more work on the theater. Check the website for info.

Athens Creative Theatre

706-613-3628 • athensclarkecounty.com/act

Venues: Quinn Hall at Memorial Park, Morton Theatre

Athens Creative Theatre is a project of the Athens-Clarke County Department of Leisure Services and stages a variety of plays and classes for adults and children. Performances include *ACT After Dark* in March 2015; and *Live Art* in April 2015.

Athens Little Playhouse

706-208-1036 • athenslittleplayhouse.net

Venue: Athens Little Playhouse

ALP produces family-friendly plays for performers ages 5-18. The company holds a theater camp for kids in the summer and classes throughout the year.

The Black Theatrical Ensemble at UGA

uga.bte@gmail.com • [facebook.com/UGABlackTheatricalEnsemble](https://www.facebook.com/UGABlackTheatricalEnsemble)

Venues: Morton Theater, Seney-Stoval Chapel, Adinkra Hall and Memorial Hall Ballroom.

The BTE provides theatrical opportunities for all students regardless of ethnicity and experience. BTE produces two mainstage and several smaller productions each year. Check Facebook for information about the 2014-2015 season, which includes *The Wiz*, Feb. 13-15.

Circle Ensemble Theatre Company

706-362-2175 • circleensembletheatre.com

Venues: Various

The Circle Ensemble Theatre Company mounts productions and conducts classes for adults and children as well as encouraging local playwrights through reading workshops. Among this year's productions is *Romeo and Juliet*, Oct. 3-5 at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia.

Cornerstone Theatrical Productions

706-338-0239 • cornerstoneathens.com

Venues: Oconee Civic Center, Seney Stovall Chapel

Cornerstone focuses on family-oriented theatrical productions and classes, presenting up to five productions each year and offering classes in art, drama

and dance. The 2014-2015 season includes *All on a Christmas Day*, Nov. 20-23; *Tarzan*, Mar. 13-15; *High School Musical Jr.*, May 7-9; *Little Women*, June 26-28 and *Gala: Broadway Music Review*, July 31 & Aug. 1.

Encore Productions

706-283-1049 • elberttheatre.org

Venue: The Elbert Theatre

Encore Productions performs in a refurbished 1940 movie palace in nearby Elberton. Encore also hosts a variety of children's and teens' acting opportunities. Encore's 2014-2015 season includes *Bye Bye Birdie*, Sept. 19-28; *Harvey*, Dec. 5-14; *Always a Bridesmaid*, Mar. 13-22; *Wrong Window!*, July 17-26 and *Nonsense*, Sept. 11-20.

Jefferson Community Theatre

706-367-5714 • jeffersoncommunitytheatre.com

Venues: William Duncan Performing Arts Theater, Jefferson Civic Center, Crawford W. Long Museum.

In addition to its theatrical productions, the Jefferson Community Theatre also produces dinner theater, creative works by local playwrights and the annual *Jefferson Haints & Saints History Tour* in the vicinity of the cemetery in October.

Oconee Youth Playhouse

706-769-2677 • oypoysp.com/playhouse

Venue: Oconee County Civic Center

Oconee Youth Playhouse typically presents three musical theater productions a year, featuring large casts of local young people, such as the rock opera *Aida*, Aug. 15-17, 2014.

Rose of Athens Theatre

706-340-9181 • roseofathens.org

Venues: Seney Stovall Chapel, Ashford Manor B&B

Rose of Athens Theatre produces classic productions for both general audiences and school groups and holds regular "Teaching Life Skills Through Stage Skills" classes. The 2014-2015 season includes *The Santaland Diaries*, Dec. 3 & 4; *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe*, Feb. 26-Mar. 7 and *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, June 10-14. The company's 3rd Annual AthCon, a local, sci-fi convention that is a fundraiser for Rose's educational and new works programs will be held in spring 2015.

The Town & Gown Players

706-208-TOWN • townandgownplayers.org

Venue: Athens Community Theatre, 115 Grady Ave.

The Town & Gown Players is a volunteer, community-driven company producing live theater in Athens since 1953. T&G stages a wide variety of plays throughout the year. The 2014-2015 mainstage season is: *RENT* Oct. 3-12; *Inspecting Carol*, Dec. 5-14; *The Illusion*, Feb. 6-15; *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Apr. 10-19; *Man of La Mancha*, June 5-14 and *By the Bog of Cats*, Aug. 7-16. Town & Gown's Second Stage productions fill in between mainstage shows with plays that are more offbeat and experimental.

University Theatre (Department of Theatre and Film Studies)

706-542-4400 • drama.uga.edu

Venues: UGA Fine Arts Theatre and Cellar Theatre

The UGA Department of Theatre and Film Studies stages a full slate of plays from across the genre spectrum throughout the academic year. The 2014-15 season includes *Clybourne Park*, Sept. 25-Oct. 5; *Hedda Gabler*, Oct. 14-19; *The Great Gatsby*, Nov. 6-16; *A Lesson Before Dying*, Feb. 3-8; *Mein Kampf*, Feb. 19-Mar. 1; *Hot Georgia Sunday*, Mar. 24-29 and *Much Ado About Nothing*, Apr. 9-19. Other performance groups in the department are Improv Athens, Commedianti Georgiani, Next Act, Lady Parts Improv, Contact Improv and the Children's Theatre Troupe.

Winder-Barrow Community Theatre

770-867-1679 • winderbarrowtheatre.org

Venue: Colleen O. Williams Theater, Winder

A community theater company serving the Winder area, the WBCT presents a full slate of productions year-round for general audiences and a second schedule of children's productions through their Children's PLAYhouse program. The 2014 season finishes with *Anything Goes*, Aug. 1-10; *Wedding Belles*, Sept. 26-Oct. 5; *13 Past Midnight*, Oct 17-26 and *Santa Lives! Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus*, Dec 5-7.

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Parks & Recreation



The Athens-Clarke County area has a well maintained network of parks, large and small, with swimming and without, and dogs are welcome at some of them. Spend an afternoon or just stop by for a picnic lunch or a quick dip in the pool. The park system is available year-round for relaxation and exercise. The *Flagpole* calendar frequently lists special parks and recreation events. Enjoy.

Bishop Park

705 Sunset Dr. • 706-613-3589 • athensclarkecounty.com/bishop

Julius F. Bishop Park, named for a former Athens mayor, covers more than 30 acres of athletic fields, basketball courts, a playground, a seasonal swimming pool, a paved walking path, a picnic area and tennis courts (including covered courts). The park hosts many youth sports, including the Athens-Clarke Gymnastics Academy, and is a popular meeting spot for families with children. Trails around the grounds accommodate joggers and walkers. The Athens Farmers Market is held at the park on Saturday mornings April through November, often featuring live music and cooking demos.

East Athens Community Park

200 Trail Creek St. • 706-208-0185 • athensclarkecounty.com/eastpark

The newest Athens park features 113 acres of new equipment, including a Splash Pad, a rubberized outdoor floor covered in water contraptions. Kids can run around in bare feet in the hot summer and cool off under a raining mushroom or with water squirters. Many football, softball, soccer and ultimate frisbee games convene on the park's athletic fields, and spaces are available for birthday parties and other gatherings. More features include an outdoor workout area with elliptical and rowing machines, etc.; a playground, a picnic area,

meeting rooms, restrooms and walking trails. The Splash Pad is open Tues.–Sun. 10 a.m.–6 p.m. and is \$1 per person.

Other Parks

These smaller and special purpose public parks vary in their facilities. Descriptions can be found at athensclarkecounty.com/149/parks-facilities.

Ben Burton Park

616 Mitchell Bridge Rd. • 706-613-3801

Dudley Park

100 Dudley Park Dr. • 706-613-3801

East Athens Community Center

400 McKinley Dr. • 706-613-3593

Heritage Park

2543 Macon Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-769-3965

Holland Youth Sports Complex

250 Vincent Dr. • 706-613-3604

North Oconee River Park

300 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Pkwy. • 706-613-3615

Oconee Veterans Park

3500 A Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-3965

Reese & Pope Park

375 Reese St. • 706-613-3801

Rocksprings Community Center & Park

291 Henderson Ext. • 706-613-3603

Satterfield Park

3028 Cherokee Rd. • 706-613-8371

Thomas N. Lay Park

297 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3596

Legion Pool

830 S. Lumpkin St • 706-542-8235 • tate.uga.edu/legionpool

This elegant old swimming pool sits alongside the University of Georgia campus and is popular with university families and their guests and is open to all who join the Friends of Campus Life and their guests. Open for a relatively short summer season, Legion has lap lanes, showers and dressing facilities, a picnic pavilion, a concession stand and parking out front.

Memorial Park

293 Gran Ellen Dr. • 706-613-3580 • athensclarkecounty.com/memorial

Memorial Park is located in the Five Points neighborhood and encompasses over 72 acres. In a portion of the park, the Bear Hollow Wildlife Trail and Zoo provides a home for over 120 species of rescued wild animals, such as eagles, bobcats, white-tailed deer, bears and alligators in a natural environment designed for visitors' education. Other amenities include a three-acre lake, a seasonal swimming pool, picnic shelters, a playground, a confined dog park and the nature trail named after the late, legendary Athens cyclist Fred Birchmore. Memorial Park is also the home of the Athens Creative Theatre in Quinn Hall.

North Oconee River Greenway

Sandy Creek Nature Center to Poplar Street • 706-613-3615 •

athensclarkecounty.com/greenway

The North Oconee River Greenway covers 150 acres; a "linear park" spanning more than 3.5 miles. The 10-foot wide path is perfect for walking and biking and connects local parks, neighborhoods and community centers, meeting Cook's Trail at Sandy Creek Nature Center, which goes on from that point to

Sandy Creek Park. Following the river south from the Nature Center to downtown, one can view 50 interpretive panels, along the half-mile Heritage Trail, that illustrate Athens transportation and manufacturing history. The Greenway will eventually follow the old Georgia Railroad bed out to Winterville and beyond.

Sandy Creek Nature Center

205 Old Commerce Rd. • 706-613-3615 • sandycreeknaturecenter.com

The Sandy Creek Nature Center is an educational preserve with four miles of hiking trails that connect to Cook's Trail and to the North Oconee River Greenway. Encompassing 225 acres, the Nature Center surrounds wetlands, woodlands and field ecosystems. Planetarium shows occur monthly with different educational themes. The center's newly renovated Environment, Natural Science and Appropriate Technology Building (ENSAT) houses interactive exhibits that reflect several different environments of Georgia, as well as a natural science resource library and live reptiles and amphibians. The remains of a 100-plus-year-old brick factory and a 19th Century log house are open for exploration. Check the weekly *Flagpole* Calendar for Sandy Creek's seasonal events and activities for kids. The park is open Tues.-Sat., 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and the trails are open year-round from sunrise to sunset.

Sandy Creek Park

400 Bob Holman Rd. • 706-613-3631 • sandycreekpark.com

Sandy Creek Park is the largest of the county's parks, encompassing 782 acres surrounding Lake Chapman. Miles of hiking trails hug the banks of the lake, offering hours of woods exploration, and connect with Cook's Trail to Sandy Creek Nature Center. A public beach, picnic sites, horse trails, playgrounds, fishing spots and basketball and tennis courts are more of the amenities offered. The park boasts a disc golf course (\$1 per person) and a public dog park, with several large, private dog parks available at \$1 per dog per hour. For ages 4-64, there is a \$2 entrance fee; for all others, admittance is free. Canoe, kayak and paddleboard rentals are available by reservation on weekends running from Memorial Day Weekend until Labor Day Weekend. Open summer, 7 a.m.-9 p.m. and winter, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Spring and fall hours vary.

Southeast Clarke Park

4440 Lexington Rd. • 706-613-3871 • athensclarkecounty.com/southeast

Southeast Clarke Park covers more than 120 acres and includes the 1,700-sq-ft. World of Wonder Playground, the largest volunteer-built playground in the state of Georgia. Its castle-like structure holds slides, mazes, bridges and more. Residents can call to make reservations for the playground pavilion. Nearby, the Skate Park, partially funded by the Tony Hawk Foundation, is 14,000-sq-ft. of concrete ramps, bowls and steel rails, which are open to BMX bikers and skateboarders. For dogs and their owners, Wiggley Field (closed for renovations until June 2015) offers fenced-in dog parks with separate areas for small and large dogs if desired. Softball and soccer fields, a multi-court tennis center for recreation, classes and tournaments, a walking/jogging path and nature trails are more features of this versatile park. Open 9 a.m.-sunset.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia

2450 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-542-1244 • uga.edu/botgarden

The State Botanical Garden of Georgia is maintained by UGA and contains more than 300 acres. The Garden seeks to "acquire and disseminate botanical knowledge and to foster appreciation, understanding and stewardship of plants and nature," and includes five miles of well-kept nature trails, some of which follow the banks of the Oconee River. Several gardens are kept in year-round bloom, including the International Garden, Native Flora Garden, Shade Garden and Heritage Garden. The Garden's research staff provides programs and classes that celebrate the versatility, beauty and history of Southeastern flora, as well as the preservation of native species of medicinal plants. The garden is a popular venue for festivals, weddings and live music, and the Visitors Center houses a gift shop, café and three-story conservatory. Classes, seminars and art exhibitions are held all year long. Smoking and pets are not allowed on the premises. Garden grounds are open free to the public daily Oct.-Mar. 8 a.m.-6 p.m. and Apr.-Sept. 8 a.m.-8 p.m., excluding UGA holidays.

Watson Mill State Park

650 Watson Mill Rd., Comer • 706-783-5349 • gastateparks.org/watsonmillbridge

Worth the short drive, Watson Mill State Park boasts the longest covered bridge in Georgia, spanning the South Fork River. A picturesque spot for camping, swimming, hiking, horseback riding, picnicking and getting out of town. Open daily 7 a.m.-10 p.m. all year.

Sandy Creek Nature Center

Athens-Clarke County Department of Leisure Services



Visit
for an hour or
the whole day.

Explore the natural world just minutes from downtown Athens. At Sandy Creek Nature Center, your family can **experience** hands-on exhibits, hike and run on forest trails, see live animals and **watch** a planetarium show. There is no other resource like this in northeast Georgia. Remember your visit with a nature-themed souvenir from the gift shop.

Sandy Creek Nature Center
205 Old Commerce Rd
Athens, GA 30607
(706) 613-3615

Operating Hours:
Tuesday - Saturday
8:30 am - 5:30 pm

Closed Sunday
and Monday

Trails open daily,
sunrise to sunset.



What will you see?

Sandy Creek
Nature Center





Athens is full of parks and other outdoor spaces to let the kids roam—just flip through the adjacent pages for parks with pools, trails and great playgrounds. For seasonal events and special activities, look for “Kidstuff” listings in the weekly *Flagpole* and online at flagpole.com. But Athens is as much a creative town for kids as it is for adults, with lots of opportunities to experience music, art and culture through nonprofits, businesses, local government and outreach from the University of Georgia. Here are some of them.

Get Creative

Arrow

393 N. Finley St. • 706-354-8383 • ourarrow.com

Started as a cooperative play space for new moms, Arrow now offers classes geared toward kids ages 4 and younger, such as Spanish and art, along with monthly storytime. Classes for adults continue the kid-focused theme, with prenatal yoga, childbirth classes and a Waldorf-style introductory class.

ATHICA

160 Tracy St. • 706-208-1613 • athica.org

The independent contemporary art space hosts exhibits throughout the year that push boundaries. Look for kid-friendly events that are tied to the exhibits, and while you're there, take time to explore around the larger warehouse area. (Hint: look for the popsicle vendor and the koi pond.)

Ciné BarCafé

234 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-353-3343 • athenscine.com

Along with hosting the annual Children's Film Festival and other kid-friendly film-oriented events, the indie cinema has regular screenings of films appropriate for kids and re-runs of classics appropriate for any age. Check out the occasional Cinébaby screenings, a weekday series designed for new parents, with special lighting, lowered sound and stroller parking so parents can enjoy a film without the shushing of other moviegoers.

Double Dutch Press

1377 Prince Ave. • 706-546-0994 • doubledutchpress.com

Kids can combine shapes and inks to make a print in one of several kid-focused workshops offered by the print shop. Beginner classes use materials friendly to little hands, like paper or Styrofoam, while workshops for older children teach zine publishing or more advanced printing methods and techniques.

Good Dirt Clay Studio

485 Macon Hwy. • 706-355-3161 • gooddirt.net

This community clay studio offers classes throughout the year for kids of all ages and experience levels, including after-school and school-day-off programs, more extensive courses and creative summer camps. On Sundays families can get together for the ongoing Try Clay workshops.

Lyndon House Arts Center

293 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3623 • bit.ly/LyndonHouse

Along with a top-notch summer camp program, Lyndon House hosts art shows, workshops and classes throughout the year that are open to a range of ages, with frequent exhibits in its large galleries with art accessible to kids.

Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation (OCAF)

34 School St., Watkinsville • 706-769-4565 • ocaf.com

Kids can take a class in subjects like pottery or painting throughout the year. In summer, check out the camps, which allow kids to further explore their artistic side. Kids can also join as a member and get one of their pieces accepted into the annual members show.

Treehouse Kid & Craft

815 W. Broad St. • 706-850-8226 • treehousekidandcraft.com

Along with a great selection of thought-provoking toys, Treehouse also hosts regular workshops throughout the year for toddlers up through middle school, sometimes incorporating a story into the theme and other times teaching a skill, such as sewing. Creative summer camps use the same methods.

Georgia Museum of Art

90 Carlton St. • 706-542-GMOA • georgiamuseum.org

Check out Family Days once a month that link a specific exhibition to an art project kids can take home. The museum hosts frequent school groups and has a regular schedule of classes and workshops geared toward younger minds and hands, along with galleries housing both temporary exhibits and selections from the permanent collection.

UGA Performing Arts Center

230 River Rd. • 706-542-4400 • pac.uga.edu

Introduce kids to the world of music with the Performing Arts Center's Saturday Morning Club. Launched in 2013, the series grows this year to five performances that explore rhythm and music in an interactive, fun way. Performances are led by UGA student ensembles and are appropriate for ages 4-12. Note that there is an admission charge.

Read It

The Athens-Clarke County Library

2525 Baxter St. • 706-613-3650 • athenslibrary.org

Find events for kids of all ages, including teenagers. Meet-the-author events give kids a personal look at a local writer, and regular performances may include puppets, storytellers and musicians. Storytimes cater to infants, preschoolers and early readers.

Avid Bookshop

493 Prince Ave. • 706-352-2060 • avidbookshop.com

Regular storytimes are Thursdays and Saturdays, but other programs include a young adult book club, spoken-word performances for all ages and author visits throughout the year. Avid has a welcoming, well-stocked separate children's section in the store.

Oconee County Library

1080 Experiment Station Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-3950 • athenslibrary.org/oconee

Along with regular family movie nights and toddler storytimes, the library hosts classes and workshops for all ages. Catch storytimes on Tuesdays, craft workshops on Thursdays and special events and varied programs throughout the year.

Winterville Public Library

115 Marigold Ln., Winterville • 706-742-7736 • athenslibrary.org/winterville

Visit for regular preschool-focused storytimes throughout the year, as well as puppet shows. In the summer, catch performances from the regional library's summer reading series as well as Saturday music concerts on the front porch.

Get Support

Athens Mothers' Center

St. Gregory Episcopal Church • 3195 Barnett Shoals Rd. • athensmotherscenter@gmail.com • athensga.motherscenter.org

This community of mothers (and dads!) meets Tuesday and Friday mornings at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church for playtime and socializing as important to the parents as to the children.

Arrow

393 N. Finley St. • 706-354-8383 • ourarrow.com

Arrow is a co-op space where parents can drop in for unstructured play with their babies and toddlers and also take part in shared nanny times throughout the week.

Athens Regional Medical Center

1199 Prince Ave. • 706-475-7000 • armc.org/maternalchild

Lactation support is part of a weekly informal get-together, plus more organized classes on safety, parenting and childbirth.

Bloom Community

160 Tracy St. • bloomathens.com

This community room hosts a range of events, both public and private. The calendar includes regular family-friendly happenings, such as playgroups, a new mamas group and childbirth classes.

ReBlossom Mama and Baby Shop

220 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-255-1136 • reblossomathens.com

Along with gently used clothing, toys and other necessary items for mama and baby, the shop hosts classes and special events.

St. Mary's Hospital

1230 Baxter St. • 706-389-3389 • stmarysathens.org/health-services/women-and-children/

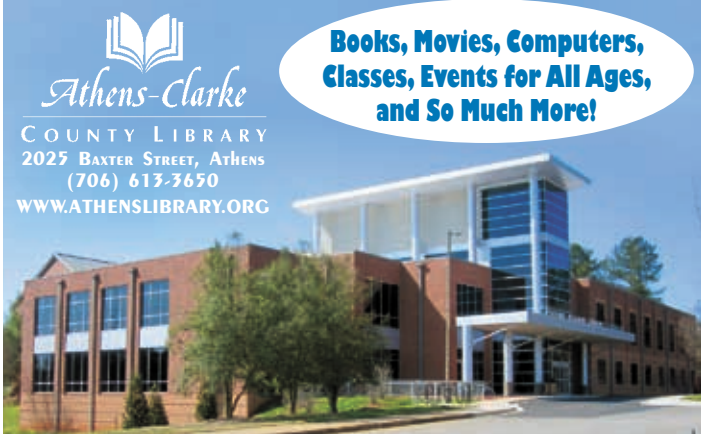
Childbirth classes and weekly lactation support groups for new moms—not restricted to mothers who gave birth at the hospital.

Womanspace

160 Tracy St. • 706-424-1860 • holdingwomanspace.com

Regular workshops and events specifically for women, aimed at re-energizing and re-focusing a busy mom's life.

www.flagpole.com



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Books & Records

Beyond the shops and stores listed below, the Athens books and records shopping scene also includes the thrift and secondhand stores, such as Habitat for Humanity Restore (East: 532 Barber St., West: 4125 Atlanta Hwy.), Salvation Army (484 Hawthorne Ave.), Goodwill Thrift Store (East: 4070 Lexington Rd., West: 10 Huntington Rd.) the Atlanta Union Mission Thrift Store (2415 Jefferson Rd., Suite D) and the Project Safe Thrift Store (995 Hawthorne Ave.), and books and records are always for sale out at the J&J Flea Market (11661 Commerce Rd.). Barnes and Noble (3650 Atlanta Hwy.) is our only big-box books and records store.

Agora

260 W. Clayton St. • 706-316-0130 • [facebook.com/agoravintage](https://www.facebook.com/agoravintage)

Hours: Daily 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Agora is a consignment marketplace that includes used and rare vinyl at dirt-cheap prices.

athensmusic.net

athensmusic.net

Hours: 24/7

A website devoted exclusively to promoting the local music scene, athensmusic.net is one-stop shopping for CDs and vinyl from Athens artists, as well as T-shirts and other assorted merchandise.

Avid Bookshop

493 Prince Ave. • 706-352-2060 • avidbookshop.com

Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. | Sun. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Avid is the real thing: an intown, local bookshop made for the kind of browsing that lets you

discover books you didn't even know you wanted. The shop also hosts author signings and readings on a regular basis and has reading programs for children.

Bizarro Wuxtry Comics & Stuff

225 College Ave. • 706-353-7938 • bizarrowuxtry.com

Hours: Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m. | Sun.-Mon. 12-6 p.m.

One flight up from Wuxtry Records, Bizarro Wuxtry is the geek motherlode, stocked on the rafters with new and used comics, graphic novels, indie zines and limited-edition and vintage toys guaranteed to meet all your tin-robot needs, whoever you are.

Front Porch Bookstore

102 Marigold Ln., Winterville • 706-372-1236 •

athenslibrary.org/winterville

Hours: Mon., Tues. & Thurs. 3-7 p.m. | Wed. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Front Porch sells used books and plays host to readings, live music, and other events. All proceeds go to help run and improve the public library in Winterville.

Jackson Street Books

260 N. Jackson St. • 706-546-0245 • [facebook.com/groups/107560759331151](https://www.facebook.com/groups/107560759331151)

Hours: Daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Jackson Street Books is the kind of place you love to discover when you're visiting another town—all the better to have it right here in Athens. Get lost in lots of used books, hardback and paperback; the clearly labeled sections help keep you oriented. Some rare books, too.

Low Yo Yo Stuff Records

261 W. Washington St. • [facebook.com/lowyoyostuff](https://www.facebook.com/lowyoyostuff)

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 12-6 p.m. | Fri. & Sat. 12-9 p.m. | Sun. 1-5 p.m.

Low Yo Yo Stuff features a wide selection of records, books and other merchandise in a funky atmosphere appropriate to that end of Washington Street.

Mr. Comic Shop

18 N. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-769-7414 • [facebook.com/mr.comicshop](https://www.facebook.com/mr.comicshop)

Hours: Tues.-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

A well stocked comics and graphic-novel shop in downtown Watkinsville, run by knowledgeable fanatics.

The Record Booth

790 Gaines School Rd. • 706-850-5945 • therecordbooth.com

Hours: Wed.-Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

The Record Booth is located inside the Weekend A'fair Antique Mall and specializes in vintage music, equipment and memorabilia.

Wuxtry Records


197 E. Clayton St. • 706-369-9428 • wuxtry-records.com

Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-8 p.m. | Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m. | Sun. 12-6 p.m.

Wuxtry was Athens music before Athens music was cool. This downtown landmark is still, even after 37 years, the hub of musical commerce in town, selling and buying CDs, vinyl, video, books and record players and always hosting browsers—visitors and locals.

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Check back **DAILY** for updates and other stuff you won't find in our print edition!

Movies



Athens has four multiplexes, showing the same movies that are playing everywhere else in the country. For something different, here are your possibilities. Get into the habit of checking *Flagpole's* movie reviews and Calendar in the paper and at flagpole.com to see what is playing at these local film outlets.

Ciné

234 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-353-3343 • athenscine.com

The only movie house downtown and the only art-house cinema around, Ciné is the main focus for independent, foreign, classic, local and documentary films, though it shows first-run films, too. Ciné is also the usual location for film festivals, such as the annual French and Jewish film festivals. State-of-the-art equipment, great popcorn, locally made cookies, coffee and a full bar enhance moviegoing enjoyment. It is difficult to go wrong, no matter what is showing at Ciné.

Georgia Museum of Art

90 Carlton St. • 706-542-GMOA • uga.edu/gamuseum/calendar/films

The Museum understands film as art and programs accordingly on an infrequent schedule, sometimes in conjunction with an exhibit. The M. Smith Griffith Auditorium off the lobby provides an intimate viewing experience.

Tate Cinema

45 Baxter St. • 706-542-6396 • tate.uga.edu/movies

This comfortable movie theater in the Tate Student Center on campus is open to the public (\$2 tickets) as well as the campus community (\$1 tickets) while the university is in session (except summer). The Tate presents a mix of mainstream movies and more esoteric films, depending on the tastes of the student committee that picks them. Park in the adjacent deck.

Multiplexes:

Beechwood Stadium 11 Cinemas

196 Alps Rd. • 706-546-1011 • georgiatheatrecompany.com

Metropolitan Opera live broadcasts are shown during the season.

Carmike 12

1570 Lexington Rd. • 706-354-0016 • carmike.com

Georgia Square Value Cinemas 5

3710 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-548-3426 • georgiatheatrecompany.com

Reduced-cost second-run movies are featured.

University 16 Cinemas

1793 Oconee Connector • 706-355-9122 • georgiatheatrecompany.com

Beer, wine and a restaurant (Outtakes) go far beyond popcorn and candy.

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Music Venues

PORTER McLEOD



A thriving network of venues supports Athens' world-class music scene. Most of these venues are centered around the downtown core within walking distance of each other. They host nightly showcases of everything from classical to hip hop to punk rock to Americana and beyond. There are literally tens of thousands of shows each year, and it can be overwhelming trying to keep track of it all. Thankfully, *Flagpole* is here to help. To see who's playing where on any given date, pick up a copy of the weekly print edition or visit flagpole.com.

Boar's Head Lounge

260 E. Washington St. • 706-369-3040

This is a party bar that caters to the college crowd. Cover bands seem to get the party going, but local rock, funk and jam bands offer up original material, too. Thursday nights are your best bet for catching live music on the patio. If you want in on the action, try out the long-running open-mic night on Wednesdays. **21+**

Bootleggers Country & Western Bar

1700 Commerce Rd. • 706-540-7803 • bootleggersathens.com

Make sure to wear your cowboy boots when you head to Bootleggers, Athens' only country bar, every Saturday night. Located outside the Loop towards Commerce, it may be a trek to get there, but once you do, it's hard not to get caught up in the good-times vibe. **21+**

Buffalo's Cafe

196 Alps Rd. #49 • 706-354-6655 • buffaloscfe.com/athens

This local restaurant, in the Beechwood shopping center off Alps Road, hosts live music occasionally, from blues to soul to singer-songwriter stuff. The family-friendly concerts are always a blast. **All Ages**

Butt Hutt Barbecue

480 Macon Hwy. • 706-850-8511 • butthuttbarbecue.com

Aside from boasting some of the best 'cue in town, Butt Hutt features a steady stream of live music for the outdoor evening crowd during the warmer months. Enjoy performances from local blues, country and cover bands while you chow down on some delicious grub. **All Ages**

Caledonia Lounge

256 W. Clayton St. • 706-549-5577 • caledonialounge.com

Laid-back, intimate and unassuming, this jewel of a club is where the cool kids come to hear exciting, under-the-radar talent. This is a great spot to catch Athens bands on the verge as well as national touring acts. It's not rare to see a lineup that veers from avant-garde to rustic country in one night. The crowd loves to socialize outside on the patio which, on rare occasions, doubles as an outdoor stage. **18+**

Ciné

234 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-353-7377 • athenscine.com

Athens' only arthouse movie theater, Ciné occasionally hosts music performances in its cavernous adjoining room, dubbed Cinélab. Shows range from experimental drone to hip hop to rock and beyond, and usually feature some sort of artistic component. Enjoy a microbrew from the bar—or some popcorn—and zone out. **All Ages**

The Classic Center

300 N. Thomas St. • 706-357-4444 • classiccenter.com

The 2,000-seat theatre in this convention center hosts a wide range of special events and performing arts including plays, symphonies and concerts. The elegant interior is well suited for the world-class artists who grace the stage, a list that has recently included Willie Nelson, Amos Lee and Louis C.K. **All Ages**

Creature Comforts Brewing Co.

271 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-410-1043 • creaturecomfortsbeer.com

Athens' newest craft brewery took over the building previously occupied by a tire shop and transformed it into a stunning tasting room where you can

Wanna know who's playing where, when—and what they sound like? Pick up a copy of *Flagpole's* weekly print edition or visit flagpole.com to view our Calendar listings.

also occasionally hear live music, usually in conjunction with a local festival or holiday happening. The side lot also hosts the downtown farmers market on Wednesday afternoons, when acoustic acts set up and play for shoppers.
All Ages

Flicker Theatre & Bar

263 W. Washington St. • 706-546-0039 • flickertheatreandbar.com

As close as you can get to a house show downtown, Flicker Theatre has an intimate, living room feel, complete with a rickety, out-of-tune piano. It's the ideal space to hear singer-songwriters and folk acts, but even punk bands rattle the windows of this hip venue. Flicker also hosts comedy, karaoke, trivia and film screenings, and displays rotating local art exhibits. Plus: free pop-corn! 21+

The Flight Deck

120 E. Washington St. • 706-347-6986

As you can tell by the name, this new spot on Washington Street downtown is aeronautic in theme, an homage to Athens' history as an early hotspot of flight thanks to pioneer Ben Epps. It also offers bar discounts for servicemen and women and first responders. Musically, you can expect to catch heavy rock and metal bands, as well as a variety of other genres. 21+

40 Watt Club

285 W. Washington St. • 706-549-7871 • 40watt.com

While this venue has existed in various locations over the past few decades, the 40 Watt Club has become synonymous with Athens' music scene. Its hallowed stage continues to welcome acclaimed indie acts and mainstream hit-makers, and it also serves as a launching pad for local bands. The space is a large room decorated with string lights above and funky art on the walls. The bar staff is friendly and quick with the 24-ounce PBRs. 18+

Front Porch Book Store

102 Marigold Ln., Winterville • 706-372-1236 • Find us on Facebook

This quaint nonprofit shop in Winterville, set up to help support the Winterville Library, has a little outside stage that hosts bands during its family-friendly Summer Concert Series, the yearly Marigold Festival and on other occasions, too. You can expect mostly acoustic acts in the folk and country veins. All Ages

Georgia Bar

159 W. Clayton St. • Find us on Facebook

This longtime townie favorite is your classic, dimly lit, no-frills bar, and it regularly hosts local rock, funk and jam bands, as well as eclectic touring acts. Expect equal helpings of grit and drawl from Georgia Bar's rowdy but always friendly atmosphere. 21+

Georgia Theatre

215 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-7670 • georgiatheatre.com

Back with a vengeance after being ransacked by fire in 2009, the Georgia Theatre has staked a new claim as one the Southeast's premier venues. The rooftop—complete with bar and restaurant—hosts DJs and bands when the weather is right. Inside, country, jam and electronic artists remain a constant, but the club has become the spot to catch globally acclaimed touring acts. In 2014, the Theatre has welcomed bands like The xx, The Zombies and Television. 18+

The Globe

199 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-4721 • facebook.com/globe.athens

This worldly bar and restaurant has long been a haven for townies and professor-types who want to bear witness to the debauchery of downtown while still maintaining a respectable psychological distance (oh, sure). The upstairs space is a spot for bands to do their thing, albeit only occasionally. From punk and indie rock to traditional Irish jigs, you can hear a wide variety of tunes here. 21+

Go Bar

195 Prince Ave. • 706-546-5609 • facebook.com/go.bar.35


Compact hipster institution Go Bar keeps things fresh by offering a wide range of music. You might catch a crusty punk band, a glittery electro act or a buzzworthy touring band playing for a young, ecstatic crowd. Lately, the club has become the go-to spot for experimental pop and noise. A revolving crew of

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DJs host post-show dance parties, while Thursday is home to the long-running indie rock karaoke with Dr. Fred. **21+**

Green Room

175 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-2439 • greenroomathens.com

Green Room was started by the owners of the nearby Georgia Theatre and features a cozy “backstage” theme. It’s the spot to catch stripped-down shows from touring bands headlining sold-out Theatre shows, as well as nightly concerts from mid-level rock, jam and indie acts. Enjoy a fancy cocktail and good fellowship while you rock the night away. **21+**

Hendershot's Coffee Bar

237 Prince Ave. • 706-353-3050 • hendershotcoffee.com

Carrying the name of local drummer and owner Seth Hendershot, jazz and folk are the main attractions at this cozy coffee and beer bar, located in the Bottleworks on Prince Avenue near downtown. But a wide variety of bands play here most nights, from funk to soul to rock and beyond. The recent Experimental Night series has brought in an eclectic new crowd. Readings and other events, too. **All Ages**

Hi-Lo Lounge

1354 Prince Ave. • 706-850-8561 • www.hiloathens.com

A key player in the emerging Normaltown resurgence, neighborhood watering hole Hi-Lo serves up delicious pub grub and is a great spot to catch a show, especially on Sundays, when most everything else on the block is closed. Music typically ranges from punk to folk to garage-rock. The vibe is cool and casual. **21+**

Highwire Lounge

269 N. Hull St. • 706-543-8997 • highwirelounge.com

This refined bar offers fancy cocktails and food from the adjoining Trappeze Pub kitchen, as well as music to accompany it all. This has been an especially popular place for local jazz acts to set up a residency, fine-tuning their craft with weekly appearances. **21+**

Iron Factory

255 W. Washington St. • 706-395-6877 • Find us on Facebook

An authentic Korean BBQ experience isn't the only thing you'll get at this new downtown spot; most Thursday–Saturday nights, it hosts live music on its outdoor patio. Expect crowd-pleasing rock and folk acts serenading the late-night dinner and bar crowd. Plus, all signs point toward the restaurant, which is owned by the same folks behind nearby sushi emporium Shokitini, becoming another karaoke hotspot. **All Ages**

Little Kings Shuffle Club

223 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-369-3144 • facebook.com/lkshuffleclub

Besides boasting one of the most cherished outdoor patios in town, Little Kings hosts a ridiculously wide swath of live music on the cheap (or free),

from local indie acts and touring punk bands to experimental, hip hop and more. Competitive types revel in the club's Rock and Roll Trivia Night, every Monday. **21+**

Max

243 W. Washington St. • 706-254-3392 • facebook.com/themaxcanada

Also known as the Patio Bar for its enormous outdoor area, Max hosts punk and metal performances in its narrow adjacent venue space. In warmer weather, the party moves outside, where DJ-assisted dancing often erupts and continues into the wee hours. For cheap drinks, cross-cultural downtown friendliness and late-night people-watching indoors or outdoors, Max can't be beat. **21+**

The Melting Point

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-254-6909 • meltingpointathens.com

The Foundry Park Inn's music venue offers an escape from the booze-soaked hustle and bustle of downtown's club scene, with great acoustics, a full-scale restaurant and plentiful seating. Of course, there's booze here, too; the weekly Terrapin Tuesday series pairs live folk and bluegrass music with \$2 pints of the local craft suds. The calendar fills up with established acts from Athens and beyond, including various folk, rock and soul heavyweights, and there's not a bad seat in the house. **18+**

Morton Theatre

195 W. Washington St. • 706-613-3771 • mortontheatre.com

One of Athens' most historically significant venues, the Morton Theatre was built in 1910 and owned and operated by African American community leader Monroe “Pink” Morton as a vaudeville hotspot. Now owned by the ACC government, the Morton hosts an array of theater productions and special events, as well as the rare concert, and is the home of the annual *Flagpole* Athens Music Awards show each June. **All Ages**

New Earth Athens

227 W. Dougherty St. • 706-543-8283 • newearthmusicall.com

The focus at the newly renovated, eco-friendly New Earth is on cutting-edge electronic artists, DJs and producers. The club books national and international EDM acts, and the killer lighting rig sets the mood perfectly for a night of raving. But both the indoor and outdoor stages are open to other genres, too. You can often find indie, folk, jam and funk acts populating the venue's calendar. **18+**

Normaltown Hall

399 Meigs St. • 706-548-3913 • facebook.com/NormaltownHall

Named for the Athens wing of New West Records, which uses the building as its local headquarters, Normaltown Hall is one of the best-kept listening-room secrets in town. Though the intimate, BYOB venue hosts performances only intermittently, each one is sure to be a treat. The past year has seen performances from desert-folk legend Howe Gelb and Chicago chanteuse Angel Olsen. **All Ages**



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Nowhere Bar

240 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-546-4742 • facebook.com/nowherebarathens

This hangout is the sort of unpretentious place that doesn't mind being called a dive bar, as long as it's said with respect. Folks come here to hang out in a laid-back environment while listening to blues, rock and country bands from around the region. Tuesdays are home to the Tuesday Night Confessional showcase, which highlights singer-songwriters from the region. **21+**

Nuçi's Space

396 Oconee St. • 706-227-1515 • nuci.org

Perched on the far eastern edge of downtown Athens, community anchor Nuçi's Space offers numerous resources to local musicians—affordable hourly rehearsal space, access to mental and physical health care and the Camp Amped program for kids are but a few of the local nonprofit's ongoing programs. It's also a terrific spot to watch live performances; though shows are infrequent, proceeds always benefit the center's mission. **All Ages**

The Office Lounge

2455 Jefferson Rd. • 706-546-0840 • facebook.com/OfficeAthens

The Office Lounge sits in a corner of the Homewood Hills Shopping Center and offers live music Thursday-Saturday. Regulars love to socialize while local rock and blues acts take the stage. Of course, there's also plenty of room to dance when the mood strikes. Enjoy karaoke every Wednesday night. **21+**

Omega Bar

3155 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-338-1832 • theomegabbar.com

From smooth jazz to live Latin music, there's always something different happening at this Atlanta Highway hotspot. It's also the place to go to see artists on the vanguard of Athens' tight-knit hip hop scene, which has blossomed of late. **18+**

The Rialto Room

500 College Ave. • 706-363-8616 • therialtoroom.com

Named after the legendary Rialto Ballroom in Liverpool, England, the Rialto Room is used mostly for private events, but the rare public concerts are a special treat. The club's plush interior and romantic lighting paired with pristine acoustics give shows an exclusive feel. **Age Restrictions Vary**

Seney-Stovall Chapel

210 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-542-5041 • cvioug.uga.edu/chapel

Originally built in 1882 as part of the Lucy Cobb Institute, the Seney-Stovall Chapel is one of Athens' most beautiful and unusual buildings. An octagonal Victorian gem, the Chapel, with its 240-seat Spalding Theater, is now owned by UGA and hosts both university and community-oriented cultural events such as concerts, plays and lectures. **All Ages**

Terrapin Beer Co.

265 Newton Bridge Rd. • 706-549-3377 • terrapinbeer.com

One of the few spots in town to enjoy live music outdoors, the Terrapin brewery opens up its lawn to the public Wednesday through Saturday. Bands usually start around 5:30 p.m. Bring your own chair or blanket. Leashed dogs are welcome, too. You can tour the brewery itself for \$10, which also gets you a generous sampling of the homemade brew. **All Ages**

UGA Performing Arts Center

230 River Rd. • 706-542-4400 • uga.edu/pac

The PAC is Athens' premier location to experience classical and jazz performances from internationally renowned musicians like Wynton Marsalis and Yo-Yo Ma, as well as talented student groups. Comprised of the 360-seat Ramsey Concert Hall and the 1100-seat Hugh Hodgson Concert Hall, the beautifully appointed center routinely books major orchestras, ballet troupes, acclaimed individual artists, off-Broadway productions, dance companies and youth symphonies. **All Ages**

The World Famous

351 N. Hull St. • 706-543-4002 • theworldfamousathens.com

This venue became a quick favorite after it opened in the former Wilson's Soul Food storefront downtown in 2013. Owners made it their mission to reuse as much from the previous tenant as possible; the result is a clean, modern-feeling space with a lot of lived-in charm. Performers take the stage in a small room next to the bar area. The kitchen turns out some pretty awesome pub grub, too. **All Ages**

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2014 Athens Favorites: FLAGPOLE'S READER PICKS

Restaurants:

FAVORITE ITALIAN

DePalma's Italian Café p. 43

FAVORITE AMERICAN

Clocked! p. 42

FAVORITE ASIAN

Thai Spoon p. 59

FAVORITE SUSHI

Shokitini p. 57

FAVORITE MEXICAN/LATIN AMERICAN

Sr. Sol p. 58

FAVORITE BBQ

Pulaski Heights BBQ p. 55

FAVORITE BAKERY

Ike and Jane p. 49

FAVORITE DOWNHOME/SOUTHERN

Weaver D's Fine Foods p. 60

FAVORITE LOCAL COFFEE HOUSE

Jittery Joe's Coffee p. 49

FAVORITE LOCAL PIZZA

Ted's Most Best p. 59

FAVORITE LOCAL BURGER

Clocked! p. 42

FAVORITE FRIES

The Grill p. 47

FAVORITE TACO

Taqueria del Sol p. 58

FAVORITE BURRITO

Barberitos Southwestern
Grille and Cantina p. 39

FAVORITE STEAK

Porterhouse Grill p. 55

FAVORITE SEAFOOD

Square One Fish Co. p. 58

FAVORITE WINGS

Amici p. 38

FAVORITE VEGETARIAN OPTIONS

The Grit p. 47

FAVORITE SANDWICH

Big City Bread Cafe p. 39

FAVORITE DESSERT

Last Resort Grill p. 50

FAVORITE ICE CREAM/FROZEN YOGURT

Menchie's p. 53

FAVORITE BUFFET

Taste of India p. 58

FAVORITE BREAKFAST

Mama's Boy p. 52

FAVORITE LUNCH

Last Resort Grill p. 50

FAVORITE BRUNCH

Mama's Boy p. 52

FAVORITE LATE NIGHT (TABLE SERVICE AFTER 10 P.M.)

The Grill p. 47



FAVORITE KID-FRIENDLY LOCAL RESTAURANT

Ted's Most Best p. 59

FAVORITE OUTDOOR DINING

Ted's Most Best p. 59

FAVORITE TAKE OUT

Choo Choo Japanese Korean

Grill Express p. 42

FAVORITE CATERING

Home.made Catering p. 49

FAVORITE CHEF

Peter Dale at The National p. 53

FAVORITE RESTAURANT FOR ADVENTUROUS EATERS

The Branded Butcher p. 40

FAVORITE RESTAURANT THAT'S WORTH A SHORT DRIVE (20 MILES OR LESS)

Chops and Hops p. 42

FAVORITE UNIQUELY ATHENS RESTAURANT

The Grit p. 47

FAVORITE DATE NIGHT

The National p. 53

FAVORITE MEAL FOR A DEAL

Taco Stand p. 58

FAVORITE SPECIAL OCCASION

Five & Ten p. 45

Bars:

FAVORITE BARTENDER

Bain Mattox at Normal Bar p. 53

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- FAVORITE SPECIALTY DRINKS**
Highwire Lounge p. 48
- FAVORITE MARGARITA**
Aqua Linda Mexican Restaurant & Cantina p. 38
- FAVORITE BLOODY MARY**
Allgood Lounge p. 38
- FAVORITE BEER SELECTION**
Trappeze Pub p. 60
- FAVORITE WINE SELECTION**
The National p. 53
- FAVORITE PLACE TO DANCE**
Little Kings Shuffle Club p. 51
- FAVORITE PLACE TO PLAY GAMES**
Max p. 52
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BE FOR "LAST CALL"**
Max p. 52
- FAVORITE HAPPY HOUR**
Normal Bar p. 53
- FAVORITE TRIVIA**
Blind Pig Tavern p. 40
- FAVORITE KARAOKE**
Shokitini p. 57
- FAVORITE COLLEGE BAR**
Allgood Lounge p. 38
- FAVORITE PLACE TO MEET SOMEONE YOU WOULD NOT BRING HOME TO MOM**
Max p. 52
- FAVORITE PLACE TO MEET YOUR FUTURE SPOUSE**
Normal Bar p. 53
- FAVORITE PLACE TO WATCH THE DAWGS PLAY**
Dirty Birds p. 43
- FAVORITE UNIQUELY ATHENS BAR**
The Manhattan Café p. 52

Retail:

- FAVORITE NAUGHTY BUSINESS**
Sexy Suz Couples Boutique
- FAVORITE STORE TO BUY A GIFT FOR HER**
Native America Gallery
- FAVORITE STORE TO BUY A GIFT FOR HIM**
Masada Leather and Outdoor
- FAVORITE LOCAL CLOTHING BOUTIQUE**
Community p. 13
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY LOCAL ART**
Frontier
- FAVORITE PLACE TO SEE LOCAL ART**
ATHICA p. 10
- FAVORITE THRIFT /VINTAGE STORE**
Agora p. 22
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY WINE**
Five Points Bottle Shop
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY BEER**
Five Points Bottle Shop
- FAVORITE UNIQUELY ATHENS STORE**
Agora p. 22

Music:

- FAVORITE RECORDING STUDIO**
Chase Park Transduction
- FAVORITE LIVE MUSIC VENUE (LESS THAN 200 CAPACITY)**
Caledonia Lounge p. 24
- FAVORITE LIVE MUSIC VENUE (200+ CAPACITY)**
Georgia Theatre p. 25

Pets & Kids:

- FAVORITE VET CLINIC**
Boulevard Animal Hospital
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The Dawg House Grooming and Gifts
- FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE KIDS ON A RAINY DAY**
Sandy Creek Nature Center p. 19
- FAVORITE KID'S CLASSES: MOVEMENT**
Canopy Studio p. 15
- FAVORITE KID'S CLASSES: CREATIVE**
Treehouse Kid and Craft p. 13

Services:

- FAVORITE HOTEL**
Hotel Indigo p. 9
- FAVORITE PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO**
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- FAVORITE FLORIST**
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- FAVORITE ADULT CLASSES: CREATIVE**
Double Dutch Press p. 13
- FAVORITE CAR REPAIR SHOP**
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Daniel Peiken
- FAVORITE LOCAL BUSINESS**
Avid Bookshop p. 22

Stuff Around

Town:

- FAVORITE NON-PROFIT/CHARITY**
Nuçi's Space p. 27
- FAVORITE FESTIVAL/EVENT**
AthFest: Music, Arts, Film and Kids Festival p. 8



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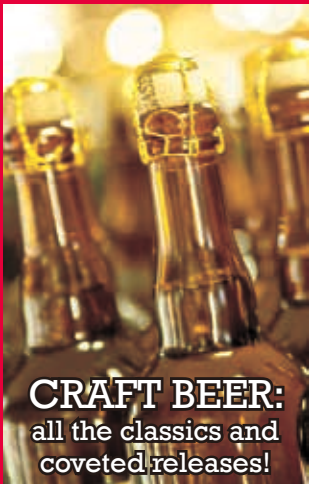
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Beer Here

From stouts to sours and everything in between, Athens provides residents and visitors alike with a wide variety of locally produced craft beer. The number of breweries in Athens doubled in 2014 with the recent addition of Creature Comforts Brewing Company and the Southern Brewing Company opening its doors later in the year. Whether you're a fan of robust ales or traditional pilsners, Athens has just the beer for you. On the other hand, if you're one of those ambitious do-it-yourself types, rejoice! Athens has two local homebrew supply stores for your beer-making needs.

A quick primer on some relevant Georgia laws and facts regarding breweries:

- State law requires that brewery tours be conducted for educational purposes and be at least two hours in length.
- Consuming beer at a brewery does not require purchasing any tickets or merchandise, although it is a good idea to support a brewery by purchasing gift items from them
- Breweries are not allowed to sell beer directly to customers, thanks to Georgia's three-tier distribution system.

The oldest production brewery in Athens, Terrapin Beer Company, was founded in 2002 by Brian "Spike" Buckowski and John Cochran. Terrapin moved to its current location at 265 Newton Bridge Rd. in 2008 and has since become one of Athens' most popular destinations for live music and fresh beer. Terrapin opens its doors to visitors every Wednesday through Saturday from 5:30–7:30 p.m. During the tour, patrons can sample fresh beer straight from the source and discover new brews before they hit the shelves. Dogs are welcome at Terrapin but must remain leashed and outside of the brewing facility. Food is not currently prepared at the brewery, but occasionally local restaurants provide food there, and tour attendees are welcome to bring their own food. Terrapin hosts many events throughout the year at their brewery, so be sure to check the Calendar in *Flagpole* to stay informed about what's happening. You can find out what's literally brewing at

Terrapin from their website: terrapinbeer.com. A new product of particular interest is Liquid Bliss, a porter brewed with chocolate and peanut butter.

Creature Comforts Brewing Company opened its doors (and kegs) in April 2014. Located downtown in the former Snow Tire building at 271 W. Hancock Ave, the Creature Comforts brewery is a remarkable renovation and repurposing of the former tire shop. Reclaiming as much of the old wood and structure as possible, the interior of Creature Comforts' brewery is a striking balance between arthouse, warehouse and brewhaus. Tours take place 5:30–7:30 p.m. Tuesdays through Thursdays, 4:30–6:30 p.m. Fridays and 1:30–3:30 p.m. Saturdays currently but may change. Check the website for times. Four basic beers—a pilsner, amber ale, IPA and a tart Berliner Weisse—can be found on draft throughout Athens, and the brewery plans to create special one-off batches and pilot beers that tour-goers will be encouraged to sample. Creature Comforts beer will be available in cans to purchase from retailers in late summer 2014. The official website is creaturecomfortsbeer.com. Creature Comforts is the downtown location for the Athens Farmers Market on Wednesday evenings.

The Southern Brewing Company hasn't finished constructing its brewery at press time—due to the complex process of obtaining the proper licensing in Georgia, its opening date has been pushed back from July of 2014 to December or January. ("Byzantine" doesn't properly encapsulate the bureaucratic nightmare of opening a brewery in Georgia. If you're having problems sleeping, try reading some of our state laws about alcohol licensing.) The Southern Brewing Company's beers will be available this year in Athens, even before the brewery is finished. The brewery is in talks with Jailhouse Brewing out of Hampton, GA, to contract-brew its recipes. The Southern Brewing Company will be located at 231 Collins Industrial Blvd, near Athens Tech on Highway 29 in north-east Athens. The brewery will be situated on a wooded tract of land set back from the highway and will offer guided tours and a farmers' market, among other events. For the curious, its website (sobrewco.com) provides an intriguing glimpse into what's possible at SBC: blueberry saisons, beer

brewed with Cherokee rose, wild yeast fermentations and other creative brews indicate that the Southern Brewing Company will be a welcome addition to Athens' growing craft beer scene.

If you're interested in grabbing dinner alongside your local brew, Copper Creek Brewing Company is Athens' only brewpub. Located at 140 E. Washington St. downtown, Copper Creek produces approximately 39 different beers annually, including traditional German, British and Belgian styles, as well as American interpretations of the classics. Only four are on tap at any given time, meaning that regular visitors to Copper Creek will be rewarded with new brews to quaff. The food includes burgers, soups, salads and other specialties designed to pair well with the brewery's offerings. Copper Creek also offers beer produced by other breweries, but the brews produced in-house are the clear winners. Copper Creek opens at 4 p.m. Monday–Friday, and 12 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Tuesday is the most popular day to visit Copper Creek, as all pints are only \$2 each. For more information, see coppercreekathens.com.

Visiting Athens' breweries may inspire you to try your own brewing skills. If you're feeling creative and ambitious, Blockader Homebrew Supply at 1145 N. Chase St. has everything for the beginning brewer and expert, and the brewers there are more than happy to provide assistance with recipes and techniques. Open Tuesday–Saturday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m., and 12–5 p.m. on Sundays.

Additionally, Five Points Growlers at 3685 Atlanta Hwy. offers ingredients and equipment, as well as brewing classes. The staff is knowledgeable and can point a beginning brewer in the right direction, accompanying products with support. They're open from 10 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Thursday, 10 a.m.–11:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 12:30–9 p.m. on Sundays.

If you're interested in sharing your homebrew and learning from fellow enthusiasts, Athens has a club for you. ALEZ (Athens League of Extraordinary Zymurgists) meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, 780 Timothy Rd.

Go forth and drink, Athens visitor/student/resident! We've got brews for days.

To Atlanta:

Take Atlanta Hwy. west, then take Hwy. 316 West. Exit at I-85 S into Atlanta. Approximate travel time: 1 hour.

To Hartsfield-Jackson Airport:

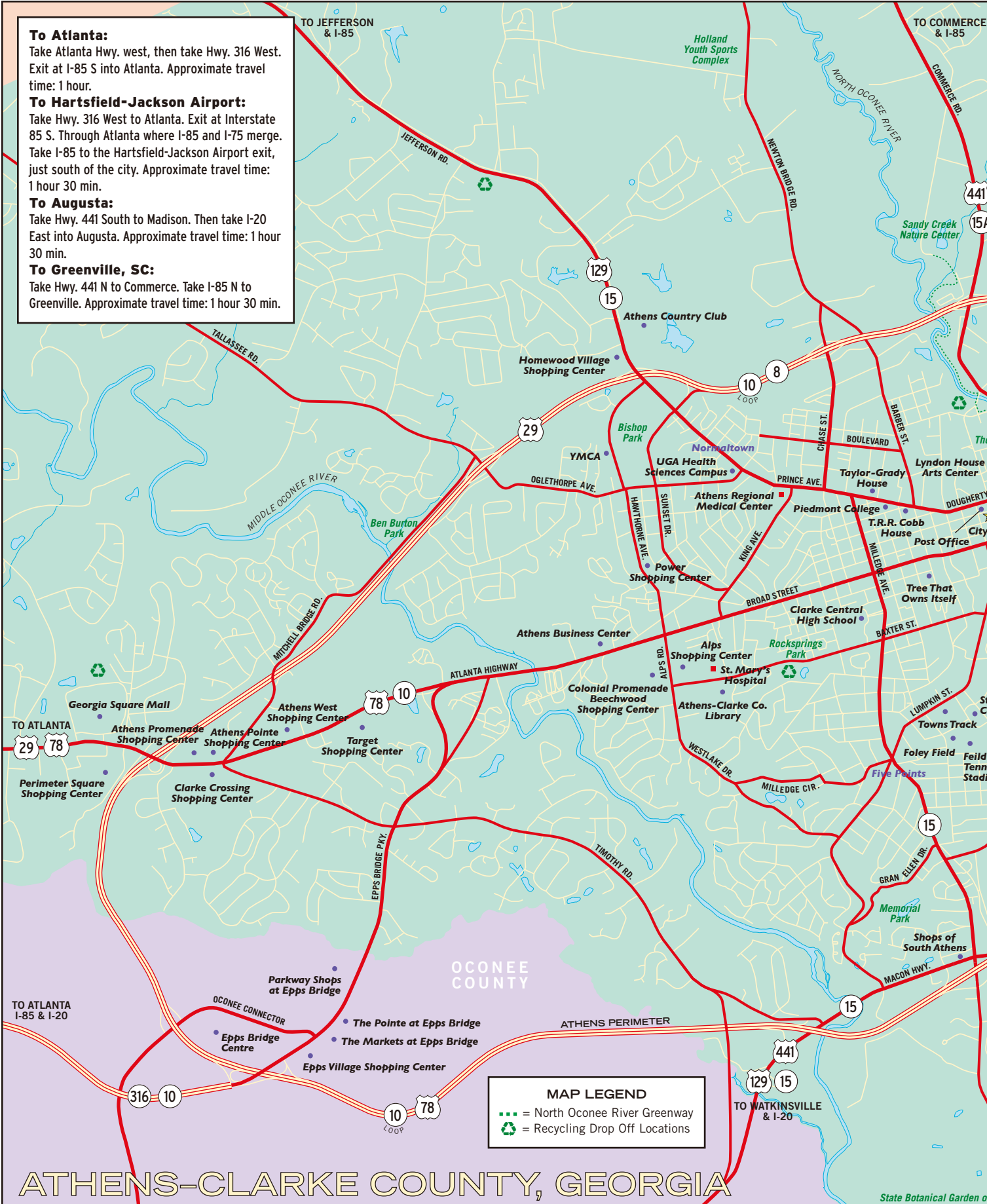
Take Hwy. 316 West to Atlanta. Exit at Interstate 85 S. Through Atlanta where I-85 and I-75 merge. Take I-85 to the Hartsfield-Jackson Airport exit, just south of the city. Approximate travel time: 1 hour 30 min.

To Augusta:

Take Hwy. 441 South to Madison. Then take I-20 East into Augusta. Approximate travel time: 1 hour 30 min.

To Greenville, SC:

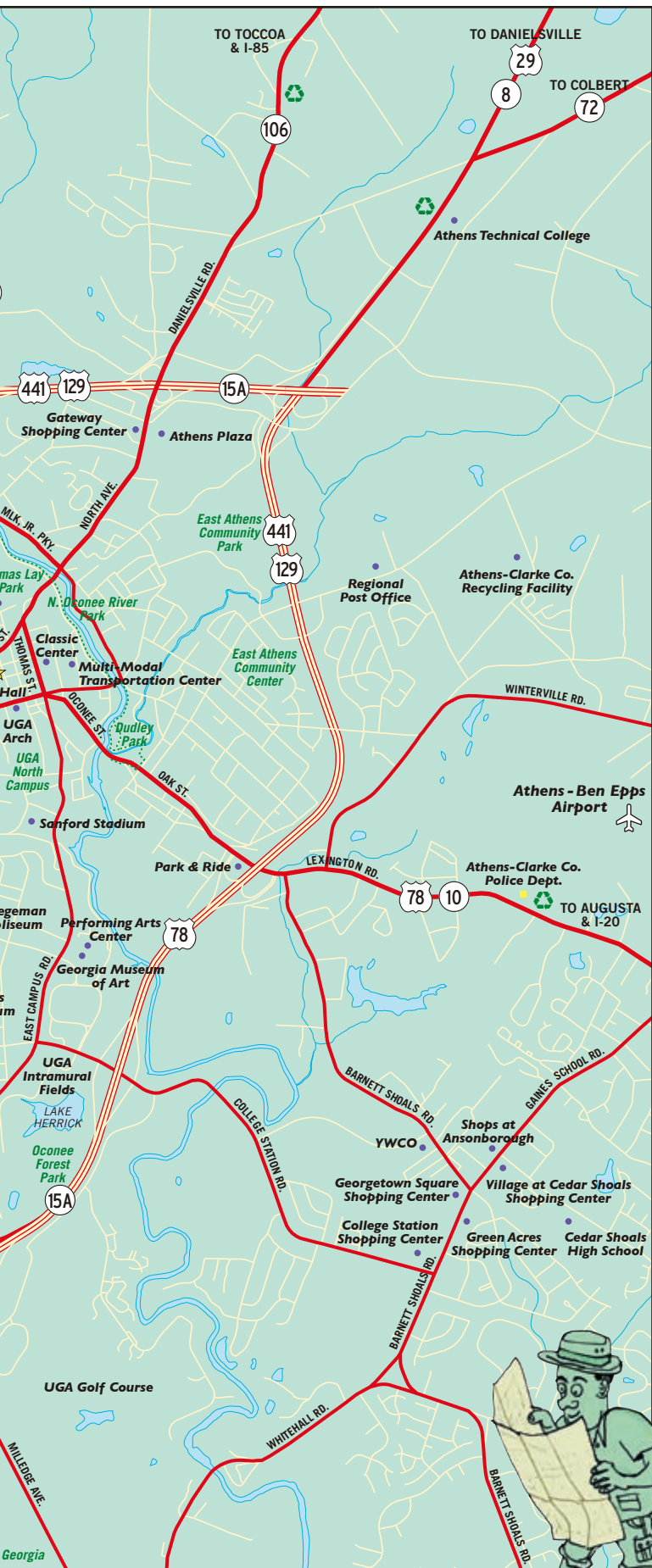
Take Hwy. 441 N to Commerce. Take I-85 N to Greenville. Approximate travel time: 1 hour 30 min.



MAP LEGEND

- = North Oconee River Greenway
- ♻️ = Recycling Drop Off Locations

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- NO Shredded Paper
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- NO Glassware
- NO Paper Plates or Cups
- NO Napkins or Paper Towels
- NO Plastic Cutlery
- NO Food
- NO Clamshells or Styrofoam
- NO Batteries or Light Bulbs
- NO Wire Hangers
- NO Ceramics



- Empty and rinse all containers.
- Plastic caps and lids are recyclable.
- These guidelines apply to all recycling collection containers except bag customers in the downtown district.



For more information call (706) 613-3512 or go to www.athensclarkecounty.com/recycling



RecycleMoreACC.org
706.613.3512 



Don't be a **mindless zombie** in downtown Athens. Use the downtown recycling bins for all of your recyclable items. In order to save this world, we've got to recycle **MORE!**



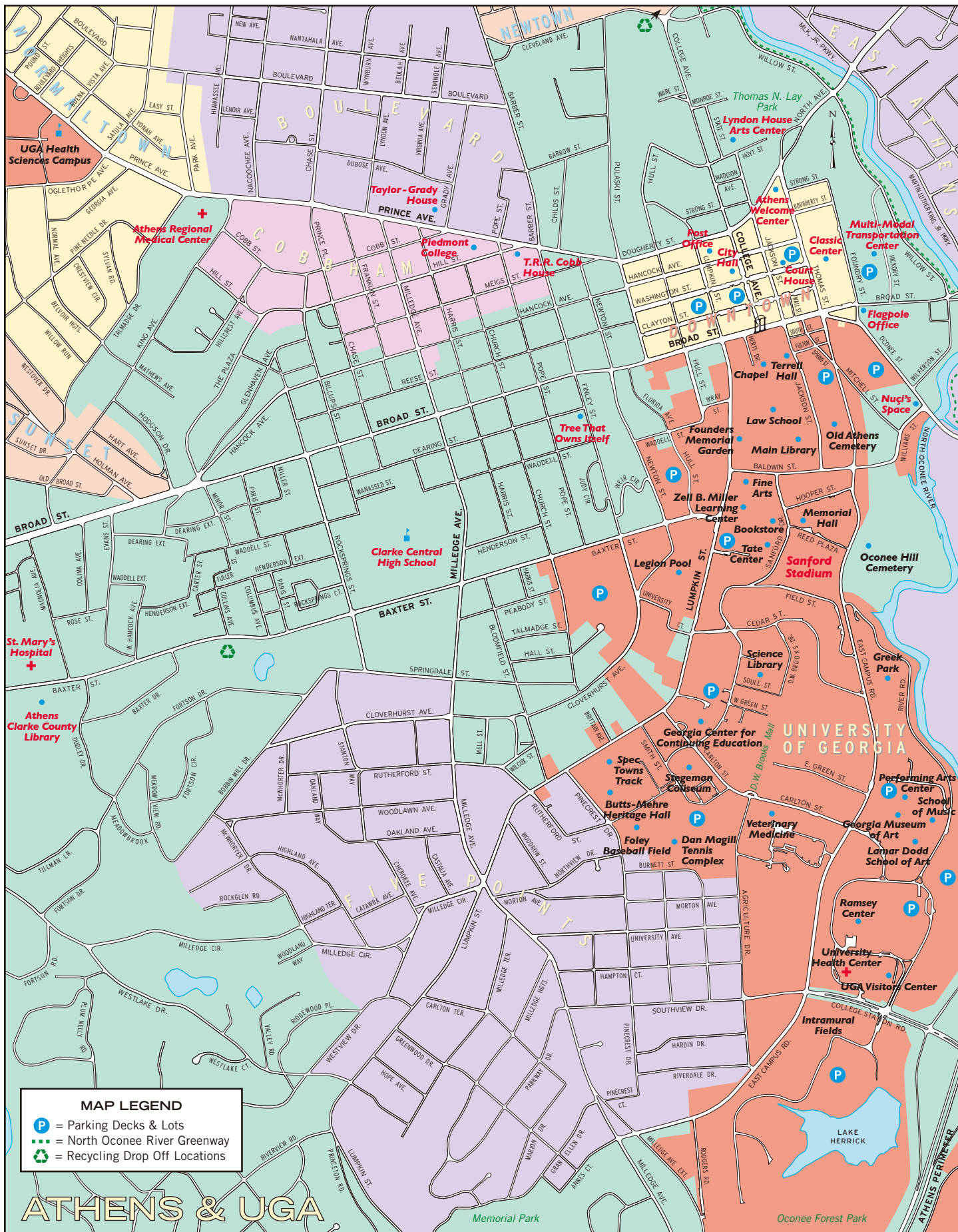
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SOLID WASTE
DEPARTMENT**



MAP LEGEND

- = Parking Decks & Lots
- = North Oconee River Greenway
- = Recycling Drop Off Locations

Restaurant, Bar & Club Index

AMERICAN

Add Drug Store 1695 S. Lumpkin St., 706-548-2239; p. 38
Applebee's 2226 W. Broad St., 706-543-1339; p. 39
Athens Regional Medical Center 1199 Prince Ave., 706-475-7000; p. 39
Beef 'O' Brady's 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-850-1916; p. 39
Big Family Cafe 2467 Jefferson Rd., 706-355-3102; p. 39
Brett's Casual American Restaurant 3190 Atlanta Hwy., 706-850-1395; p. 40
Buffalo's Café 196 Alps Rd., 706-354-6655; p. 41
Café on Prince 595 Prince Ave., 706-433-1782; p. 41
Catch 22 Gastropub 1021 Parkway Blvd., 706-549-6333; p. 41
Cheddar's Casual Cafe 1791 Oconee Connector, p. 41
Chili's Grill & Bar 183 Alps Rd., 706-613-5405; p. 42
Chops and Hops 2 S. Main St., 706-310-1101; p. 42
Courtyard Café 1197 S. Lumpkin St., 706-542-2633; p. 43
Cracker Barrel Old Country Store 1913 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-208-0304; p. 43
Dawg House Bar & Grill 1197 S. Lumpkin St., 706-548-0983; p. 43
Em's Kitchen 975 Hawthorne Ave., 706-206-9322; p. 45
Fatz Café 4115 Lexington Rd., 706-425-8780; p. 45
Five Bar 269 N. Hull St., 706-543-5515; p. 45
The Garden Grille 390 E. Washington St., 706-353-6800; p. 46
George's Lowcountry Table 2095 S. Milledge Ave., 706-548-3359; p. 46
Herschel's 34 Chicken & Ribs Kitchen 320 E. Clayton St., 706-353-0334; p. 48
Hi-Lo Lounge 1354 Prince Ave., 706-850-8561; p. 48
Hilltop Grille 2310 W. Broad St., 706-353-7667; p. 48
J & J Flea Market 11661 Hwy. 441 N., 706-613-2410; p. 49
J. Christopher's 1650 S. Lumpkin St., 706-850-3520; p. 49
Jerzee's Sports Bar 420 E. Clayton St., 443-798-0999; p. 49
Junkyard Dawgs 1815 Commerce Rd., 706-583-9124; p. 50
Lindsey's Culinary Market 1238 Prince Ave., 706-353-0558; p. 51
Little City Diner 135 Cherokee Rd., 706-742-7590; p. 51
Locos Grill & Pub 2020 Timothy Rd., 706-549-7700; 1985 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-208-0911; p. 51
Logan's Roadhouse 3668 Atlanta Hwy., 706-227-9890; p. 51
Lorghorn Steakhouse 2170 W. Broad St., 706-548-0054; p. 51
Marker 7 Coastal Grill 1195 Milledge Ave., 706-850-3451; p. 52
The Melting Point 295 E. Dougherty St., 706-254-6909; p. 52
Outback Steakhouse 3585 Atlanta Hwy., 706-613-6015; p. 54
Outtacks 1793 Oconee Connector, 706-355-9122; p. 54
The Pine 1235 S. Milledge Ave., 706-208-0059; p. 54
Porterhouse Grill 459 E. Broad St., 706-369-0990; p. 55
Rafferty's Restaurant & Bar 15 Huntington Rd., 706-613-0045; p. 55
Red Lobster 1956 W. Broad St., 706-549-5376; p. 55
Redfearn Grille 197 E. Broad St., 706-549-4433; p. 55
Ryan's Family Steakhouse 1021 Dowdy Rd., 706-543-8203; p. 56
The Savannah Room 1197 S. Lumpkin St., 706-542-6341; p. 56
Square One Fish Co. 414 Thomas St., 706-353-8862; p. 58
Ten Pins Tavern 2451 Jefferson Rd., 706-546-8090; p. 59
The Volstead 351 E. Clayton St., 706-354-5300; p. 60
The World Famous 351 N. Hull St., 706-543-4002; p. 61

ASIAN

Athens Wok 493 E. Clayton St., 706-850-2695; p. 39
Chef Ming 1720 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-552-3233; p. 41
China 1 2026 S. Milledge Ave., 706-850-7788; p. 42
China Delight 1971 Hog Mountain Rd., 706-769-9221; p. 42
China Star Super Buffet 3567 Atlanta Hwy., 706-316-3382; p. 42
China Wok 2475 Jefferson Rd., 706-353-3399; p. 42
Choo Choo Japanese Korean Grill Express 1055 Gaines School Rd., 706-543-8888; p. 42
Cozy Yum Yum 489 E. Clayton St., 706-543-8898; p. 43
Eat Hibachi 131 E. Broad St., 706-548-7441; p. 45
Golden Dragon 126 Alps Rd., 706-552-1688; p. 46
Golden Sun Chinese Restaurant 4375 Lexington Rd., 706-549-3388; p. 47
Hibachi Grill Supreme Buffet 2020 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-546-8777; p. 48
Inoko Express 2061 Experiment Station Rd., 706-769-7088; 3190 Atlanta Hwy., 706-425-8828; p. 49
Inoko Japanese Steak House 161 Alps Rd., 706-546-8589; p. 49
Inoko Sushi Express 2301 College Station Rd., 706-546-5662; p. 49
Iron Factory 255 W. Washington St., 706-395-6877; p. 49

Just Pho...and More 1063 Baxter St., 706-850-1420; p. 50
Main Moon Restaurant 2061 Experiment Station Rd., 706-769-8686; p. 52
Peking Restaurant (Eastside) 1935 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-549-0274; p. 54
Peking Restaurant (Westside) 2725 Atlanta Hwy., 706-549-9333; p. 54
Ru San's 196 Alps Rd., 706-552-0488; p. 56
Sakura Steak House 3557 Atlanta Hwy., 706-227-0001; p. 56
Shokitini 251 W. Clayton St., 706-353-7933; p. 57
Siri Thai Cuisine 367 Prince Ave., 706-548-7667; 1040 Gaines School Rd., 706-850-3500; p. 57
Tacqueria Tsunami 1791 Oconee Connector, 706-353-0040; p. 58
Thai Spoon 149 N. Lumpkin St., 706-548-9222; p. 59
Tin Drum Asiacafé 196 Alps Rd., 706-543-8979; p. 59
Utage Athens Sushi Bar 440 E. Clayton St., 706-227-9339; p. 60
Wok Star 225 Cherokee Rd., 706-742-2555; p. 61
Yummy Pho 167 E. Broad St., 706-354-6006; p. 61

BARS/CLUBS

Allgood Lounge 256 E. Clayton St., 706-549-0166; p. 38
Amici 233 E. Clayton St., 706-353-0000; p. 38
ARTini's Open Art Studio, Gallery & Lounge 296 W. Broad St., 706-353-8530; p. 39
Bar South 104 E. Washington St., 706-850-1329; p. 39
Barcode 166 E. Clayton St., 706-613-5557; p. 39
Beef 'O' Brady's 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-850-1916; p. 39
Blind Pig Tavern 485 Baldwin St., 706-548-3442; 2440 W. Broad St., 706-208-7979; p. 40
Blue Sky 128 College Ave., 706-850-3153; p. 40
Boar's Head Lounge 260 E. Washington St., 706-369-3040; p. 40
Bootleggers Country & Western Bar 1720 Commerce Rd., 706-540-7803; p. 40
Bourbon Street 333 E. Broad St., 706-369-1313; p. 40
The Branded Butcher 225 N. Lumpkin St., 706-850-5152; p. 40
Buddha Bar 431 E. Broad St., 706-208-7017; p. 40
Buffalo's Café 196 Alps Rd., 706-354-6655; p. 41
The Bury 321 E. Clayton St., 706-201-6898; p. 41
Catch 22 Gastropub 1021 Parkway Blvd., 706-549-6333; p. 41
Ciné Barcafé 234 W. Hancock Ave., 706-353-3343; p. 42
City Bar 220 College Ave., 706-546-7612; p. 42
Cloud 164 E. Clayton St., 706-613-7771; p. 42
Copper Creek Brewing Company 140 E. Washington St., 706-546-1102; p. 42
Cozy Bar 179 Jackson St.; p. 43
Cutters Pub 120 E. Clayton St., 706-353-9800; p. 43
Dawg House Bar & Grill 1197 S. Lumpkin St., 706-548-0983; p. 43
DePalma's Italian Cafe 2080 Timothy Rd., 706-552-1237; 1965 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-369-0085; 401 E. Broad St., 706-354-6966; p. 43
Dirty Birds 312 E. Washington St., 706-546-7050; p. 43
The Double Barrel 429 E. Broad St.; p. 45
East West Bistro 351 E. Broad St., 706-546-9378; p. 45
Etienne Brasserie 311 E. Broad St., 706-850-8008; p. 45
Five & Ten 1073 S. Milledge Ave., 706-546-7300; p. 45
Five Bar 269 N. Hull St., 706-543-5515; p. 45
Flanagan's 301 E. Clayton St., 706-208-9711; p. 46
Flicker Theatre & Bar 263 W. Washington St., 706-546-0039; p. 46
Genco Import Co. 246 E. Clayton St., 706-354-0203; p. 46
General Beauregard's 164 E. Clayton St., 706-543-8201; p. 46
Georgia Bar 159 W. Clayton St.; p. 46
The Globe 199 N. Lumpkin St., 706-353-4721; p. 46
Go Bar 195 Prince Ave., 706-546-5609; p. 46
Green Room 175 N. Lumpkin St., 706-353-2439; p. 47
Grindhouse Killer Burgers 1553 S. Lumpkin St., 706-612-9327; p. 47
Half Moon Pub 301 E. Clayton St., 706-208-9711; p. 47
Hendershot's Coffee Bar 237 Prince Ave., 706-353-3050; p. 48
Hi-Lo Lounge 1354 Prince Ave., 706-850-8561; p. 48
Highwire Lounge 269 N. Hull St., 706-543-8997; p. 48
Hilltop Grille 2310 W. Broad St., 706-353-7667; p. 48
Iron Factory 255 W. Washington St., 706-395-6877; p. 49
Last Resort Grill 184 W. Clayton St., 706-549-0810; p. 50
Little Kings Shuffle Club 223 W. Hancock Ave., 706-369-3144; p. 51
Locos Grill & Pub 2020 Timothy Rd., 706-549-7700; 1985 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-208-0911; p. 51
Madison Bar & Bistro 500 College Ave., 706-546-0430; p. 51
Magnolias 312 E. Broad St., 706-543-0797; p. 52
The Manhattan Café 337 N. Hull St., 706-369-9767; p. 52
Max 243 W. Washington St., 706-254-3392; p. 52
Mell's Place 4648 Atlanta Hwy., 706-548-0830; p. 52
Mellow Mushroom 320 E. Clayton St., 706-613-0892; p. 52
The Melting Point 295 E. Dougherty St., 706-254-6909; p. 52
The National 232 W. Hancock Ave., 706-549-3450; p. 53
New Earth Athens 227 W. Dougherty St., 706-543-8283; p. 53
9d's Bar 400 Clayton St., p. 53
NONA 279 E. Broad St., 706-353-7065; p. 53
Normal Bar 1365 Prince Ave., 706-548-6186; p. 53
Nowhere Bar 240 N. Lumpkin St., 706-546-4742; p. 53
The Office Lounge 2455 Jefferson Rd., 706-546-0840; p. 54
The Old Pal 1320 Prince Ave., 706-850-4340; p. 54
Omega Bar 3155 Atlanta Hwy., 706-338-1832; p. 54
On the Rocks 255 E. Clayton St., 706-354-6666; p. 54
100 Proof 364 E. Broad St., 706-850-8500; p. 54
Pauley's Original Crepe Bar 134 E. Clayton St., 706-549-0034; p. 54
Porterhouse Grill 459 E. Broad St., 706-369-0990; p. 55
The Pub at Gameday 251 W. Clayton St., 706-353-2831; p. 55
The Rail Athens 1120 Mitchell Bridge Rd., 706-354-7829; p. 55
Redfearn Grille 197 E. Broad St., 706-549-4433; p. 55
The Roadhouse 137 N. Lumpkin St., 706-613-2324; p. 55
The Royal Peasant 1675 S. Lumpkin St., 706-549-7920; p. 56
Sandbar 220 College Ave., 404-271-8440; p. 56
Sea Bear Oyster Bar 297 Prince Ave., 706-850-4367; p. 57
Shokitini 251 W. Clayton St., 706-353-7933; p. 57
Silver Dollar 262 College Ave., 706-353-3093; p. 57
Sister Louisa's Church 254 W. Clayton St., p. 57
South Kitchen and Bar 247 E. Washington St., 706-850-6277; p. 57
Speakeasy 269 E. Broad St., 706-546-5556; p. 58
Square One Fish Co. 414 Thomas St., 706-353-8862; p. 58
Stonewall's 142 N. Jackson St.; p. 58
Sundown Saloon 50 Gaines School Rd., 706-850-1180; p. 58
Ten Pins Tavern 2451 Jefferson Rd., 706-546-8090; p. 59
The 10 Yard Line 318 E. Washington St.; p. 59
Topper's International Showbar 100 N. Jackson St., 706-613-0504; p. 59
Transmetropolitan 145 E. Clayton St., 706-613-8773; 1550 Oglethorpe Ave., 706-621-6081; p. 59
Trappeze Pub 269 W. Washington St., 706-543-8997; p. 60
Treppenhaus 114 College Ave., 706-355-3060; p. 60
Utage Athens Sushi Bar 440 E. Clayton St., 706-227-9339; p. 60
The Volstead 351 E. Clayton St., 706-354-5300; p. 60
Walker's Coffee & Pub 128 College Ave., 706-543-1433; p. 60
Whiskey Bar 335 E. Clayton St., 706-548-8899; p. 61
The World Famous 351 N. Hull St., 706-543-4002; p. 61

COFFEE HOUSES AND BAKERIES

Always Baked 723 Baxter St., 706-850-5478; p. 38
Athens Bagel Co. 268 N. Jackson St., 706-543-5001; p. 39
Barnes and Noble Café 3650 Atlanta Hwy., 706-354-1195; p. 39
Baskin-Robbins/Dunkin' Donuts 771 Prince Ave., 706-548-3444; 2081 Hog Mountain Rd., 706-769-8363; 1055 Gaines School Rd., 706-353-7166; p. 39
Bee's Knees Bakery & Gifts 1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-353-3633; p. 39
Big City Bread Cafe 393 N. Finley St., 706-353-0029; p. 39
Cecilia's Cakes 610 N. Milledge Ave., 706-543-3308; p. 41
The Coffee Shop of Athens 2950 Atlanta Hwy., 706-542-8990; p. 42
Em's Kitchen 975 Hawthorne Ave., 706-206-9322; p. 45
Gigi's Cupcakes 296 W. Broad St., 706-208-7879; 1791 Oconee Connector, 706-208-3727; p. 46
Hendershot's Coffee Bar 237 Prince Ave., 706-353-3050; p. 48
Ideal Bagel 815 W. Broad St., 706-353-0005; p. 49
Ike and Jane 1307 Prince Ave., 706-850-1580; 90 Carlton St. (Georgia Museum of Art), 706-542-4662; p. 49
Independent Baking Company 1625 S. Lumpkin St., 706-850-3550; p. 49
Insomnia Cookies 228 E. Clayton St., 877-632-6654; p. 49
Jittery Joe's Coffee UGA Miller Learning Center, 706-549-2124; 27 Greensboro Hwy., 706-769-4280; 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-354-8000; 1480 Baxter St., 706-548-1099; 1230 S. Milledge Ave., 706-208-1979; 297 E. Broad St., 706-613-7449; 1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-354-8900; p. 49
The Tasting Room at Jittery Joe's Roasting Company 425 Barber St., 706-227-2161; p. 49
Kiki's Bake Shop 20 Greensboro Hwy., 706-769-6766; p. 50
Krispy Kreme Doughnuts 3703 Atlanta Hwy., 706-208-0628; p. 50

Kumquat Mae Bakery Café 18 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-769-1105; p. 50
Mama Bird's Granola 909 Broad St., Suite 400, 678-997-9647; p. 52
Sabine's Coffee Haus 210 W. Main St., 706-743-7777; p. 56
Sips Espresso Café 1390 Prince Ave., 706-363-7211; p. 57
Starbucks 1761 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-353-2206; 10 Huntington Rd., 706-353-6632; 2301 College Station Rd. (Kroger), 706-353-8543; 100 College Ave., 706-543-0114; p. 58
Two Story Coffeehouse 1680 Lumpkin St., 706-850-5422; p. 60
Walker's Coffee & Pub 128 College Ave., 706-543-1433; p. 60

DOWNHOME AND BBQ

Auntie's Home Cooking 645 Danielsville Rd., p. 39
Barbeque Shack 4320 Lexington Rd., 706-613-6752; p. 39
Bread Basket 723 Boulevard, 706-548-3412; p. 40
Butt Hutt Bar-B-Q 480 Macon Hwy., 706-850-8511; p. 41
Café on Prince 595 Prince Ave., 706-433-1782; p. 41
Charlie Noble's 1040 Gaines School Rd., p. 41
Chonell's Home Cooking 1080 Baxter St., 706-549-2114; p. 42
Dawg Gone Good BBQ 224 W. Hancock Ave., 706-613-9799; p. 43
Dickey's Barbecue Pit 2131 Hog Mountain Rd., 706-705-1326; 810 Hawthorne Ave., 706-850-7561; p. 43
Food for the Soul 1965 W. Broad St., 706-546-0052; p. 46
Fresh Air Bar-B-Que 5170 Atlanta Hwy., 770-725-5227; 1110 Hull Rd., 706-546-6060; p. 46
George's Lowcountry Table 2095 S. Milledge Ave., 706-548-3359; p. 46
Harry's Barbeque 2425 Jefferson Rd., 706-353-7895; p. 47
Hot Thomas Barbeque 3753 Hwy. 15, 706-769-6550; p. 49
Mayflower Restaurant 171 E. Broad St., 706-548-1692; p. 52
Paul's Bar-B-Q 124 E. Main St., 706-614-1843; p. 54
Plantation Buffet 1119 Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy., 706-353-3663; p. 54
Pulaski Heights BBQ 675 Pulaski St., 706-583-9600; p. 55
Rachel's Southern Style Restaurant 1021 Jamestown Blvd., 706-310-0091; p. 55
Rooter's Grocery and Barbecue 150 E. Whitehall Rd., 706-207-5668; p. 56
Saucehouse Barbeque 830 W. Broad St., p. 56
Scott & BJ's BBQ 4007 Danielsville Rd., 706-546-1005; p. 57
Shane's Rib Shack 196 N. Milledge Ave., 706-548-4650; p. 57
Sonny's Real Pit Bar-B-Q 3755 Atlanta Hwy., 706-546-0385; p. 57
Strickland's Restaurant 4723 Atlanta Hwy., 706-548-7003; p. 58
Stripling's General Store 4501 Monroe Hwy., 770-725-7772; p. 58
Weaver D's Fine Foods 1016 E. Broad St., 706-353-7797; p. 60
White Tiger Gourmet 217 Hiawasee Ave., 706-353-6847; p. 61
Zeb Dean's Barbecue 5742 Hwy. 29 N., 706-795-2701; p. 61

ICE CREAM AND SMOOTHIES

Baskin-Robbins/Dunkin' Donuts 771 Prince Ave., 706-548-3444; 2081 Hog Mountain Rd., 706-769-8363; 1055 Gaines School Rd., 706-353-7166; p. 39
Ben & Jerry's Scoop Shop 105 College Ave., 706-208-0031; p. 39
di'lishi Frozen Yogurt Bar 1791 Oconee Connector, p. 43
Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakhburgers 1791 Oconee Connector, p. 46
Hodgson's Pharmacy 1260 S. Milledge Ave., 706-543-7386; p. 48
Menchie's 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-850-8336; 196 Alps Rd., 706-208-7223; p. 53
Planet Smoothie 196 Alps Rd., 706-316-3090; 1993 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-353-8181; p. 54
Smoothie King 2361 W. Broad St. (The Omni Club), 706-369-3111; 1591 S. Lumpkin St., 706-613-2600; p. 57
Yoforia 142 Clayton St., 706-548-4388; 1210 S. Milledge Ave., 706-548-4020; p. 61

ITALIAN AND PIZZA

Amici 233 E. Clayton St., 706-353-0000; p. 38
Automatic Pizza 1387 Prince Ave.; p. 39
Brixx Wood Fired Pizza 135 W. Washington St., 706-395-1660; p. 40
Bulldawg Pizza, Wings & More 2026 S. Milledge Ave., 706-355-3294; p. 41
Carrabba's Italian Grill 3194 Atlanta Hwy., 706-546-9938; p. 41
Chuck E. Cheese's 3654 Atlanta Hwy., 706-353-6715; p. 42
Cici's Pizza 3190 Atlanta Hwy., 706-613-2424; p. 42
DePalma's Italian Cafe 2080 Timothy Rd., 706-552-1237; 1965 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-369-0085; 401 E. Broad St., 706-354-6966; p. 43
Dominick's Italian 1430 Capital Ave., 706-769-6255; p. 45
Fox's Pizza Den 2971 Monroe Hwy., 678-661-0220; p. 46

Johnny's New York Style Pizza 1040 Gaines School Rd., 706-354-1515; p. 50
La Dolce Vita 323 E. Broad St., 706-353-3911; p. 50
Little Italy 125 N. Lumpkin St., 706-613-7100; p. 51
Mama Sid's Pizza 2240 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-549-6100; p. 52
Mellow Mushroom 320 E. Clayton St., 706-613-0892; p. 52
Mirko Pasta 1075 Baxter St., 706-549-4552; 2 S. Main St., 706-310-1233; p. 53
The Olive Garden 3666 Atlanta Hwy., 706-227-2225; p. 54
Peppino's 950 Whitehall Rd., 706-613-1616; p. 54
Piccolo's Italian Steak House 2061 Hog Mountain Rd., 706-705-1501; p. 54
Stevi B's Pizza 122 Alps Rd., 706-208-9552; p. 58
Ted's Most Best 254 W. Washington St., 706-543-1523; p. 59
Transmetropolitan 145 E. Clayton St., 706-613-8773; 1550 Oglethorpe Ave., 706-621-6081; p. 59
Your Pie 1591 S. Lumpkin St., 706-850-7424; 196 Alps Rd., 706-549-3179; 350 E. Broad St., 706-850-5675; 1045 Gaines School Rd., 706-355-7048; p. 61

MEXICAN AND SOUTH AMERICAN

Agua Linda Mexican Restaurant & Cantina 2080 Timothy Rd., 706-543-0154; 1376 Prince Ave., 706-543-1500; p. 38
Barberitos Southwestern Grille & Cantina 1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-354-0300; 1739 S. Lumpkin St., 706-548-1866; 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-549-9954; 259 E. Clayton St., 706-549-9008; 2 S. Main St., 706-705-1228; p. 39
Cali 'N' Tito's 1427 S. Lumpkin St., 706-227-9979; p. 41
Chipotle 165 Alps Rd., 706-548-7210; p. 42
Cinco y Diez 1653 S. Lumpkin St., 706-850-2020; p. 42
Dos Palmas Restaurant & Cantina 3523 Atlanta Hwy., 706-353-7771; p. 45
El Azteca 1280 Oconee St., 706-549-2639; p. 45
Fuzzy's Taco Shop 265 N. Lumpkin St., 706-353-0305; p. 46
La Estrella 400 Hawthorne Ave., 706-353-8557; p. 50
La Fiesta 1395 College Station Rd., 706-549-5933; p. 50
La Puerta del Sol 1254 Cedar Shoals Dr., 706-355-7087; p. 50
La Rosita 840 Hull Rd., 706-543-5453; p. 50
Los Reyes Mexican Restaurant 1880 Hwy. 29 N., 706-227-8308; p. 51
Moe's Southwest Grill 1320 Baxter St., 706-369-7776; p. 53
On the Border Mexican Grill & Cantina 3640 Atlanta Hwy., 706-247-7290; p. 54
Picante's Mexican Grill 151 E. Broad St., 706-353-8864; p. 54
Sr. Sol 2455 W. Broad St., 706-850-7112; 175 Tallassee Rd., 706-546-1570; p. 57
Taco Stand 2230 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-549-5481; 247 E. Broad St., 706-549-1446; 670 N. Milledge Ave., 706-549-2894; p. 58
Tacqueria Tsunami 1791 Oconee Connector, 706-353-0040; p. 58
Taqueria Del Sol 334 Prince Ave., 706-353-3890; p. 58
Taqueria La Jalisco 3750 Old Jefferson Rd., 706-316-3560; p. 58
Taqueria La Parrilla 1431 Capital Ave., 706-310-9991; 2439 Jefferson Rd., 706-549-4977; 855 Gaines School Rd., 706-548-5040; p. 58
Tlaloc El Mexicano Restaurant 1225 N. Chase St., 706-613-9301; p. 59
Viva! Argentine Cuisine 247 Prince Ave., 706-850-8284; p. 60
What's Cooking 2546 Commerce Rd., 706-850-0606; p. 61
Willy's Mexicana Grill 196 Alps Rd., 706-548-1920; p. 61
YoBo Cantina Fresca 1591 S. Lumpkin St., 706-549-3900; p. 61

SANDWICHES, BURGERS AND CHICKEN

A-OK Cafe 154 College Ave., 706-355-3002; p. 38
Add Drug Store 1695 S. Lumpkin St., 706-548-2239; p. 38
Blazer's Hot Wings 1462 Glenn Carrie Rd., 706-208-0705; p. 40
Blind Pig Tavern 485 Baldwin St., 706-548-3442; 2440 W. Broad St., 706-208-7979; p. 40
Bulldawg Wings/Deli & Tropical Grocery 1037 Baxter St., 706-546-1105; p. 41
Clotted! 259 W. Washington St., 706-548-9175; p. 42
Dirty Birds 312 E. Washington St., 706-546-7050; p. 43
Firehouse Subs 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-543-4266; 1226 Prince Ave., 706-357-4994; p. 45
Five Guys Famous Burgers and Fries 101 College Ave., 706-549-2811; 1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-549-9081; p. 45
Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakhburgers 1791 Oconee Connector, p. 46
The Globe 199 N. Lumpkin St., 706-353-4721; p. 46
Golden Chick 7990 Macon Hwy., 706-705-1655; p. 46
The Grill 171 College Ave., 706-543-4770; p. 47
Grindhouse Killer Burgers 1553 S. Lumpkin St., 706-612-9327; p. 47

Groucho's Deli 396 Baxter St., 706-425-8868; p. 47
Gyro Wrap 175 E. Broad St., 706-543-9071; p. 47
HoneyBaked Ham Co. & Café 3690 Atlanta Hwy., 706-613-8800; p. 49
Ike and Jane 1307 Prince Ave., 706-850-1580; 90 Carlton St. (Georgia Museum of Art), 706-542-4662; p. 49
Jason's Deli 140 Alps Rd., 706-425-4950; p. 49
Jimmy John's Gourmet Subs 600 Baxter St., 706-613-0500; 2301 College Station Rd., 706-543-5411; p. 49
Junkyard Dawgs 1815 Commerce Rd., 706-583-9124; p. 50
Krimson Cafe 40 Greensboro Hwy., 706-310-0888; p. 50
Larry's Giant Subs 1720 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-227-7298; p. 50
Marti's at Midday 1280 Prince Ave., 706-543-3541; p. 52
Panera Bread 3151 Atlanta Hwy., 706-546-6812; p. 54
Pita Pit 123 N. Jackson St., 706-552-0051; p. 54
The Rail Athens 1120 Mitchell Bridge Rd., 706-354-7829; p. 55
Raising Cane's 795 Baxter St., 706-548-2008; p. 55
Schlotzsky's Deli 1490 Baxter St., 706-543-2518; p. 57
Steak 'n Shake 2033 W. Broad St., 706-353-6969; p. 58
Stuffed Burger 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-850-8411; p. 58
Team Biscuits and Burgers 745 Danielsville Rd., 706-543-8326; p. 59
The Varsity 1000 W. Broad St., 706-548-6325; p. 60
Wildcat Grill at Broad River Outpost 7911 Wildcat Bridge Rd., Danielsville, 706-795-3242; p. 61
Wingster Café 521 Baxter St., 706-583-9611; p. 61
Zoe's Kitchen 145 Alps Rd., 706-850-3400; p. 61

SOMETHING DIFFERENT

ARTini's Open Art Studio, Gallery & Lounge 296 W. Broad St., 706-353-8530; p. 39
Big City Bread Cafe 393 N. Finley St., 706-353-0029; p. 39
The Big Easy Café 20 Greensboro Hwy., 706-769-3030; p. 39
The Branded Butcher 225 N. Lumpkin St., 706-850-5152; p. 40
Cinco y Diez 1653 S. Lumpkin St., 706-850-2020; p. 42
Ciné Barcafé 234 W. Hancock Ave., 706-353-3343; p. 42
Copper Creek Brewing Company 140 E. Washington St., 706-546-1102; p. 42
Donderos' Kitchen 590 N. Milledge Ave., 706-354-8688; 2450 S. Milledge Ave., 706-542-6359; p. 45
Earth Fare Café 1689 S. Lumpkin St., 706-227-1717; p. 45
East West Bistro 351 E. Broad St., 706-546-9378; p. 45
Etienne Brasserie 311 E. Broad St., 706-850-8008; p. 45
Five & Ten 1073 S. Milledge Ave., 706-546-7300; p. 45
Girasoles 24 Greensboro Hwy., 706-310-0410; p. 46
The Grit 199 Prince Ave., 706-543-6592; p. 47
Heirloom Cafe and Fresh Market 815 N. Chase St., 706-354-7901; p. 47
home.made 1072 Baxter St., 706-206-9216; p. 49
Journey Juice 1428 Prince Ave., 706-850-0707; 297 E. Broad St., 706-850-2539; p. 50
Juice Up: The Original Juice Cafe 283 E. Broad St., 706-395-6684; p. 50
KEBA Spitfire Grill 1021 Jamestown Blvd., 706-310-7222; 1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy., 706-543-8210; 1860 Barnett Shoals Rd., 706-850-7285; p. 50
Kelly's Jamaican Food 1583 S. Lumpkin St., 706-208-0000; 145 Epps Bridge Rd., 706-369-5399; p. 50
Last Resort Grill 184 W. Clayton St., 706-549-0810; p. 50
Lumpkin Café 1700 S. Lumpkin St., 706-543-3122; p. 51
Madison Bar & Bistro 500 College Ave., 706-546-0430; p. 51
Mama Bird's Granola 909 Broad St., Suite 400, 678-997-9647; p. 52
Mama's Boy 197 Oak St., 706-548-6249; p. 52
The National 232 W. Hancock Ave., 706-549-3450; p. 53
NONA 279 E. Broad St., 706-353-7065; p. 53
Pauley's Original Crepe Bar 134 E. Clayton St., 706-549-0034; p. 54
Preserve 1660 W. Broad St., 706-363-3783; p. 55
Rashe's Cuisine 211 Tallassee Rd., 706-850-4164; p. 55
The Roof Top by The Branded Butcher 215 N. Lumpkin St., 706-850-7670; p. 55
The Royal Peasant 1675 S. Lumpkin St., 706-549-7920; p. 56
The Savory Spoon 705 Sycamore St., 706-367-5721; p. 56
Sea Bear Oyster Bar 297 Prince Ave., 706-850-4367; p. 57
South Kitchen and Bar 247 E. Washington St., 706-850-6277; p. 57
Speakeasy 269 E. Broad St., 706-546-5556; p. 58
The Sultan 1074 Baxter St., 706-850-7725; p. 58
Taste of India 131 E. Broad St., 706-559-0000; p. 58
Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe 227 Prince Ave., 706-247-7619; p. 59
Trappeze Pub 269 W. Washington St., 706-543-8997; p. 60
Uptown Art Uncorked 3061 Atlanta Hwy., 706-208-7337; p. 60
White Tiger Gourmet 217 Hiawasee Ave., 706-353-6847; p. 61

Restaurant & Bar Listings



A-OK Cafe

154 College Ave. • 706-355-3002

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** Enhancing the urban feel of the downtown landscape, this café is tucked below street level. **MENU:** Soups, salads and sandwiches—the makings of a classic deli-style menu. A-Ok Cafe is best known for sandwiches named after newspapers like The New York Times (corned beef, pastrami, cheese) and Atlanta Journal (turkey, ham, cheese), which are served with pasta salad, potato salad, slaw or chips. \$

Add Drug Store

1695 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-2239

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** An old-fashioned neighborhood soda fountain and lunch counter located inside a Five Points pharmacy, where you'll feel right at home. **MENU:** Southern staples for breakfast. Burgers, hot dogs, and simple sandwiches (egg salad, tuna salad, pimento cheese, BLT) with price tags from the '60s for lunch. For something sweet, mix and match soda flavors or try a handmade malted milkshake or ice cream float. \$

Agua Linda Mexican Restaurant & Cantina

2080 Timothy Rd. • 706-543-0154

1376 Prince Ave. • 706-543-1500

aguahindarestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** You get prompt and personal attention at this family owned and operated business. The Prince Avenue location has one of the most popular outdoor patios in Normaltown. **MENU:** A large menu extends beyond the most popular Mexican dishes to include many tough-to-find-elsewhere authentic items. A server always greets you at your table with three fresh salsas and complimentary chips. Plenty of tacos, tortas, fajitas, enchiladas, quesadillas and burritos. Signature dishes include the chiles rellenos, chimichanga, chalupas, flautas and tostadas de camarón. For dessert, order flan, sopapilla or churros. Cool off with a traditional horchata, tamarindo or Jamaica agua fresca. **DRINKS:** Plenty of tequilas and a variety of margaritas. Several Mexican beers to choose from, too. \$\$

Allgood Lounge

256 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-0166

allgoodlounge.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** An inviting two-story space with exposed brick walls, tall wooden booths and three different bars—something for everybody, and it's a place where students feel at home and so do those who subsidize them. On the second floor, you'll find a full bar near a row of pool tables and couches. The upstairs also has a tiki bar on an open-air rooftop patio, that is warmed by space heaters to remain functional in the winter months. **DRINKS:** Between the three bars, skilled bartenders serve a total of roughly 55 whiskeys, 18 tequilas, 20 rotating craft beers on draft and over 200 bottled beers. A substantial wine list is divided into three tiers based on price. During the day, build your own Bloody Mary just as you like it at the Bloody Mary buffet. \$

Always Baked

723 Baxter St. • 706-850-5478

athenscookies.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Mon.–Wed. 8:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. 8:30 a.m.–3 a.m., Sun. 9 a.m.–3 p.m. **THE LOOK:** Late-night cookie delivery service in a storefront on Baxter Street. A portion of proceeds is donated to local charities. **MENU:** Made-from-scratch, baked-to-order cookies. Create your own from a list of toppings or try an original like the Gregg Almond (chocolate chips, caramel and almond cookie) or the SpootieOttieDope-delicious (toffee, marshmallow and butterscotch chips cookie sandwich). Satisfy serious munchies with the Sack of Nugs (deep-fried cookie dough), Stank (funnel cake), Funk (deep-fried Snickers) or The Big O (two original cookies sandwiching ice cream). Brunchie options like the Widespread Pancake (pancake-wrapped sausage bites with sweet Sriracha syrup) and Get Baked Breakfast Sammies can take care of cravings at any hour. \$

Amici

233 E. Clayton St. • 706-353-0000

amici-cafe.com

FILE UNDER: Pizza, Bars. **FEATURES:** Trivia, Catering, Outside Seating, Art, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Casual dining space in the very epicenter of downtown, featuring local art on the walls and an inviting bar made of restored wood from the infamous Georgia Theatre fire. **MENU:** Award-winning wings with sauces like BBQ, jalapeño honey, lemon pepper and three varying degrees of heat. Build your own pizza or ask for a gourmet pie like the Pineapple Express (grilled chicken, pineapple, bacon, feta, basil) or any of a selection of white pizzas like the Blonde Greek (spinach, mushrooms and feta cheese). Sandwiches, pasta, salads and flatbreads, too. **DRINKS:** Complement your meal with a tall pour of the Beer of the Month or any other of the craft and local beers on tap and in bottles for your pleasure. \$

= 2014 Athens Favorites
flagpole reader picks (see p. 28)

\$	\$7 & under
\$\$	\$8–\$12
\$\$\$	\$13–\$17
\$\$\$\$	\$18 & up

**Average
Price of
Entree**

Applebee's

2226 W. Broad St. • 706-543-1339

applebees.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Curbside Pick-Up.

HOURS: Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. \$\$

ARTini's Open Art Studio, Gallery & Lounge

296 W. Broad St. • 706-353-8530

artinisartlounge.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Reservations, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** 6–9 p.m., Mon. & 12–10 p.m., Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Group painting sessions instructed by local artists are given in an art gallery and lounge space on the edge of downtown. Each day's featured painting can be found on the website. **DRINKS:** Sip on some wine or beer as you paint. Sodas and bottled waters are available, too. \$

Athens Bagel Co.

268 N. Jackson St. • 706-543-5001

athensbagel.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A locally-owned bagel bakery with a refined, yet casual atmosphere. Order at the counter and wait for your name to be called. Always Baked, a local cookie company, operates out of here in the evenings. **MENU:** Big bagels boiled and baked in-house. Pair a fresh bagel (everything, cinnamon raisin, sesame, honey wheat), with hummus, butter (whipped, honey, peanut) or a creative cream cheese (bacon and chive, jalapeño, snickerdoodle, sundried tomato and basil). In the morning, breakfast sandwiches come topped with eggs, melted cheeses, Stripling's sausage, ham or lox. Try an open-faced bagel version of a pizza, reuben, croque or BBQ for lunch. \$

Athens Regional Medical Center

1199 Prince Ave. • 706-475-7000

armc.org

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Sun.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** ARMC's cafeteria isn't just for patients' visitors or staff; the general public is welcome, too. **MENU:** Selections rotate daily, so call or go online to see what's being served. Expect nutritious yet comforting options like rotisserie chicken, grilled salmon, vegetable stir-fry, macaroni and cheese, turnip greens and apple crisp cobbler for dessert. Health-conscious decisions can be made with the help of icons that distinguish items as reduced sodium, no sugar added, vegetarian, etc. This is sort of an unknown dining asset right along the Prince Avenue corridor. \$

Athens Wok

493 E. Clayton St. • 706-850-2695

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-Out, CC. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Counter service and hibachi-style cooking lends a casual atmosphere. **MENU:** Choose from an extensive list of Asian menu items including Thai, Chinese, Korean and Japanese dishes. Generous servings of Korean and Japanese noodle and rice entrees prepared with chicken, steak, salmon, shrimp or tofu. Traditional dishes include bibimbap, bulgogi and tonkatsu. Korean tacos come stuffed with jae yuk (marinated pork), kimchi (spicy fermented cabbage) or calamari. There is also a wide array of sushi rolls available. \$

Auntie's Home Cooking

645 Danielsville Rd.

FILE UNDER: Downhome, BBQ. **FEATURES:** Debit cards, cash, takeout. **HOURS:** lunch and early dinner served Friday and Saturday and lunch only on Sunday. **THE LOOK:** A few tables bear hints of decoration, and a covered steam table is incorporated into a counter at the back. **MENU:** A classic meat-and-two menu, with a four-veggie plate should you prefer. Don't skip the cornbread dressing, which is simple, moist without being too wet; macaroni and cheese is likewise well put together: black-eyed peas, cabbage, fried chicken, baked ham, etc. \$

Automatic Pizza

1387 Prince Ave.

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** The former Pizza Hut at the corner of Prince and Oglethorpe avenues has been renovated into a cute, cozy, local pizza place. **MENU:** Indie entrepreneur Bain Mattox, who also owns Normal Bar next

door and The World Famous downtown, is serving New York-style pizza by the pie and the slice, subs, salads and cannoli, with the same charm of his other businesses. \$

Bar South

104 E. Washington St. • 706-850-1329

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Huge space featuring two full bars in two spacious rooms, separated by exposed brick walls. Tall arched windows accented by allow sunlight to flood in during the day. When you're not on the dance floor, try your luck at a round of pool, beer pong, darts, shuffleboard or the Golden Tee arcade game. Warm nights are best spent on an outdoor drinking area spanning the entire length of the bar. **DRINKS:** Seven beers on draft, including locals, and many more in bottle, as well as classic cocktails and several high-end scotches, bourbons and rums, not to mention designer vodkas for the discriminating palates in the crowd. \$

Barbeque Shack

4320 Lexington Rd. • 706-613-6752

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Checks. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Th.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Friendly Southern BBQ establishment with picnic tables covered in checkered tablecloths. **MENU:** BBQ chicken, pork and rib plates served with coleslaw, stew, chips and bread. Don't leave without trying the famous banana pudding. \$

Barberitos Southwestern Grille & Cantina

1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-354-0300

1739 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-1866

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-549-9954

259 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-9008

2 S. Main St., Watkinsonville • 706-705-1228

barberitos.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer (Clayton St.), Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** This Athens-based franchise takes DIY to a new level and now has nearly 50 locations in the South. Although it should not be confused with fast food, service is speedy. The assembly line and pay-at-the-counter concept makes ordering quick and easy. **MENU:** Burritos, quesadillas, fajitas, tacos, nachos and salads loaded with the fresh ingredients of your choosing are made-to-order. Most menu offerings can easily be made vegetarian or vegan with tofu. A special "7 Under 7" menu features seven options under seven grams of fat each. \$

Barcode

166 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-5557

facebook.com/barcodeathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Downstairs is lined with booths great for intimate conversations and a bustling bar complete with TVs to watch your favorite sports teams. The upstairs features pool and arcade games and a chance to escape the occasional rowdy dance party downstairs. A smaller, second bar operates on busy nights to help sling out the drinks. **DRINKS:** Basic lineup of domestics, a handful of imports and plenty of shots, bombs and cocktails to get you through the night—or not. Value meals like The Haymaker (Long Island pint and a shot of Bacardi) and The Bull Dawg (Miller Lite and a shot of Jim Beam) make drinking on a budget easy. \$

Barnes and Noble Café

3650 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-354-1195

barnesandnoble.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days. \$

Baskin-Robbins/Dunkin' Donuts

771 Prince Ave. • 706-548-3444

2081 Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsonville • 706-769-8363

1055 Gaines School Rd. • 706-353-7166

dunkindonuts.com

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies, Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru (Prince Ave. & Watkinsonville). Delivery, Wi-Fi (Prince Ave. & Watkinsonville). **HOURS:** 5 a.m.–12 a.m. (Prince Ave.) Open 6 a.m.–10 p.m., 7 Days (Watkinsonville & Gaines School Rd.) \$

Bee's Knees Bakery & Gifts

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-353-3633

beeskneesbakeryandgifts.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries, Delivery. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** 8:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m., Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Order a custom cake for any occasion or drop by this cute bakery to see what's in store. **MENU:** The display case is always full of beautifully decorated cakes, cookies, cupcakes, brownies, cake pops and other sweets. Grab a boxed lunch that includes a sandwich, cake slice, pickle, chips and a drink. \$

Beef 'O' Brady's

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-850-1916

beefobradys.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Trivia, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Family-friendly neighborhood pub with plenty of TVs for sports-watching while you chow down or sip on a brew to gear yourself up for the trivia. **MENU:** Popular American sports bar fare like burgers, sandwiches, wraps and salads. Start out with a basket of award-winning wings hand-tossed in one of two dry rubs or 12 sauces, or a combo appetizer like Land, Sea & Air (cheeseburger sliders, fried shrimp, chicken dippers) to share. Signature items include fish and chips and reuben sandwiches. **DRINKS:** 11 beers on tap. Try the signature sangria, mint mojito or spiked frozen lemonade. \$\$

Ben & Jerry's Scoop Shop

105 College Ave. • 706-208-0031

benandjerrys.com/athens

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.–12 a.m., Sun.–Th. 11 a.m.–1 a.m., Fri.–Sat. \$

Big City Bread Cafe

393 N. Finley St. • 706-353-0029

bigcitybreadcafe.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries, Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 6 days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Inside seating in two rooms is comfortable no matter what the temperature outside, but if the weather's nice, the shady patio, complete with sidewalk chalk for kiddos, is irresistible. **MENU:** Big City provides plenty of options at all four meals no matter what you eat or don't. The French toast isn't too sweet at breakfast/brunch, and quiche and omelet specials change often. Lunch focuses on nice sandwiches, burgers and salads, with a few bigger entrees and plenty of fancy touches like duck-fat fries, mint chimichurri on the lamb burger and breads made in-house. Dinner brings out the creativity, with options that change frequently depending on the season but tend to be shaped by classical French cuisine (e.g., escargots). The bakery makes fresh breads, pastries, muffins and cakes daily and offers specials you can order in advance during holiday seasons. \$\$

The Big Easy Café

20 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsonville • 706-769-3030

thebigeasycafe.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** This family run establishment brings a little taste of New Orleans to downtown Watkinsonville. **MENU:** Omelets, grits, French toast and blackened chicken biscuit sandwiches in the morning, with special beignets offered on Saturdays. For lunch, try a Cajun staple like shrimp and grits, seafood gumbo, jambalaya, a po-boy sandwich or red beans and rice. Ask about the soup or quiche of the day. On-site crawfish boils are available for special events. \$

Big Family Cafe

2467 Jefferson Rd. • 706-355-3102

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Homewood Hills space is long and narrow but bright and staffed by friendly folks. **MENU:** This American diner with a California accent has a huge menu of both breakfast and lunch dishes, both of which are available any time. The kitchen makes all the supplemental items, too, from delicious and unsugary muffins to excellent Hollandaise sauce. Burritos are big and full of veggies; burgers come topped with green chiles, and sandwiches make use of avocado, sprouts and other healthy options. Everything is fresh and tasty, served with a smile. \$

Blazer's Hot Wings

1462 Glenn Carrie Rd., Hull • 706-208-0705

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Cash or Checks Only. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A quaint, little red stand that serves wings and chicken fingers to-go. A sheltered picnic-style sitting area is available for those who would rather eat onsite. **MENU:** Wings can be boneless or traditional and tossed in any combination of 13 sauces (lemon pepper, honey mustard, sweet and sour, Rajin Cajun). The wings are available in tailgate-style bulk or for an individual meal. Outside of wings, they also have hamburgers, corn dogs, fried shrimp and fried chicken salads. Onion rings, fries and fried apple pies on the side. \$

Blind Pig Tavern

485 Baldwin St. • 706-548-3442
2440 W. Broad St. • 706-208-7979

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Trivia, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Lots of big TVs make this neighborhood pub a laid-back place to watch sports and unwind with friends. **MENU:** Offers over a dozen types of burgers with your choice of ground chuck beef, ground turkey, veggie burger or marinated chicken breast. For something unique, try The Sunday Brunch (topped with bacon and a fried egg) or The Fatt Matt (dusted with Cajun spices and blackened, topped with bacon and pimento cheese). Other bar food staples include buffalo wings, sandwiches, wraps, hot dogs, fried pickles, chili cheese fries and Southwestern options. **DRINKS:** Choose from 11 beers on tap and 50+ in bottles. If brew isn't your thing, let a fruity cocktail quench your thirst. \$\$

Blue Sky

128 College Ave. • 706-850-3153
blueskyathens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Overlooking North Campus from its second story view, this comfortable bar with a refined atmosphere offers a world-class selection of high-end beverages. It has a tin ceiling, a skylight and a cozy patio with ample seating. You can also enter Blue Sky through its sister bar, Walker's Coffee and Pub. **DRINKS:** Features over 200 craft beers including selections from all six Trappist breweries in the U.S., over 50 scotches from nearly 30 different distilleries and a wide selection of bourbon, Irish whiskey, wine, fresh fruit cocktails and seasonal offerings. If you're hungry, tapas can be delivered from Speakeasy. \$

Boar's Head Lounge

260 E. Washington St. • 706-369-3040

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Walk down the steps into the large bar area

to catch a band onstage or play a game of foosball, pool or table shuffleboard. Outside, a huge patio has two smaller bars, a swing and a second-story balcony area for playing cornhole or just hanging out. There is a stage for live bands and open mic nights both inside and out. **DRINKS:** Eleven beers on draft and about 40 others in bottle. "Baller Shots" include the Bulldog Bite (Bacardi 151 rum, amaretto liqueur and cranberry juice) and Boars Breath (Fireball Whiskey and Irish creme). Give in to your late-night munchies with burgers and hotdogs straight off of the grill, as well as free popcorn downstairs. \$

Bootleggers Country & Western Bar

1720 Commerce Rd. • 706-540-7803
bootleggersathens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs. **THE LOOK:** A country and western bar and venue inside an old red barn with cowboy and cowgirl silhouettes in the windows. Features a large dance hall popular for line dancing. Karaoke and live country bands every weekend. **DRINKS:** Multiple bars serve inexpensive domestic beers and generous pours of whiskey. Fuel up on liquid courage before taking a ride on their mechanical bull, Pandemonium or taking a line dancing class. \$

Bourbon Street

333 E. Broad St. • 706-369-1313
twitter.com/bourbonstath

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **THE LOOK:** Everything about this two-story New Orleans-inspired bar attempts to re-create the excitement of Mardi Gras on a nightly basis. **DRINKS:** Cheap domestics, \$1 power-hour mixed drinks, pitchers and 64-ounce rum drinks served in a fishbowl make this bar popular. \$

The Branded Butcher

225 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-5152
thebrandedbutcher.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Art. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** The long brick space has cozy seating and a sizable bar, plus local art on the walls. **MENU:** Chef Matt Palmerlee really gets charcuterie, and this restaurant is a great place to expand your palate by playing around in that section of the menu, where you might find a housemade corn dog, a smart take on a Scotch egg (hard-boiled egg wrapped in ground sausage and fried), slivered and crisped pigs' ears or smoked trout rilletes. What many people don't realize is that vegetarians can have a lovely meal here, too, due to Palmerlee's respect for local farms and their produce. That said, if you eat meat, and the okra with a side of whipped marrow is on the menu, don't miss it. Bar burger served Mondays. Oysters can be had at the bar starting at 4 p.m. **DRINKS:** The cocktail list has great respect for the past, with rye and gin playing important roles among the mixed drinks. The selection of wine, beer and whiskey is superlatively curated. \$\$\$\$

Bread Basket

723 Boulevard • 706-548-3412

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Breakfast, Sat. **THE LOOK:** Grab something to go from this kitchen located inside of a neighborhood gas station and convenience store. **MENU:** Buttery biscuit sandwiches with your choice of sausage, ham, eggs, cheese and gravy. Complete your hearty country breakfast with a side of grits or hashbrowns. Rotating lunch items include corn dogs, chicken fingers, pork chops and fried fish. \$

Brett's Casual American Restaurant

3190 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-850-1395
brettcasualamerican.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Curbside Pick-Up, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Casual family-friendly environment decorated with scenic landscape photography by Robert McCullough, the father of owner and chef Brett McCullough. Brett's offers handy curbside to-go orders for extra fast service. **MENU:** Steaks, seafood, sandwiches and TexMex specialties are the main draw. Tacos are assembled with grilled tilapia, shrimp, buffalo chicken, veggies or smoked brisket. All soups, dressings, marinades and seasonings are made from scratch. \$

Brix Wood Fired Pizza

135 W. Washington St. • 706-395-1660
brixpizza.com

FILE UNDER: Pizza. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Outside Seating, Gluten-Free Options. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Garage door on patio for nice-weather days. **MENU:** A wide variety of pasta, sandwiches, wraps and wood-fired pizzas. Among the many special pizzas, try the Rustica (prosciutto, mozzarella, mushrooms, artichoke hearts, kalamata olives and roasted garlic) or the Bronx Bomber (spicy Italian sausage, mozzarella, prosciutto, gorgonzola cheese, tomato sauce and fresh oregano) or just build your own. Dessert pizzas, too, and a kids' menu. 24 local and craft beers on draft. \$

Buddha Bar

431 E. Broad St. • 706-208-7017
Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **THE LOOK:** Red Chinese lanterns, bamboo, paintings of koi fish and a large golden Buddha statue sitting in the window decorate this Asian themed bar. **DRINKS:** Popular sake bombs, Fortune Cookie Martinis and peach-flavored Kill Bill Bombs. Order a Stoplight (three total shots of selected red, yellow and green liqueurs) if you're feeling brave. Plenty of beer (including a few seasonals), champagne and standard cocktails are also available. Weekly \$1 drink specials and Ladies' Night with \$5 bottles of champagne or wine. \$



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196 Alps Rd. • 706-354-6655

buffaloscfe.com/athens

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Live Music, Trivia, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Casual dining with a Southwestern theme. Trivia, line dancing and live bands are scheduled weekly, and large banquet rooms can be reserved for private parties or public events. **MENU:** Chow down on traditional or boneless wings offered in 14 different sauces including Asian Sesame, Carolina Fire BBQ and Sweet Bourbon BBQ. Burgers, sandwiches, ribs, tacos, wraps and salads are created with a Southwestern flair. **DRINKS:** Watch the game on a big-screen TV while sipping on a drink from the bar. Choose from 10 draft beers, an extensive wine list and cocktails such as the Canyon-Rita and Mary on Fire (Bloody Mary with Buffalo's signature Death Valley sauce). \$\$

Bulldawg Pizza, Wings & More

2026 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-355-3294

bulldawgpizza.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Counter-service. **MENU:** Home of the "Big Dawg" 24" pizza. Hand-tossed pizzas on thin and crispy, regular or thick crust (flavored with garlic parmesan, Cajun or lemon pepper seasonings) and customized with up to 20 toppings. Wings (tossed in any one of 15 sauces), subs, calzones, pasta, salads and dawg bones (bread sticks) are also available. Try cheesecake, chocolate cake or cinnamon sticks for dessert. \$

Bulldawg Wings/Deli & Tropical Grocery

1037 Baxter St. • 706-546-1105

FILE UNDER: Burgers, Sandwiches and Chicken. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Halal deli housed inside of a small grocery store. **MENU:** Burgers like the Sexy Ho, Sloppy Ho, Sweet Ho and Jerk Burger, plus wings and chicken sandwiches. The grocery store also offers sodas, dried fish and shrimp, jarred curries and packaged snacks. \$

The Bury

321 E. Clayton St. • 706-201-6898

facebook.com/theburyathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Ski lodge-themed bar complete with a fireplace, granite bar, antler light fixtures, wildlife mural and taxidermy animal mounts. The downstairs features a second full bar and leather couches for a more exclusive atmosphere. Visit the mezzanine for a round of beer pong or a bird's eye view of bands playing on stage. **DRINKS:** Eight beers on draft and all the usual domestics and imports in bottle. Ask for Cabin Fever whiskey on the rocks, Moonshine Margarita or a round of Ski Shots (multiple shots lined up on a single ski) to share with friends. \$

Butt Hutt Bar-B-Q

480 Macon Hwy. • 706-850-8811

butthuttbarbecue.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Live Music, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Homey BBQ shack with a laid-back vibe. Come in for the bi-monthly Bike Night or to see bands perform on the weekend. **MENU:** Each plate (chopped pork, brisket, ribs or chicken) comes with two sides (stew, corn nuggets, chicken mull, pasta salad, curly fries). Baskets come with one side for smaller appetites. BBQ sandwiches, wings, salads, hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken strips, too. For dessert, get a slice of pecan or coconut pie, cheesecake or banana pudding. **DRINKS:** Choose from over two dozen beers or ask the bartender to stir up a cocktail. \$

Café on Prince

595 Prince Ave. • 706-433-1782

FILE UNDER: American, Downhome. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Th. Lunch, Fri. **THE LOOK:** Piedmont College's cafeteria is open to students and the community. **MENU:** A relaxed dining experience with homestyle menu options. Three entrees (one geared towards health-conscious diners), four veggies and a salad bar are offered daily. Comfort food entrees and sides range from fried chicken and meatloaf to macaroni and cheese, squash casserole and collards. Angelish Wilson, formerly of Wilson's Soul Food, can be found in the kitchen, whipping up red velvet cakes, pies and custards. \$

Cali 'N' Tito's

1427 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-227-9979

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American, Vegetarian-Friendly, Cash and checks only. **FEATURES:** BYOB, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Owner Bruno Rubio is always tweaking the decor here, which is an awesome grab-bag. Outdoor seating is heated in cold weather and cooled by giant fans when it's hot. Tons of things to interest kids, including a feisty parrot and a water feature made out of an old boat. **MENU:** Peruvian-accented Latin American food. Don't skip the empanadas, especially if you're a meat-eater; they're some of the best in town. Other hits include the sandwiches (more torta than strict Cubano but reliably delicious), yuca frita (fried cassava), maduros (fried sweet plantains), tostones (fried green plantain chips with mayo-ketchup dipping sauce), ginormous fish burrito, tacu tacu (rice, beans and eggs, an affordable veggie way to meet all your protein needs) and lomo saltado (steak, french fries and red onions). \$

Carrabba's Italian Grill

3194 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-546-9938

carrabbas.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Curbside Pick-Up. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 days. Lunch, Sat & Sun. \$\$\$

Catch 22 Gastropub

1021 Parkway Blvd. • 706-549-6333

catch22athens.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Warm ambience with dark wood tables—the way a pub ought to look. **MENU:** Snack on pork rind nachos, tequila pico tacos or a big IPA pretzel with wasabi honey mustard. Entrees include house burgers, Dinosaur Ribs, fish and chips, sesame tuna with Sriracha soy sauce and jerk ribeye with onion rings. **DRINKS:** Focused on high-end and small-brewery beers, with 24 on draft and many more in cans. Wine, too. Hosts beer dinners and tastings regularly. \$\$\$

Cecilia's Cakes

610 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-543-3308

ceciliascakes.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering. **THE LOOK:** A family-owned specialty cake bakery. Many of their cakes can be found around town in restaurants by the slice. **MENU:** All cakes are made to order. Fruit-filled cakes include red raspberry, peach and apple nut. If you're craving cocoa, opt for chocolate tiramisu, German chocolate or mint chocolate chip. Creative cakes can be custom-designed for special occasions. \$

Charlie Noble's

1040 Gaines School Rd.

charlienoblesathens.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Hours: Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Owner Reggie DiSante's other restaurant, George's Lowcountry Table, features cloth napkins and tablecloths; expect this new place, in the Ansonborough mixed-use development, to shoot for something similar. **MENU:** Upscale Southern cuisine, influenced by DiSante's mentor, George Davis, who had a restaurant by the same name on Prince Avenue back in the day. To open fall 2014. \$\$

Cheddar's Casual Cafe


1791 Oconee Connector

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer and Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **MENU:** Opening fall 2014, Cheddar's is an Applebee's-type American restaurant, with a large menu including anything from loaded potato skins and mozzarella sticks to an Asian salad with mango. A section of lighter options features grilled chicken over black beans with pico de gallo. Favorites, on the other hand, include something called "Baked Spasagna" that is a type of spaghetti casserole. Steaks, ribs, burgers and plenty more meat, plus big desserts. \$

Chef Ming


1720 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-552-3233

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A shopping center space with friendly service. **MENU:** A wide selection of Chinese dishes offered in beef, chicken, pork, seafood and veggie options. Specialties include orange beef, Peking duck, Singapore



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noodles and ribeye steak with mandarin chicken. Lunch combinations, complete with fried rice, soup and an egg roll, offer an inexpensive way to fill up on a big meal. (Large family diners can also be ordered for two to seven people.) \$\$

Chili's Grill & Bar

183 Alps Rd. • 706-613-5405
chilis.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Curbside Pick-Up, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$

China 1

2026 S. Millidge Ave. • 706-850-7788

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Quick service is key at this Chinese restaurant with a hibachi-style grill. **MENU:** Lo mein, pancit, teriyaki, egg foo young, sweet and sour, moo shu and meat entrees. The chef's special Cantonese dishes include coconut shrimp, pineapple chicken, double cooked roast pork and Seafood Delight (shrimp, lobster, scallops and mixed veggies). Combination entrees are served with an egg roll and roast pork fried rice. \$

China Delight

1971 Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-9221

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Chinese restaurant located in a Watkinsville shopping center. **MENU:** Generous portions of basic fare with beef, chicken, pork, seafood and vegetarian options available. Lunch combos come with fried rice, egg drop or hot & sour soup and an egg roll. The menu also features a Weight Watchers portion for diet conscientious eaters. \$\$

China Star Super Buffet

3567 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-316-3382
athenschinastar.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** With eight buffet tables including a sushi bar and a hibachi area, there's something for everyone here. Take-out is available at a per-pound price. **MENU:** Choose from over 300 Chinese, American and Japanese dishes from the extensive buffet options or order from a menu of Chinese fare like General Tso's Chicken, Mongolian beef, green mussels with black bean sauce and Singapore chow mein. Crab legs are available daily after 4 p.m. The restaurant received recognition as one of the Top 100 Chinese Restaurants in USA in the category of "Overall Excellence" from Chinese Restaurant News. \$

China Wok

2475 Jefferson Rd. • 706-353-3399

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Counter service and limited seating suggest that take-out is key here. Located in the Hornewood Village Shopping Center. **MENU:** Offers popular Hunan, Cantonese and Szechuan dishes like chop suey, lo mein, mai fun, moo shu and egg foo young. Chef specialties include the Happy Family (five meats and veggies), seafood pan fried noodles, lemon chicken and roast duck. \$

Chipotle

165 Alps Rd. • 706-548-7210
chipotle.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Focused on "food with integrity," this chain incorporates sustainable practices whenever possible. An assembly-line method of preparing meals guarantees quick service. **MENU:** A simple menu of burritos, tacos, burrito bowls and salads that can be customized with braised carnitas or barbacoa, adobo-marinated chicken or steak, pinto or black beans, cilantro-lime rice and fresh veggies. \$

Chonell's Home Cooking

1080 Baxter St. • 706-549-2114

Find us on Facebook
FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch 7 days. **THE LOOK:** This country cooking establishment with plenty of Southern hospitality has been serving Athens for more than 18 years. **MENU:** Menu changes daily, but expect to have your plate piled high with traditional Southern grub like fried chicken, beef brisket, catfish, chitterlings, rutabagas, yams,

macaroni and cheese, fried corn and green beans. Finish your meal with a homemade dessert. Check their Facebook page to find what's on today's menu. Chonell's keeps the Southern food tradition alive and well. \$

Choo Choo Japanese Korean Grill Express

1055 Gaines School Rd. • 706-543-8888
choochoorestaurants.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Sake, Delivery, Trivia, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Counter service, big booths and hibachi-style cooking lends a casual atmosphere, or enjoy it at home or work. **MENU:** Generous servings of Korean and Japanese noodle and rice entrees prepared with chicken, steak, salmon, shrimp or tofu. Traditional dishes include bibimbap, bulgogi and tonkatsu. Korean tacos come stuffed with jae yuk (marinated pork), kimchi (spicy fermented cabbage) or calamari. Try spring rolls or choo choo gyoza on the side. \$

Chops and Hops

2 S. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-310-1101
chopsandhops.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Reservations, Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** This two-floor white-tablecloth restaurant in downtown Watkinsville also has a large bar downstairs where you can watch the game. Rotating art exhibits are upstairs. **MENU:** As you might guess, this restaurant focuses on red meat and beer, and the steaks are definitely a highlight, cooked without fuss. There's also a large selection of specialty burgers, including an Atkins-style bunless patty topped with fried egg, bacon, fried onions, guacamole and Cheddar. Seafood and some lighter options are available, and vegetarians will find a few options. Specials change daily. **DRINKS:** Although Oconee County still forbids beer and wine sales on Sunday, you can pick from a nice selection here six days a week, with a big range of bottled beers that includes lambics, witbiers and gluten-free stuff as well as plenty of IPAs. The wine menu features helpful descriptions written with a sense of humor that will help you pick a glass or a bottle. \$\$\$

Chuck E. Cheese's

3654 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-353-6715
chuckecheese.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days. \$

Cici's Pizza

3190 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-613-2424
cicispizza.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$

Cinco y Diez

1653 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-2020
cincodydiezathens.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 days. Lunch/Brunch, Saturday and Sunday. **THE LOOK:** The former Five & Ten in Five Points now has a stripped-down interior, with dining in two rooms and a beautiful bar, a long community table, lovely reclaimed wood and exposed brick. **MENU:** Chef Whitney Otawka, formerly of Farm 255, reinterprets Mexican cuisine through a refined, California-accented take on traditional dishes. Do not expect burritos; just expect to have your understanding of Mexican food expanded. Menus change seasonally, but highlights so far have included a stellar North Carolina trout served with roasted fava beans, hominy and a dandelion salsa verde; the hen-of-the-woods mushroom taco; a fisherman's stew with lime and coconut milk; and the Georgia shrimp ceviche, accompanied by spicy fancy pork rinds. Otawka loves vegetables dearly and does wonderful things with them. Do not skip dessert. The pastry kitchen is operating at a ridiculously high level, with fantastic ice creams and sorbets, mind-melting churros and more. Brunch is slightly less sophisticated and heartier in its offerings. Service is stellar. **DRINKS:** If you think you can't drink wine with Mexican food, the list and the staff here, who can suggest something perfect to accompany your meal, will change your mind. Specialty cocktails make use of ingredients like cinnamon-infused hibiscus liqueur, sherry and plum wine alongside more traditional stuff. And yes, you can get a margarita. \$\$\$

Ciné Barcafé

234 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-353-3343
athenscine.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** 4:30 p.m.–last show, Mon.–Fri. 2 p.m.–last show, Sat.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Chic, sophisticated arthouse cinema housed in a converted industrial space. The lounge and bar area is a great place to commune and talk film with or without a movie ticket. **MENU:** Coffee, teas, sodas and fruit juices to drink. Snacks include an assortment of locally made baked goods like cookies and muffins, savory treats like wasabi peas and mixed nuts, plus traditional movie snacks like popcorn and candy. **DRINKS:** A good selection of bottled beer and a few crafts on tap, as well as wine and liquor from the fully stocked bar. \$

City Bar

220 College Ave. • 706-546-7612
facebook.com/athenscitybar

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Don't be fooled by its upscale design, 20-foot ceilings, hardwood bar, large mirrors, marble accents and chandeliers; this bar is still friendly towards an informal party crowd. **DRINKS:** A full-service bar known for its flavored martinis and craft cocktails like the Mantini (bourbon, Kahlua, milk, cherry garnish) and the Key Lime Pie (coconut rum, Keke key lime creme liqueur, splash of sour/Sprite, lime garnish). Over 30 different bottled beers. \$

Clocked!

259 W. Washington St. • 706-548-9175
clockeddiner.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers & Chicken, Gluten-Free Options, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Fri. & Sat. **THE LOOK:** Hip, retro diner with a colorful interior. **MENU:** Eclectic twists on classic diner fare that are made-to-order using organic and natural ingredients. Try the Ring of Fire (blackened hamburger topped with melted pepper jack cheese, lettuce, tomato, onions, pickled jalapenos and Clocked chipotle sauce) or the Peanut Butter and Bacon Burger. Vegetarian or vegan options include the Happy! Hummus (Clocked hummus, cucumbers, carrots, roasted red peppers, local greens, tomatoes on whole grain bread) and housemade blackbean burgers. To drink, select among hand-spun milkshakes and malts (blackberry, mocha, Cheerwine), retro sodas and five Bell's craft beers on draft. \$\$

Cloud

164 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-7771
facebook.com/cloudathensga

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **THE LOOK:** Comfortable booths and a dozen TVs make this spacious upstairs bar a good spot for catching the big game. The room is illuminated by a wall of mesmerizing, color-changing bubbles. **DRINKS:** All the usual domestics, imports, well shots and bombs. Bartenders will gladly whip up a cocktail using the liquors from two fully stocked bars. Pop in for Power Hour between 9-11 Thursday through Saturday to get great deals on well drinks, bombs, and pitchers. \$

The Coffee Shop of Athens

2950 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-542-8990
facebook.com/thecoffeeshopofathens

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Art, Wi-Fi., Gluten-Free Options. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Locally-owned business that shares a building with The Body Shop of Athens. A wall of windows allows plenty of natural sunlight to shine in. Reserve the large conference room available for private meetings. **MENU:** Hot and cold coffee drinks using Jittery Joe's blends, with plenty of flavor shots to customize. An assortment of cookies, muffins and scones to snack on. The breakfast and brunch menu includes a number of Brazilian dishes like Moqueca Stew (mahi mahi, shrimp, clams and scallops poached in caruru sauce, served with white rice) and Ropa Vieja (served with rice, black beans, and sweet plantain with a sunny side up egg). \$

Copper Creek Brewing Company

140 E. Washington St. • 706-546-1102
coppercreekathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Trivia, Delivery. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Large copper kettles can be seen through the

window of this sophisticated yet rustic restaurant, bar and micro-brewery. **MENU:** Start off with an appetizer like Sriracha marinated beef skewers or Filipino pork egg rolls. Entrees include upscale pub food like hearty burgers, BBQ ribs, buttermilk fried chicken breast, fried buffalo chicken tacos and portabella mushroom sandwiches. For brunch, amaretto French toast, omelets, grilled andouille sausage and home fries. **DRINKS:** Brews and serves its own beer in-house. All ingredients are ground, mashed and fermented on premises to create a full tank-to-top experience, and at least three of Copper Creek's 40+ rotating brews are available each day. Many craft, high-gravity and seasonal beers are available in bottle, and there's a variety of liquor behind the fully stocked bar. Cask tappings are held the first Sunday of every month. \$\$

Courtyard Café

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-542-2633

georgiacenter.uga.edu/uga-hotel/dining

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A quick and casual cafeteria-style setting in UGA's Georgia Center. Georgia Java is adjacent to the café, serving up freshly brewed coffee, pastries and snacks. Validated parking for up to one hour is available at the South Campus Parking Deck. **MENU:** Standard breakfast fare in the morning and made-to-order deli sandwiches in the afternoon. Rotating hot entrées and a soup and salad bar are available during weekday lunches. \$

Cozy Bar

179 Jackson St.

facebook.com/cozybarathens

FILE UNDER: Bars & Clubs. **THE LOOK:** Sister bar of Cozy Yum Yum located in a narrow space below street level. A stage was just built for upcoming live music and karaoke. The space can be rented for private parties. **DRINKS:** Full bar specializing in sake bombs and popular Thai beers. Dumplings and spring rolls are served to satisfy late night cravings. \$

Cozy Yum Yum

489 E. Clayton St. • 706-543-8898

cozyyumyum.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Sake, Beer, Wine, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Wed.-Sat. **THE LOOK:** Thai restaurant that lives up to its name: cozy and yum yum. **MENU:** Traditional Thai food with many vegetarian options, including masaman curry, pad thai, tama curry and drunken noodles with tofu or vegetables. Entrees can also be ordered with chicken, shrimp or beef. Start off with a cup of tom yum soup, basil rolls or green papaya salad. Popular dishes include panang curry, cashew chicken, pad Thai noodles. **DRINKS:** Choose from an ample selection of sake and Southeast Asian beers. Domestic, too. Non-alcoholic choices include smoothies and bubble tea. \$\$

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store

1913 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-208-0304

crackerbarrel.com

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$

Cutters Pub

120 E. Clayton St. • 706-353-9800

facebook.com/cutterspub

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** An Irish pub with exposed brick decor, copper plating behind the bar and an electronic countdown to the next St. Patrick's Day. Play a game of pool, darts, foosball or an arcade game like Golden Tee Golf. The upstairs area hosts an additional bar and dance floor for live bands. Big screen TVs and gametime drink specials make Cutters a great place to gather and watch your favorite sporting events. **DRINKS:** An impressive list of 36 scotches, including premium selections like Johnnie Walker Blue Label. Nearly 100 beers with 12 available on draft, and plenty of cocktails, too. \$

Dawg Gone Good BBQ

224 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-613-9799

facebook.com/dawggonegoodbbqathens

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch-Late Night, Thurs.-Fri., Dinner-Late Night Sat., Lunch & Dinner Sun.-Wed. **THE LOOK:** Small brick estab-

ishment largely providing take-out, but with a few tables inside and picnic tables outside for those who want to stick around.

MENU: Ribs, BBQ chicken, pulled pork sandwiches and sausage dogs are smoked, slow cooked and then grilled on a charcoal cooker out in the shed. Plates come with hefty portions of two sides like baked potato salad, creamed spinach, yams, coleslaw, baked beans and mac & cheese. If you're feeding the whole family, you can order a slab or half slab of ribs, as well as a pound or 1/2 pound of pork. \$

Dawg House Bar & Grill

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-0983

georgiacenter.uga.edu/uga-hotel/dining

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Eatery inside of UGA's Georgia Center. Spend time with visiting friends, colleagues or family while watching sports games and enjoying the casual bar. **MENU:** Sandwiches, burgers, salads and entrees like spicy fish tacos, fried shrimp and chicken fingers. **DRINKS:** A full bar offers a dozen of the most popular imports and domestics, plus a handful of craft beers including three Terrapin brews. \$

DePalma's Italian Cafe

2080 Timothy Rd. • 706-552-1237

1965 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-369-0085

401 E. Broad St. • 706-354-6966

depalmasitaliancafe.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Old-World Italian but not so fancy you can't bring the kids. **MENU:** Each location has its own specialties, but all serve premium pizza, calzones, pasta, salads and desserts. Lunch offers a great slice-plus-salad deal, and dinner gets a little ritzier, with regular specials. Popular choices include goat cheese ravioli, eggplant florentine, the Pasta DePalma (angel hair with a rosemary cream sauce, mushrooms, mozzarella and your choice of artichokes, ham, sausage or chicken) and the daily lasagna. The Timothy Road location has a nice patio. **DRINKS:** Although there's a full bar, the focus, as you'd expect, is on wine, especially the Italian stuff. The list of choices, especially if you want to get a bottle, is long. \$\$

dil'ishi Frozen Yogurt Bar

1791 Oconee Connector

facebook.com/dilishiatheathens

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies. **HOURS:** Late night 7 days. **MENU:** The Athens area's latest froyo chain is in Epps Bridge Centre. The store will offer 10 flavors at a time, rotating regularly, with more than 60 toppings, and the franchise focuses on environmental friendliness. \$

Dickey's Barbecue Pit

2131 Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsville • 706-705-1326

810 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-850-7561

dickeys.com


FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Beer (Hawthorne Ave.), Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A Texas-based chain with standard BBQ joint decor. **MENU:** Slow-cooked meats include beef brisket, pulled pork, Virginia style ham, marinated chicken breast, turkey breast, Polish sausage, spicy cheddar sausage and pork ribs. Order a BBQ sandwich, or make it a plate by adding two homestyle sides like macaroni and cheese, fried okra, potato salad, coleslaw and more. Free ice cream daily for children and adults alike. Well worth the drive. \$\$

Dirty Birds

312 E. Washington St. • 706-546-7050

dirtybirdsatheathens.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Bars. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Large, new sports-centric destination with more than 20 TVs, a stage, dance floor and pool tables. The upstairs is a popular spot for trivia, karaoke and live music. **MENU:** Load up on wings offered in 30 flavors like habanero, maple chipotle BBQ, Margarita, garlic herb and Old Bay. Plenty of sandwiches, burgers, sliders and salads. **DRINKS:** Over 24 beers on tap and an extensive selection of spirits. Try a Kentucky Cutter (Bulleit bourbon, triple sec, Angostura bitters, lemon) or Cherry Limeade (Pinnacle cherry lemonade vodka, lemon lime soda, sour mix). \$



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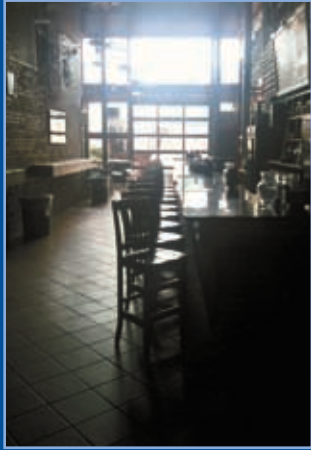
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SLIGHTLY OFF THE BEATEN PATH

Dominick's Italian

1430 Capital Ave., Watkinsville • 706-769-6255

dominickitalian.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Family-style restaurant adorned with framed photos and authentic memorabilia that give the space true warmth. **MENU:** Timeless Italian dishes with house specialties including eggplant parmigiana, lasagna, stuffed porkchops, chicken scarapiello and Dominick's Ribeye. Many pasta, chicken, veal and seafood dishes to choose from, with half servings available for most. Treat yourself to a decadent tiramisu, cannoli or crème brûlée for dessert. **DRINKS:** Your waiter will happily help pair one of their nearly 40 wines with your meal. A dozen or so beers, too. Check website for monthly wine dinners. \$\$\$

Donderos' Kitchen

590 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-354-8688

2450 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-542-6359

donderoskitchen.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch, 7 days (590 N. Milledge Ave.) Lunch Tues.–Sun. (Botanical Garden) **THE LOOK:** A big old house on Milledge in Cobham holds the base of operations for this family-run business, with a satellite location at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia's Visitor Center. The former has a playroom for kids packed with toys, plenty of sunshine and a community table that's great for meetings. **MENU:** The Bot Garden location focuses on sandwiches, coffee and baked goods, with a few jazzier items like sesame noodles. The "goat in the garden" wrap, packed with goat cheese, beets and fresh veggies, is a zippy, healthy, flavorful option. The Cobham location does hot breakfast and lunch to order until the afternoon, at which point things switch over to pre-made meals only. Anything with fried green tomatoes and the huge breakfast burrito are special highlights, but there's a good selection of warm and cold sandwiches, plus frequently changing soups. To-go meals are ready in the fridge and the freezer and might be Thai, Italian, Greek, African or what-have-you, depending on the day (check the website). Don't miss the little bags of Thai roasted peanuts with garlic. Walkers, bikers and bus riders get a five-percent discount. \$

Dos Palmas Restaurant & Cantina

3523 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-353-7771

athens-dospalmas.com/

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** As the sister restaurant to the Eastside La Fiesta, Dos Palmas has a family-oriented atmosphere and a "Nuestra casa es su casa" approach to service. **MENU:** The most popular Mexican staples such as tacos, burritos, nachos, fajitas and quesadillas are all here. Don't miss the chile con queso or the fish tacos. Desserts include flan, churros, sopapilla and fried ice cream. **DRINKS:** Over 30 types of tequila on hand make this a popular destination for margaritas. Two beers on draft and several more in bottle. \$\$

The Double Barrel

429 E. Broad St.

facebook.com/DoubleBarrelAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outdoor Seating. **THE LOOK:** Southern-themed bar named after Athens' famous double-barreled cannon. **DRINKS:** Signature cocktails include The Bacon Watson (bacon liqueur, bourbon, orange juice) and The Scarlett O'Hara (sweet tea vodka, peach, cherry and sour mix). Try a Cannonball Bomb made with Fireball whiskey or the Southern Breakfast Sampler, a "three-course meal" featuring shots of bacon, blueberry pancake and doughnut liqueurs, chased by orange juice. \$

Earth Fare Café

1689 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-227-1717

earthfare.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Inside the upscale natural foods store in Five Points. Grab some freshly prepared meals to-go, or take a seat to hang around and eat. **MENU:** Items are created with the same kind of premium ingredients that line the store's grocery aisles. The deli counter is full of fresh, organic salads and the rotating hot bar carries healthy entrees for meat-

eaters, vegetarians and vegans alike. Fresh smoothies, juice, coffee, a pair of daily soups and baked goods, too. A favorite spot to meet friends for lunch in a relaxed atmosphere and do a little grocery shopping afterward. \$\$

East West Bistro

351 E. Broad St. • 706-546-9378

eastwestbistro.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Reservations, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** A few seats outside are pleasant for watching the action on Broad Street downtown. Inside features a variety of spaces lit by big windows, including an upstairs you can rent for private parties and a snazzy bar. **MENU:** New ownership and a new team in the kitchen have changed the menu a little at this upscale restaurant that plays around with Asian and European flavors without going whole-hog on fusion. Lunch features sophisticated sandwiches (a Norwegian salmon BLT; a house burger with harissa and house pickles), a daily vegetable plate, stir-fry, fish tacos and salads. Dinner has some of the same choices but adds entrees like grilled Cantonese flank steak, tempura flounder and sweet potato hush puppies and Baja pork loin milanese with cilantro sour cream and mashed potatoes with chimichurri. **DRINKS:** At the elegant bar or with your meal, you'll find a long list of wines by the bottle plus about a dozen by the glass, American microbrews, high-gravity beers and mixed drinks that incorporate Blenheim's ginger ale, St. Germain elderflower liqueur and Absolut Wild Tequila Vodka. \$\$\$

Eat Hibachi

131 E. Broad St. • 706-548-7441

eathibachi.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Dinner, 7 Days. Late Night, Th.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Counter service makes for quick dining in a casual atmosphere. **MENU:** Large portions of traditional Korean and Japanese fare like fried rice, stir fry, ramen and teriyaki. Adventurous eaters can try more authentic dishes such as bulgogi (Korean BBQ), bibimbap (rice, veggies, marinated beef, crab and chili paste), yukgaejang (spicy shredded beef soup) or jjambong rice (mixed seafood, onion, green pepper, mushroom, cabbage). \$

El Azteca

1280 Oconee St. • 706-549-2639

facebook.com/elaztecaathens

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** The bright orange and blue exterior makes this casual spot hard to miss. **MENU:** All of the obligatory south-of-the-border classics like tacos, burritos, fajitas and quesadillas. Many items can be ordered in a combo or to split between two. Pair your meal with a Dos Equis, Modelo or a refreshing margarita. \$

Em's Kitchen

975 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-206-9322

emskitchenathawthorne.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Saturday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Visiting this cute eatery, which was expanded from the Hawthorne Drugs' original soda fountain, is like stepping into a family's kitchen. **MENU:** Many of the classic favorites have stayed. Stock up on chicken salad and ooey gooey bars for your next family trip. In the morning, breakfast sandwiches, omelets, waffles, pancakes and a display case full of homemade muffins, scones and bagels. In the afternoon, salads, hot dogs, homemade soups and simple sandwiches like fruit and nut chicken salad, pimento cheese, BLTs and PBJs. Milkshakes and coke floats. Check online for daily specials. A fine take on the soda-fountain lunch tradition. \$

Etienne Brasserie

311 E. Broad St. • 706-850-8008

etiennethens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. Dinner 7 days. **THE LOOK:** White tablecloths, dark wood and polished tile don't mean excessive formality at Athens' only French restaurant. **MENU:** Plenty of French classics are on the menu, including moules frites (mussels and fries), Lyonnaise salad (with lardons, poached egg and frisee), coq au vin, sole Meuniere and cas-

soulet. Lunch and the prix-fixe menu offered from 5 to 6:30 p.m. weekdays offer an affordable way to experience the refined but simple cooking. **DRINKS:** The wine list is almost exclusively French, with especially nice choices in the "sparkling" section, but you can get a beer, too. Cocktails are based on real fruit and housemade syrups for a light and pleasant taste. \$\$\$

Fatz Café

4115 Lexington Rd. • 706-425-8780

fatz.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$

Firehouse Subs

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-543-4266

1226 Prince Ave. • 706-357-4994

firehousesubs.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Franchised sub shop originally founded by firefighters. **MENU:** Classic hot and cold subs like the smokehouse beef and cheddar brisket, meatballs and marinara, and timeless Italian. Try the Firehouse Hero (roast beef, smoked turkey breast, Virginia honey ham, melted provolone and veggies). \$

Five & Ten

1073 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-546-7300

fiveandten.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Reservations, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** James Beard Award-winner Hugh Acheson's flagship restaurant occupies a renovated historic home built by Athens architect Fred Orr. There's dining out on the spacious porch as well as in a variety of small rooms, a light-filled coffee bar and a long, wooden bar proper. **MENU:** Chef Jason Zygmunt is the latest to take the reins at a restaurant that often sets the course for Athens and attracts diners from far and wide. Menus change frequently and reflect what's in season, but the Frogmore stew, a Low Country combination of shrimp, potatoes, andouille and corn in a tomato broth, is a signature dish. Other highlights might include Carolina trout with Carolina Gold Rice grits, roasted snow peas and spring onions, baby fennel and lemon balm; a chilled English pea soup incorporating fromage blanc, toasted peanuts, harissa oil, sorrel and a baby carrot salad; or the surpassingly tender grilled octopus. Tuesday nights are for housemade ramen, available at the bar, and the restaurant offers an affordable three-course prix-fixe for early diners who make reservations. Brunch is a great chance to experience the space in the daytime. **DRINKS:** The wine list is diverse and interesting, never pretentious, and the staff aren't committed to the upsell; often, you'll find yourself talked into a less expensive option that better suits your needs. Dry, intelligent cocktails can start your meal, and a lovely range of dessert wines, sherries and single-malt scotches can close it out. \$\$\$\$

Five Bar

269 N. Hull St. • 706-543-5515

five-bar.com/athens

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 Days. Late Night, Th.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Tons of chandeliers, a sushi bar at the back of the large space and off-beat art all over. **THE MENU:** The theme at this Birmingham-based small chain is in the name: five choices in a bunch of categories (entrees, snacks, sushi, etc.) means a more focused menu. The baked avocado appetizer is a nice surprise in particular. **DRINKS:** The conceit continues, with five each among red wines, white wines, beers, Southern beers and signature cocktails heavy on vodka. \$\$\$

Five Guys Famous Burgers and Fries

101 College Ave. • 706-549-2811

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-549-9081

fiveguys.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches and Burgers. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Classic burger joint with over 1,000 locations. Snack on complementary peanuts while you wait for your order. **MENU:** A simple lineup of burgers, hot dogs, veggie sandwiches and fries (plain or Cajun-style). Add as many as 15 free toppings, and be sure to specify you'd like a "little" burger if you only want one patty; the standard burger comes with two. \$

Flanagan's

301 E. Clayton St. • 706-208-9711

flanagansathens.homestead.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** An Irish pub-inspired spot established in 1994 with a green exterior, exposed brick walls and neon green lights hanging in the windows. **DRINKS:** Home of the Super Irish Carbomb. Daily specials on beers, wells and shooters make it feasible to party on a budget. Get in the Celtic spirit with a Nutty Irishman, Peppermint St. Patty or a tall pint of Guinness. \$

Flicker Theatre & Bar

263 W. Washington St. • 706-546-0039

flickertheatreandbar.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Art. **THE LOOK:** There is no shortage of entertainment at this cozy townie destination. Most nights are booked with live music, comedy shows, film screenings, art receptions, poker, poetry readings or open-mic events. Watch the show or commune with friends on sunken in couches and upholstered chairs. **DRINKS:** Seasoned bartenders serve from a good selection of beer and cocktails including The Jackie O (pink, fruity rum drink), The JFK (lime Cuban daiquiri) and made-from-scratch Bloody Marys. Order The Happy Meal (shot of Jameson and a PBR) for an inexpensive combination. Coffee, snacks and free popcorn, too. \$

Food for the Soul

1965 W. Broad St. • 706-546-0052

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tu.–Fri. & Sun. **THE LOOK:** Humble eatery with a self-service buffet. **MENU:** Soul food staples that rotate daily, like pork chops, fried chicken livers, macaroni & cheese and country fried steak. Pair a meat and two sides for a hearty meal, or take advantage of the all-you-can-eat buffet. \$

Fox's Pizza Den

2971 Monroe Hwy., Watkinsville • 678-661-0220

foxspizzaoconee.com/

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Family-friendly pizzeria. **MENU:** Create your own pizza with eight meats, 13 vegetables, four cheeses and six sauces to choose from. Whole wheat and gluten-free dough available. Specialties include pies inspired by tacos, bacon double cheeseburgers, baked potatoes and gyros. In lieu of pizza, head for a stromboli, hoagie, salad or pasta. Self-serve frozen yogurt, too. \$

Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers

1791 Oconee Connector

freddysusa.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches Burgers & Chicken, Ice Cream and Smoothies. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Kansas fast-casual chain adds to the Epps Bridge-area offerings. **MENU:** Opening fall 2014, Freddy's serves steakburgers with butter-toasted buns, hot dogs with plentiful toppings, patty melts, grilled chicken sandwiches, chili cheese fries, onion rings and vanilla or chocolate custard customizable with an array of toppings and mix-ins. \$

Fresh Air Bar-B-Que

5170 Atlanta Hwy., Bogart • 770-725-5227

1110 Hull Rd. • 706-546-6060

freshairbbq.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Buffet (Hull Rd.), Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days (Atlanta Hwy.). Lunch & Dinner, Wed.–Sat. (Hull Rd.). **THE LOOK:** Classic, old-time country BBQ joint. The original location opened in 1929 in Jackson, GA. **MENU:** Plates of chopped pork BBQ sandwiches, chicken tenders and ribs with traditional Southern sides like Brunswick stew, baked beans, coleslaw, french fries and chips. Even large appetites can be satiated with the all-you-can-eat pork plate option. Banana pudding for dessert. The Wednesday through Friday all-you-can-eat lunch buffet at the Hull Road location offers a different meat entree each day. \$

Fuzzy's Taco Shop

265 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-0305

fuzzystacoshop.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outdoor Seating, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. Late Night,

Th.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** A brightly colored Texas-based chain with a large outdoor patio and several TVs to watch sports games. **MENU:** Breakfast burritos, huevos rancheros and migas (eggs scrambled with chorizo and pico de gallo) are served all day. Burritos, tacos and enchiladas come stuffed with your choice of fish, beef, pork, chicken or veggies. Also offering quesadillas, tamales, salads and fajitas. **DRINKS:** Cool off with a daiquiri, giant margarita or Mexican lager. If you're torn between liquor and beer, they offer margaritas with a beer inverted in it. \$

The Garden Grille

390 E. Washington St. • 706-353-6800

hiltongardeninnathens.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Buffet, Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Full service restaurant situated inside of the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel. **MENU:** Breakfast can be cooked to order or assembled from the buffet. Steaks, burgers, pasta, salads and other all-American staples for dinner. \$

Genco Import Co.

246 E. Clayton St. • 706-354-0203

gencobar.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **THE LOOK:** Inspired by The Godfather, this narrow bar is furnished with many mirrors, a marble bar and wooden accents. **DRINKS:** Multiple draft beers and a wide selection of bottled beers, including a few high-gravity and craft brews, to choose from. Specials on liquor shots and beer throughout the week. Try a specialty house drink such as the Scooby Snack or a made-from-scratch Bloody Mary. A few wine options, too. \$

General Beauregard's

164 E. Clayton St. • 706-543-8201

facebook.com/generalbeauregards

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** An antebellum-themed bar decked out in Confederate regalia and pre-Civil War stylings, complete with massive framed mirrors, a glittering chandelier, flags, rocking chairs and leather sofas. **DRINKS:** The signature Dixieland Tea (Kentucky bourbon and sweet tea served in a mason jar with a lemon slice) stays true to the bar's theme. Pair a beer, which are predominantly of the light and cheap variety, with complimentary peanuts. \$

George's Lowcountry Table

2095 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-548-3359

georgeslowcountryonline.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Weekend Brunch, Live Music, Reservations, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 Days. Weekend Brunch. **THE LOOK:** White tablecloths, attentive service and a nice but calm patio and bar transcend the shopping center location. **MENU:** There are accents of New Orleans cuisine incorporated within the focus on the food of the South Carolina coast. You'll find many a standard like crawfish étouffée, shrimp and grits, sherry crab bisque and fried chicken. Steaks, peel-and-eat shrimp and oysters raw, fried or chargrilled can help you make a bigger night of it, and the basket of warm cheddar biscuits that precedes your meal says "hospitality." **DRINKS:** Wines from all over, by the glass and the bottle, join a small selection of beers and signature cocktails that can be as simple as "The George" (Dewar's and water) or as frou-frou as the St. Charles (Oneoq Raspberry Vodka, raspberry liqueur and prosecco). \$\$\$

Georgia Bar

159 W. Clayton St.

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Quintessential dive bar fueled by locals since 1986. Compete with the regulars at an arcade game or in a round of pool inside. **DRINKS:** All the usual suspects behind the bar, including eight drafts, with several local brews in the mix. Free peanuts to munch on while you drink. \$

Gigi's Cupcakes

296 W. Broad St. • 706-208-7879

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-208-3727

gigiscupcakesusa.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Gluten-Free Options. **HOURS:** Open 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Cupcake bakery

franchise with friendly order-at-the-counter service. **MENU:** A total of 80 varieties of freshly-baked cupcakes, with a dozen options daily. Eclectic flavors include cherry limeade, chocolate chip cookie dough, blueberry lavender, chocolate salted caramel, Kentucky bourbon pie and peanut butter cup. Gluten-free cupcakes are available on Fridays and Saturdays. A few flavors of mini cheesecakes can be found here, too. \$

Girasoles

24 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-310-0410

girasolesfusion.wordpress.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Reservations, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tu.–Fri. Dinner, Sat. Sunday Brunch Buffet. **THE LOOK:** Fine dining situated in downtown Watkinsville. **MENU:** A fusion of Italian, Mexican and French cuisines. Order a few tapas to best experience the variety of flavors. Entrees include a sirloin with a blueberry balsamic glaze, rack of lamb roasted with a rosemary demi-glace and pork loin scallopini marinated in apple brandy cream sauce. Chef Jose Zambrano is known to honor requests for dishes not on the menu. During brunch, you'll find made-to-order omelets, a carving station, waffle and pancake bar and homemade desserts. Daily specials. \$\$\$

The Globe

199 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-4721

facebook.com/globe.athens

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Pubs from across the pond are the model here. An exposed brick interior, comfy couches, rocking chairs and a large mural depicting brewing scenes create a charming and relaxed atmosphere. The second floor is a popular destination for soccer fans. **MENU:** Popular pub cuisine like fish and chips, the Globe burger, a tandoori chicken sandwich and spicy vegan chili. Sunday brunch consists of croissant sandwiches, steak and eggs, fritattas and French toast. Finish any meal or accompany your drink with a slice of their legendary red velvet cake. **DRINKS:** Discerning drinkers will be pleased to find a vast selection of around 80 beers, 60 wines and 40 single-malt scotches at the big brass bar. \$

Go Bar

195 Prince Ave. • 706-546-5609

facebook.com/go.bar.35

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outdoor Seating. **THE LOOK:** An intimate space with a funky aesthetic complete with a disco ball, circular mirrors and silver walls. A large outdoor patio area enshrouded in blue lights offers a break from the entertainment inside. Many nights are spent with DJs, live bands, karaoke, open-mic and drag performances. **DRINKS:** No draft beers, but plenty of bottled brews, cocktails and shots to keep the dance parties fueled. \$

Golden Chick

7990 Macon Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-705-1655

goldenchick.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Catering, Drive-Thru. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** New location of a Texas-based fried chicken restaurant with over 100 franchises throughout the region. **MENU:** Fried or roasted chicken, tenders, fried catfish and chicken salad sandwiches. Make it a meal with a yeast roll, drink and choice of side (battered fries, mac & cheese, corn on the cob, dirty rice, fried okra). Big family meals or small kids' meals available. \$

Golden Dragon

126 Alps Rd. • 706-552-1688

athensgoldendragon.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Buffet, Delivery, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Spacious restaurant located in a shopping center. **MENU:** Tons of familiar Chinese options like fried rice, chow mein, lo mein and egg foo young offered with beef, chicken, pork, shrimp or vegetables. An inexpensive and massive all-you-can-eat lunch buffet offers 300 items daily, including sizzling rice soup, Mandarin ribs, sweet and sour pork, sesame chicken, and Mongolian shrimp. Dragon Dinners can feed the whole family with combinations that can be shared by tables of two to 10 people. \$\$

Golden Sun Chinese Restaurant

4375 Lexington Rd. • 706-549-3388

goldensuninathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tu.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Pleasant dining within the Eastside Walmart shopping center. **MENU:** Countless classic options of chicken, beef, pork, shrimp and veggies prepared every which way, including 30 chef specials (General Tso's chicken, spicy rainbow shrimp, Singapore beef and scallops). Call in advance for the Peking duck. Over 50 different lunch specials offer big portions at low prices and come with choice of soup, fried rice and an egg roll. A Lighter Fare section offers steamed MSG-free meals low in sodium. \$\$

Green Room

175 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-2439

greenroomathens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs. **THE LOOK:** A bar and venue regularly hosting up-and-coming performers in a more intimate setting than its sister bar, Georgia Theatre. **DRINKS:** Plenty of beers to choose from, plus a handful of non-alcoholic drinks. Try a specialty cocktail like the Beach House (Herradura Silver Tequila, triple sec, freshly squeezed lemon, lime and orange juice) or the Beast of Burden (bourbon, honey syrup, red wine, lemon juice, soda). Classic combos like the High 5 (Howdy of Jameson Irish Whiskey and a Miller High Life) make drinking on a budget easy. \$

The Grill

171 College Ave. • 706-543-4770

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer. **HOURS:** 24 hours, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Like Johnny Rockets minus the corporate feel. Lots of stuff to look at in the cases and lots of people to observe, especially late at night—early in the a.m. **MENU:** One of the best things about The Grill is its large array of vegetarian options, including veggie versions of burgers, hot dogs and BLTs, which doesn't mean those items are healthy. Everyone likes the crinkle-cut fries, which you should ask for with a side of feta dressing, and the big milk shakes made to order. Meat-eaters tend to opt for one of the many burgers. If you're there between midnight and noon, you can also get breakfast classics, including a tasty chicken biscuit. \$

Grindhouse Killer Burgers

1553 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-612-9327

grindhouseburgers.com

FILE UNDER: Burgers, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Two industrial-chic floors for burger eating and campy movies on the walls. **MENU:** Customize your own burger (beef, turkey, veggie), or try one of their signature specials, like the Grindhouse Style (American cheese, grilled onions, lettuce, pickles, grindhouse sauce) or Dixie Style (pimento cheese, fried green tomato, coleslaw, chipotle ranch). **DRINKS:** Solid number of domestics, imports and crafts, plus a few wines and house mixed drinks. Handmade milkshakes, with alcohol or not, complement the burgers and salads. Try a Puddin' Out (vanilla shake, banana liqueur, Pinnacle cake vodka, Nilla Wafers) or the Booty Shake (peach shake, peach liqueur, bird dog peach whiskey). \$\$

The Grit

199 Prince Ave. • 706-543-6592

thegrit.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Weekend Brunch. **THE LOOK:** One of the absolute musts in Athens, this vegetarian restaurant has converted many a meatatarian. Lots of local color, including regularly rotating art on the walls. **MENU:** If there's one required item that you order, it's the Golden Bowl, a heaping helping of brown rice tossed with double-fried tofu on which nutritional yeast mimics fried-chicken breading—also with veggies and cheese. It sounds like health food, and in some ways it is, but it's also a salty bowl of awesome flavor. The large menu includes Indian, Italian, Asian, Mexican and Middle Eastern dishes, and don't forget to check out the daily veggie board, which lets you put together a plate of deliciousness that could include dal, broccoli or squash casserole, macaroni and cheese, grits and greens or a fresh salad. Breakfast and brunch feature massive, tasty bur-

ritos, big plates of pancakes, omelets stuffed with veggies and more. The fresh-baked desserts, many of which are vegan, are some of the most popular in town. \$\$

Groucho's Deli

396 Baxter St. • 706-425-8868

grouchos.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A chain deli with booth seating, a large lunch counter and checkered floors. Floor-length windows keep the place bright and cheery. **MENU:** Specialty subs include the International Dip (turkey or ham heated and covered with Muenster cheese inside pumpernickel, served with your choice of dip), The Brown Moose (roast beef, provolone cheese, lettuce and Groucho's Formula "45" sauce) and The BLC Chicken Critter (grilled marinated chicken breast, bacon crumbs, cheese, lettuce and mayo). There are plenty of salads, vegetarian sandwiches and a selection of low-fat alternatives, too. \$

Gyro Wrap

175 E. Broad St. • 706-543-9071

gyrowrap.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** This casual café, located across from the UGA Arch, has been serving Athens for more than 30 years. Grab a stool at the bar to watch as your order is prepared on the open grill, or take a table outside for some great people-watching. **MENU:** Tortilla and pita wraps, salads and Phillies. The most sought out menu item is the signature Gyro Wrap, a grilled pita with hand-carved roast of beef and lamb with house z-sauce and lettuce. Pair it with hot curly fries and creamy feta dressing for a full meal. For a vegetarian meal, go for the falafel or hummus veggie wrap. \$

Half Moon Pub

301 E. Clayton St. • 706-208-9711

flanagansathens.homestead.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **THE LOOK:** Don't mistake this bar for the downstairs of its rowdier sister bar, Flanagan's. Once you walk down the steps to this cellar pub, you'll find a relatively mellow atmosphere. **DRINKS:** Several brews to choose from, including locals. Split any of the plentiful bottles of wine or enjoy a mixed drink over relaxed conversation. \$

Harry's Barbecue

2425 Jefferson Rd. • 706-353-7895

harrysbarbecue.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Clean and simple but a bit more upscale than most bbq places. **MENU:** Harry's recently changed its name from Harry's Pig Shop, perhaps to reflect the fact that it offers a lot more than just pork. You can also get a burger (beef or black bean), pulled chicken, BBQ tofu, fried green tomatoes, brisket Philly cheesesteaks, chicken salad sliders, several sandwiches made on a croissant (!), smoked wings and a side of marinated beets. You can also put together a classic pulled pork plate with baked beans and coleslaw. And you can get a beer with your bbq, a rare thing indeed. \$\$

Heirloom Cafe and Fresh Market

815 N. Chase St. • 706-354-7901

heirloomathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tues.–Fri. Dinner, Tues.–Sat. Weekend Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Charming farm-to-table restaurant in the heart of Boulevard barely shows its origins as a gas station converted into a lovely space with a great big patio. **MENU:** Dinner changes what's on the menu more than lunch, when you can usually get a Polk burger made with lentils and walnuts plus housemade hot sauce, a Screened Porch (pimento cheese on whole-grain bread; add bacon for \$3 extra) or Susie's Meatloaf Sandwich. The evening meal is more sophisticated and upscale in its offerings, which might include pan-seared redfish with a couscous salad and citrus-peach salsa or Country Captain made with Darby Farms chicken. Local providers are listed on a chalkboard. Brunch is always busy for good reason, with a big menu and finely executed classics. Lots of choices for vegetarians, vegans and others with diet restrictions. **DRINKS:** The new cocktails also

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change seasonally and incorporate fresh ingredients and some house-made stuff like a pear-infused vodka. Plenty of nice beer and wine choices, often at surprisingly good deals, are available, too. d sage) and the Strawberry Rhubarb Mojito (Sailor Jerry rum, Art of the age rhubarb, strawberries, mint and lime), as well as beer and wine. \$\$\$

Hendershot's Coffee Bar

237 Prince Ave. • 706-353-3050

hendershotscoffee.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Live Music, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 days. Lunch, 7 days. Dinner Thurs.-Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** A cool but warm multipurpose, welcoming space in The Bottleworks, with a popular patio and a garage door for when the weather is temperate. **MENU:** An assortment of coffees, tea, seasonal fruit smoothies and juices. Always a good selection of muffins, cookies, savory scones and bagels to pair with your drink. Items like chicken salad and feta-pimento cheese are prepared fresh daily. Sandwiches like pulled pork on an Angel Biscuit or Hot Vegetable (grilled portabello, zucchini, wilted spinach, fresh house ricotta plus balsamic reduction), salads and burgers, too. Breakfast sandwiches like bacon, egg and cheese on toast or biscuit. **DRINKS:** A good selection of craft beers on draft and in bottles plus wines and liquors for when the sun goes down. Combine the best of both worlds with a coffee cocktail. \$

Herschel's 34 Chicken & Ribs Kitchen

320 E. Clayton St. • 706-353-0334

herschelskitchen.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer, Carry Out, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** This Southern food spot is owned by Herschel Walker, Georgia native and former UGA football All-American and Heisman Trophy winner, whose #34 jersey is immortalized in the hearts of Georgia fans. So, naturally, there are five large-screen TVs where you can catch a game. **MENU:** All-American classics like smoked chicken, burgers, seafood, sandwiches and salads. Kitchen favorites include Mama's Chicken & French Toast (French toast

drenched in crème brûlée batter, layered with fried chicken tenders then drizzled with warm cinnamon syrup) and Herschel's Chicken & Ribs Combo. **DRINKS:** Pair your meal with one of 34 craft beers. \$\$

Hi-Lo Lounge

1354 Prince Ave. • 706-850-8561

hiloathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Vegetarian Friendly, Live Music, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, Tues.-Sun. **THE LOOK:** A beautifully recycled interior in an old red brick building right on the sidewalk. **MENU:** Hot dogs served six different ways. Sandwiches like the Czechwich (breaded eggplant or muenster cheese with roasted red pepper puree) and Toona Melt (vegetarian "tuna fish" salad made with jackfruit and white beans), Cincinnati-style chili and the "Ano Prosim," (Czech for "yes, please"): two breaded and fried triangles of muenster cheese. Kids menu, too! **DRINKS:** Full bar with interesting cocktails like the Clementine (Svedka Clementine vodka, elderflower liqueur, Blenheim's spicy ginger ale) and the N.O. Way (Templeton Rye whiskey, Herbsaint, Peychaud's bitters, lemon juice, sugar). \$

Hibachi Grill Supreme Buffet

2020 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-546-8777

hibachiathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Buffet. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Glammed up with chandeliers and neon lights, this restaurant features a huge buffet of over 300 items ideal for parties with picky eaters. **MENU:** Have a chef sear your choice of proteins and vegetables at the hibachi station. Aside from the typical choices of chicken, beef and shrimp, you can find clams, lobster, oyster and crab legs. Buffet tables are jammed. \$\$

Highwire Lounge

269 N. Hull St. • 706-543-8997

highwirelounge.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Trivia, Outside Seating, Art. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, Mon.-Sat. **THE**

LOOK: An upscale and intimate venue with handcrafted walnut booths, private side rooms and a stage frequently hosting live music. **MENU:** Tasty snacks like cayenne candied peanuts, Southern Smoked Gouda Grit Arancini, roasted red pepper hummus, cheese plates and turtle cheesecake. Pub food from its sister bar, Trappeze, is also available. **DRINKS:** High-end cocktails carefully crafted with small batch liquors and fresh ingredients like the Corduroy (Mcivor Scotch, mint, lime, apple cider, Blenheim's ginger ale) and the Palo Alto (Bellringer gin, grapefruit, and rosemary syrup). Ask about the seasonal selections. A plethora of craft beers and wine, too. \$

Hilltop Grille

2310 W. Broad St. • 706-353-7667

hilltopgrille.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Live Music, Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tu.-Sun. Dinner, Mon. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Cartoonist Jack Davis, a proud UGA alum, has family connections to this large yet cozy restaurant, meaning he created a large, original SEC-themed mural for it. The large patio hosts live music weekly. **MENU:** Hilltop takes Atlanta's now-departed Houston's as a model, meaning it focuses on American comfort cuisine and classics like bacon-wrapped shrimp, fried green tomatoes, blackened fish, salads big and small, steaks and massive, decadent desserts. **DRINKS:** From Casal Garcia vinho verde to California's Cannonball cabernet sauvignon, you can find a wine to suit your palate. Cocktails, too. \$\$\$

Hodgson's Pharmacy

1260 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-543-7386

hodgsonsr.com

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream. **HOURS:** Mon.-Fri, 9-6 p.m. Sat, 9-12:30 p.m. **THE LOOK:** This old-fashioned drug store, established in 1956, is a neighborhood hangout made popular by its famous ice cream counter. **MENU:** Choose from traditional flavors of Edy's ice cream in a cup or cone for just \$1, or mix it into a malt, shake or float. (And it's a modern, locally owned pharmacy, too.) \$

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homemade-catering.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly.

FEATURES: Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. **MENU:** Southern-influenced but refined and always beautifully presented. Ingredient-driven food made from scratch. Specializing in seasonally relevant menus that are thoughtfully crafted and conscientiously prepared. Enjoy lunch in the restaurant or purchase casseroles and take away meals like the Winner Winner Chicken Dinner (rosemary, garlic, and creole mustard roasted half chicken with your choice of 2 sides [1 pint of each]) or gulf shrimp and antebellum grits with tomatoes, garlic, onion, and bay. Check their Facebook page for daily lunch menu updates or to reserve a spot in their monthly supper club event. \$\$

HoneyBaked Ham Co. & Café

3690 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-613-8800

honeybaked.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. \$

Hot Thomas Barbecue

3753 Hwy. 15, Watkinsville • 706-769-6550

hotthomasbbq.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Checks. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tues.–Sat., Dinner, Fri.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Roadside country store with old-fashioned bottles and miscellaneous knick-knacks lining the walls. **MENU:** Simple yet popular BBQ fare. The smoky chopped pork with either a ketchup- or vinegar-based sauce anchors most plates, but the joint also offers ribs, chicken, hamburgers and chili dogs. Sides include slaw, mull and Brunswick stew. Slices of pecan or chocolate pie for dessert. \$

Ideal Bagel

815 W. Broad St. • 706-353-0005

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Vegetarian Friendly. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** New bagel bakery created as an offshoot of Luna Baking Co. **MENU:** In the morning, try a breakfast sandwich like the Cadillac (bacon, fried egg, cheddar, onion bagel) or the House Fish (bagel, cream cheese, tomato, onion, capers and choice of lox, pecan smoked salmon or smoked Georgia trout). Deli sandwiches at lunch include the Tresper (roast beef, pepper jack, red onion, peppers and spicy mayo on an onion kaiser) and the Gabby (roasted veggie, hummus, cucumber and feta on a ciabatta). \$

Ike and Jane

1307 Prince Ave. • 706-850-1580

90 Carlton St. (Georgia Museum of Art) • 706-542-4662

ikeandjane.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days, Dinner Thu.–Sat. (Normaltown), Open Tues.–Fri. (Museum). **THE LOOK:** Extreme cuteness in Normaltown with some nice tables outside. Satellite location under the stairs at the Georgia Museum of Art on the UGA campus. **MENU:** Breakfast features sandwiches and biscuits both veggie (soyagel) and non (bacon, etc.), plus quiche and other options. Lunch is a soup, sandwich and salad affair, with sandwiches made on Luna bread. Creative doughnuts topped with crushed Butterfingers, Lucky Charms and the like (The Elvis features peanut butter, banana and bacon) plus other sweet treats are available in the case. Dinner (Ike @ Nite) is cash-only and accessed through a window in the side of the building, with burgers, hot dogs and \$1 desserts. The museum location has sandwiches, salads, yogurt parfaits, coffee drinks and sweets. \$

Independent Baking Company

1625 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-3550

independentbaking.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **HOURS:** Open Tue.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Artisanal bread and pastries in an efficient environment with a few counter seats. **MENU:** Mind-meltingly good croissants, perfect hand-shaped baguettes, pain de campagne, little semolina rolls, daily danish, morning rolls, biscotti, crisp cookies, scones that redefine the concept, Counter Culture coffee and more, all made daily with a relentless commitment to the highest possible quality and consistency, often with natural leaveners. Owner Thom

Leonard has literally written books on bread, and he can tell you exactly which wheat field supplied a given bag of flour. The whole team is both friendly and focused on their jobs, even very early in the morning. \$

Inoko Express

2061 Experiment Station Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-7088

3190 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-425-8828

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Quick counter service ideal for meals to go, but there's also plenty of room to dine in. **MENU:** A short and sweet menu of steak, chicken, shrimp and salmon prepared hibachi style or with teriyaki sauce. Entrees come with fried rice, vegetables and two sauces. \$

Inoko Japanese Steak House

161 Alps Rd. • 706-546-8589

inokos.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Reservations, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Sun.–Fri. Dinner, Sat. **THE LOOK:** Entertaining chefs show off their exceptional knife skills as they prepare your meal on a hibachi grill right at your table. **MENU:** Combinations of ribeye steak, filet mignon, chicken, shrimp, scallops and lobster dropped over rice and veggies and paired with onion soup, salad and a shrimp appetizer. Discounted menu offerings for college students and senior citizens. Smaller portions during lunch. Good selection of sushi on hand as well. \$\$\$

Inoko Sushi Express

2301 College Station Rd. • 706-546-5662

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Th.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Casual spot with speedy counter service and ample room to dine in. **MENU:** A few dozen varieties of sushi are available, including popular specialty rolls such as the Widespread Roll (fried zucchini, masago, tuna, eel sauce) and Rainbow Roll. Teriyaki dinners (including mango or pineapple chicken, shrimp, tofu and filet mignon) come with a side salad and steamed or fried rice. \$

Insomnia Cookies

228 E. Clayton St. • 877-632-6654

insomniacookies.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Until 3 a.m., 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A cookie franchise that stays up as late as you do. Swing by the store or have goodies delivered directly to your door. **MENU:** A dozen types of cookies (double chocolate mint, snickerdoodle, s'mores, chocolate peanut butter cup) and brownies can be customized with candy and nut toppings. Create a cookiewich or have your dessert a la mode. \$

Iron Factory

255 W. Washington St. • 706-395-6877

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Asian, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Live Music. **HOURS:** Dinner and late-night 7 days. **THE LOOK:** The former Farm 255/Echo space downtown remains inviting and open, with one of the best patios in town and new karaoke rooms converted from retail space next door. **MENU:** The team that brought you Shokitini has introduced Korean bbq to Athens, with individual cook-tops built into each table. Pick your proteins and veggies and be willing to take the advice of the servers until you know what you're doing. Seafood pancakes, kimchi dumplings, bulgogi (bbq beef), spicy pork belly, short ribs and more, plus live music on the patio late at night and cocktails made with makgeoli, a Korean rice-based alcohol. \$

J & J Flea Market

11661 Hwy. 441 N. • 706-613-2410

jandjfleamarket.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Cash Only. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Sat.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Various spots around the premises of Georgia's biggest flea market serve up snacks to keep you fueled while bargain hunting. **MENU:** The usual BBQ fare of pulled pork sandwiches and traditional sides. Pizza and Mexican food dominate the rest of the options. \$

J. Christopher's

1650 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-3520

jchristophers.com

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast and Lunch, 7 days. **FEATURES:** Outdoor Seating, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** Two big, light

rooms filled with booths, tables and bright art, plus a long, low bar for individual seating. **MENU:** The Atlanta-based breakfast chain does a few lunchier items, but mostly it's eggs, pancakes, potatoes and pork. Try the Huevos Avocado English Muffin (avocado, pico de galla, melted mixed cheese and a pair of poached eggs, topped with sour cream and served with black beans). Healthy options abound, but you can also get a plate of steak and eggs or a skillet of eggs, potatoes, sausage and gravy. Lots of choices for kids, and giant cups of coffee. \$

Jason's Deli

140 Alps Rd. • 706-425-4950

jasonsdeli.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Family-friendly deli with counter service, an impressive salad bar and lots of tables. **MENU:** A large selection of subs, paninis, wraps, muffalettas, pasta, soups and salads, with plenty of vegetarian, gluten-sensitive and health-conscious options. There is no use of MSG, high-fructose corn syrup or trans fat. Take on the all-you-can-eat salad bar for unlimited veggies. Free soft-serve ice cream, too. \$

Jerzee's Sports Bar

420 E. Clayton St. • 443-798-0999

jerzeessportsbar.net

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Sports bar by day, dance club by night. This huge space features over 20 HDTVs and another six projection screens for catching a game or watching music videos. **MENU:** All-American staples like burgers, subs, wraps and wings, plus lots of appetizers like potato skins, jalapeño poppers, mozzarella sticks, chicken fingers and fries. Bar food is available long after the kitchen closes. **DRINKS:** Ten beers on draft and many more in bottle. \$\$

Jimmy John's Gourmet Subs

600 Baxter St. • 706-613-0500

2301 College Station Rd. • 706-543-5411

jimmyjohns.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru (Baxter), Delivery, Catering, Outside Seating (Baxter). **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Sandwich assembly counter service. **MENU:** Two dozen sandwiches in various sizes. Depending on your appetite, choose a Plain Slim, an 8" sub sandwich, a Giant Club or the J.J. Gargantuan. As a low-carb option, JJ Unwiches are made with lettuce wraps instead of bread. \$

Jittery Joe's Coffee

UGA Miller Learning Center • 706-549-2124

27 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-769-4280

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-354-8000

1480 Baxter St. • 706-548-1099

1230 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-208-1979

297 E. Broad St. • 706-613-7449

1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-354-8900

jitteryjoes.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru (Baxter St., Greensboro Hwy. & Epps Bridge), Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Vary by location. Open 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Each location of this Athens-based franchise is different from the other, but all share an atmosphere of warm colors, comfortable seating, local art and a distinctly Athens flavor. **MENU:** Locally micro-roasted coffees from around the world. Wide range of hot drinks like the infamous Crackacino (four shots of espresso and frothed milk), flavored mochas and premium teas. Cool down with an iced coffee, Fruit Freeze or Frosty Joe. Locally baked goodies like bagels, giant brownies, parfaits, scones and muffins. Sandwiches and calzones at some locations. \$

The Tasting Room at Jittery Joe's Roasting Company

425 Barber St. • 706-227-2161

jitteryjoes.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** 7 days. **THE LOOK:** An old Quonset hut. Industrial-strength coffee-roasting equipment, tables inside and out, used bicycles for sale. **MENU:** Fresh-roasted beans by the pound—whole or ground to your specs—cups of coffee, teas and shots of espresso. Home base for the ubiquitous local brew. \$

Johnny's New York Style Pizza

1040 Gaines School Rd. • 706-354-1515

johnnypizza.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:**

Beer & Wine, Catering, Delivery, Outside Seating, Trivia, Wi-Fi.

HOURS: Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A Georgia-based franchise with a neighborhood pizzeria vibe. **MENU:** Features hand-tossed pizzas and 20 different hot-baked subs. Specialty pies include Johnny's Italian Special (sausage, mushrooms, onions, pepperoni, green peppers). Other options include wraps, salads, calzones, stromboli, wings and Italian classics like lasagna, eggplant parmigiana and spaghetti. \$

Journey Juice

1428 Prince Ave. • 706-850-0707

297 E. Broad St. • 706-850-2539

journeyjuice.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **HOURS:** 6 a.m.–8 p.m., 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Swing by this juicing operation for a quick meal to go. Knowledgeable staff members will gladly offer tips on how to plan a juice cleanse. **MENU:** Raw, organic, cold-pressed and unpasteurized fruit and vegetable juices. Nutritious drinks packed with vitamins and enzymes feature flavors like Beet Zinger (beets, apples, lemon, ginger), Veggie Town (beet, carrot, celery, cucumber, kale, parsley, romaine, spinach, lemon, cayenne) and Greens and Apple (apple, celery, cucumber, kale, parsley, romaine, spinach and lemon). \$

Juice Up: The Original Juice Cafe

283 E. Broad St. • 706-395-6684

juiceupcafe.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Vegetarian Friendly. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Locally owned, health-oriented, made-to-order juice bar. **MENU:** Fresh juices like the Sunny Side-Up (lemon, cucumber, orange, and pineapple) and the Hangover Helper (carrot, tomato, ginger). Healthy add-ons include maca, spirulina, hemp, chia, whey and acai. They serve wraps, too. \$

Junkyard Dawgs

1815 Commerce Rd. • 706-583-9124

facebook.com/jydwags

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Takeout. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** A former Huddle House with paneling and sports decor. **MENU:** The dogs are skinny, beefy and topped with yellow mustard and a fine-ground, mild chili. Slaw, cheese and more are available as other topping options. The basic combos come with french fries, thin cut, with much of the potato skin left on, and a Coke. The hamburgers come with a bunch of toppings on a thin patty in a soft bun wrapped in tinfoil. Whatever else you get, be sure to get the pork rinds. \$

Just Pho...and More

1063 Baxter St. • 706-850-1420

justphoandmore.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tu.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Family run Vietnamese eatery with sit-down service and local art gracing the walls. **MENU:** 15 varieties of pho (Vietnamese noodle soup) from which to choose, as well as other traditional dishes like com (rice plates with grilled meat), bun (vermicelli noodles over lettuce and bean sprouts) and banh mi sandwiches (specialty meats, pâté and veggies on French bread). Boba drinks (with tapioca balls) come in 15 flavors including taro, lavender and traditional Thai tea. Sinh To (fruit smoothies) come in durian, jack fruit and avocado. Other unusual drinks include an aloe juice drink and a grass jelly drink. \$

KEBA Spitfire Grill

1021 Jamestown Blvd., Watkinsville • 706-310-7222

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-543-8210

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-850-7285

kebagrill.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Drive-Thru (Watkinsville), Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Addictive sandwich shop established by German native Achim Reus. **MENU:** Specializes in the kebab, Germany's signature sandwich via the Middle East. European bread or a wrap is loaded with veggies and your choice of beef, chicken, pork, feta, falafel, corned beef or tuna. To make it a meal, add Belgian fries

and sauce (Spicy Chipotle, Roasted Red Pepper, Zesty BBQ and Creamy Feta, to name a few). Kids' meals include mini kebabs. Gelato for dessert. \$

Kelly's Jamaican Food

1583 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-208-0000

145 Epps Bridge Rd. • 706-369-5399

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Bright yellow and green interior filled with pictures of Jamaica and beachy decor. A covered patio is great for warm summer nights. **MENU:** Authentic Jamaican cuisine served quickly from steam trays. The menu changes often, but every plate is stacked with an entree (meats like jerk chicken, oxtail, curry goat, BBQ ribs and more) and comes with two vegetarian-friendly sides (spicy cabbage, fried plantains, macaroni and cheese), sweet cornbread and a sweet tea. \$\$

Kiki's Bake Shop

20 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-769-6766

facebook.com/pages/kikis-bakeshop

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Take Out. **HOURS:** Open 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mon-Fri, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sat. **MENU:** Kirsten Bradford, a pastry chef who previously worked at The National, bought The Granary and has refocused its offerings, reducing the store aspect and increasing the number of baked good available. She makes fresh breads (loaf-style, baguettes, bagels), muffins, scones (sweet and savory), cinnamon rolls and sweets from cheesecake to bar desserts, cupcakes, layer cakes and cookies. The deli case holds pimento cheese, chicken salad, tuna salad and hummus, all made fresh in-house. \$\$

Krimson Kafe

40 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-310-0888

krimsonkafe.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Art. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Friendly small-town café down the road in Watkinsville. **MENU:** Classic, simple menu offering a selection of homemade soups, salads and deli sandwiches. Build your own sandwich or try a Mocha Bird (smoked turkey, roast beef, Swiss-American cheese) or Vanamonster (thinly sliced corned beef with Swiss-American cheese, honey mustard and sauerkraut). Chicken salad, egg salad, ham salad and pimento cheese are all homemade daily. Vegetarian options include the Brock (seven veggies, hummus, spicy mustard and Swiss on wheat toast), hummus wrap, veggie burgers and a triple-decker PBJ. \$

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

3703 Atlanta Hwy., Bogart • 706-208-0628

krispykreme.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Drive-Thru, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** 5:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Sun.–Th. 5:30 a.m.–11 p.m., Fri.–Sat. \$

Kumquat Mae Bakery Café

18 Barnett Shoals Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-1105

kumquatmaebakery.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Live Music, Outdoor Seating, Catering, Art, Gluten-Free Options. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Tues.–Sun. Dinner, Fri.–Sun. Closed on Monday during the summer. **THE LOOK:** This cute bakery nestled in Watkinsville often stays open on Friday and Saturday nights for live music, open-mics and other special events. **MENU:** Pancakes, omelets, eggs Benedict and breakfast sandwiches are served all day. The bakery's case is always stocked full of fresh bagels, muffins, cupcakes and scones. For lunch, a menu offering burgers, salads, daily soups and sandwiches served on housemade breads. Plenty of vegan and gluten-free options, too. \$

La Dolce Vita

323 E. Broad St. • 706-353-3911

ladolcevitaathens.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Reservations, Catering. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** The entrance can be a little hard to find, but look just to the right of Etienne, then brave the narrow staircase to find a pretty room with nice second-story views of North Campus. **MENU:** Yes, you can get

red sauce and pasta here, but the real specialties are in items like carpaccio (thinly sliced raw beef or tuna) and other items on the menu that focus on fresh, light ingredients. If you want to do it up right, you can start with insalata, continue with a pasta or risotto from the primi, treat yourself to a more protein-heavy entree from the secondi and finish with classic desserts like tiramisù or cannoli. The wine list is largely Italian, and the bartenders are happy to mix you a wine-based aperitivo based on prosecco. Family Sundays are priced per person, not dish, with a minimum of five people (reservation required), and a \$25 three-course prix fixe is offered for early diners Monday through Saturday. \$\$\$

La Estrella

400 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-353-8557

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Wed.–Mon. **THE LOOK:** Murals of a mariachi guitarist and sea creatures decorate the walls of this friendly spot located in a small shopping center. **MENU:** This restaurant specializes in authentic Mexican seafood dishes like the Mojarra Frita (whole fried fish), but has plenty of typical south-of-the-border fare, too, like chimichangas and the Pollo Monteray (grilled chicken breast covered with ranchero sauce and cheese). \$\$

La Fiesta

1395 College Station Rd. • 706-549-5933

athens-lafiesta.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Live Music, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Eastside location with colorful decor and a large covered outdoor patio. **MENU:** Popular Mexican fare like burritos, enchiladas, fajitas, taquitos, nachos, tacos and quesadillas. Special entrees include the Torta Fiesta, chipotle shrimp, chile relleno and carne asada. If indecisive, select a combination entree for a sampling of several items. **DRINKS:** Margaritas come in a variety of flavors including lime, strawberry, mango, peach and pina colada. Ten different Mexican beers to complement your meal. A few domestics and house wines, too. \$\$

La Puerta del Sol

1254 Cedar Shoals Dr. • 706-355-7087

lapuertadelsol.net

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Outdoor Seating, Beer and Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, Tue-Sun. **THE LOOK:** Bruno Rubio, owner of Cali 'N Titos, has been working on this much larger restaurant for years. Having opened this summer, at long last, it features outdoor spaces, plenty of greenery and his unique design sense. **MENU:** You can get many of the offerings at Cali 'N Tito's here, but also some things you can't. Once upon a time, Rubio also had a delicious chicken restaurant, and some of those dishes have made it over to LPDS. Lomo saltado (beef, fries, tomatoes, red onions), ceviche, pasta (popular in Peru due to Italian immigrants and often featuring seafood) and more will fill your belly. \$\$

La Rosita

840 Hull Rd. • 706-543-5453

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A taqueria and terteria housed inside a gas station. **MENU:** Traditional Mexican fare like giant tortas, tacos, tostadas, fajitas, nachos, burritos, chimichangas and seafood options. \$\$

Larry's Giant Subs

1720 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-227-7298

larryssubs.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Popular Florida-based franchise with over 60 locations around the Southeast. **MENU:** Hot or cold subs, NY deli sandwiches, Italian hoagies, Philly cheesesteaks and salads. Customize your own, or try The New York Special (black Angus roast beef, melted provolone) or Kong's Club (ham, roasted turkey, bacon, veggies). \$

Last Resort Grill

184 W. Clayton St. • 706-549-0810

lastresortgrill.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days.

Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** There's plenty to look at in the restaurant's different dining spaces, accented with exposed brick walls, local art and floral arrangements. **MENU:** Last Resort's Southern-meets-Southwestern menu is popular with all types, heavy on veggies but with plenty of choices for pescatarians and meat-eaters. The daily ravioli special, the burger with goat cheese and bacon, the fried green tomato sandwich and the Carolina crab cakes are all good choices at lunch. Dinner ups the ante some, with entrees like pecan-crusted blue trout, stuffed chicken breast, salmon and grits and pasta with mushrooms, okra and capers. Brunch is always jammed, and the big refrigerated case is filled with a huge selection of cakes and cheesecakes. **DRINKS:** The bar trends American, with vodkas, gins and vermouths all made-in-U.S.A., but you can also get armagnac, ice wine, madeira and nice sherries, plus choose from a big selection of wines by the bottle. \$\$\$

Lindsey's Culinary Market

1238 Prince Ave. • 706-353-0558

lindseysculinarymarket.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** 9 a.m.–5:30 p.m., Mon.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** Quaint café in Normaltown run by chef Lindsey Payne. **MENU:** Simple biscuit sandwiches and grits for breakfast. Homemade soups, sandwiches and salads for lunch, with lots of daily specials. Freshly baked sweets include brownies, rosemary cookies, chocolate-dipped macaroons. Take home a ready-made frozen casserole such as Shrimp and Wild Rice, lasagna and Beef Burgundy. \$\$

Little City Diner

135 Cherokee Rd., Winterville • 706-742-7590

littlecitydiner.com

FILE UNDER: American, Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Sandwiches Burgers and Chicken. **HOURS:** Breakfast, 7 days. Lunch, Mon.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Sun-filled open space with small tables and art on the walls, in the heart of Winterville. **MENU:** An extension of Big City Bread, Little City Diner focuses on Southern cooking for breakfast, lunch and brunch. Sandwiches hot (burger, fried egg, tuna melt, grilled cheese) and cold (BLT, turkey club, ham and cheese) have careful details to recommend them. Daily blue plate specials come with two sides and a corn cake and might be meatloaf, fried chicken, chicken pot-pie and the like. Breakfast/brunch is just as sweet, with tremendous omelets, poached eggs with country ham and cornbread, veggie sauté and more. Baked goods, including stellar apple pie, are available from the case, and ingredients are far more local, seasonal and responsible than the norm. \$

Little Italy

125 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-7100

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** This no-frills NY-style pizzeria right in the middle of the downtown action makes a great spot for late-night revelers and low-key lunchers. **MENU:** Choose your own toppings and order by the slice or by the pie. Big subs, antipasti, salads, stromboli and calzones, too. Everything, including pitchers of beer, is priced for the penny-pincher but without sacrificing taste or plentiful quantity. \$

Little Kings Shuffle Club

223 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-369-3144

facebook.com/lkshuffleclub

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Trivia, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** This bar, a favorite of the townie crowd, has floor-to-ceiling windows, exposed brick walls and lots of local charm. A busy schedule full of live music, DJs, salsa, trivia and drag performances. The large outdoor patio features a painted RV, plenty of seating and is perfect for games of cornhole and summer dance parties. **DRINKS:** A wide variety of bottled beers, plus two local beers and two rotating seasonal drafts on tap. Specialty drinks include The Big Apple (Zubrowka Bison Grass Vodka and organic apple juice), The Basil Lemonade (organic basil-infused vodka and lemonade) and Spicy Tequila Beer (organic tequila, fresh jalapeño, lime juice, agave nectar and ginger beer). During winter months, cozy up with a Hot Toddy or a Hot Peach (peach vodka and cranberry juice). Wines, too. Indulge your sweet tooth with gummy bears at the bar. \$

Locos Grill & Pub

2020 Timothy Rd. • 706-549-7700

1985 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-208-0911

locosgrill.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Curbside Pick-Up (Timothy Rd.), Delivery, Live Music (Timothy Rd.), Trivia, Catering, Wi-Fi, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A local chain with a classic American pub atmosphere. Since its inception 26 years ago, Locos has spread its roots to more than a dozen locations throughout the Southeast. **MENU:** Deli sandwiches like the Cuban, Looney Bird (smoked turkey, Swiss, lettuce, tomato and mayo on an onion roll) or The Crazy Club (ham, turkey, bacon, American cheese, lettuce, tomato and mayo on three decks of toasted wheat) and burgers like the Bayou, Redneck Deluxe, BBQ Bacon Cheddar and the El Dorado (American cheese, onion rings, bacon, lettuce, tomato, mayo, pickles and a fried egg), are the anchor. Sub a veggie patty or chicken breast on any of the specialty burgers. Lots of other options like salad, wings, chicken tenders, steak and Southwestern snacks. **DRINKS:** Fully stocked bar with inexpensive domestic beer available in pitchers or by the glass. \$\$

Logan's Roadhouse

3668 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-227-9890

logansroadhouse.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$

Longhorn Steakhouse

2170 W. Broad St. • 706-548-0054

longhornsteakhouse.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$\$

Los Reyes Mexican Restaurant

1880 Hwy. 29 N. • 706-227-8308

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Clean, simple eatery housed in an unassuming gas station. Order at the counter and then take a seat in any of the booths. **MENU:** A large menu of authentic Mexican fare. Simple, tasty and extremely affordable tacos are filled with cilantro, onions and choice of fish, al pastor, barbacoa or lengua. Try a torta, carne asada or the Burrito Los Reyes stuffed full of chicken, shrimp, rice and veggies. \$

Lumpkin Café

1700 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-543-3122

lumpkincafe.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** This big old stone cottage in Five Points houses a variety of nooks for lunching plus a beautiful semi-covered patio in front. **MENU:** Open since the late 1980s, Lumpkin Café serves a simple menu that rarely varies and a daily special that always does. You can rely on finding salads (Oriental, tossed with chow mein noodles, chicken or steak and Thai peanut dressing; taragon chicken), sandwiches (veggie melt, marinated steak) and crepes (ratatouille, spinach or one of each). Soups switch out often, and you can get anything to-go. \$

Madison Bar & Bistro

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0430

indigoathens.com/madison

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Outside Seating, Live Music, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Enjoy a peaceful after-work drink or an elegant dinner at this chic spot located inside Hotel Indigo. Take a seat at the full service bar, at a dining table, in the intimate lounge or on the outdoor patio near the firepit. A dog-friendly Canine Cocktail Hour is held weekly. **MENU:** Snack on a starter such as a local cheese and honey plate or low country shrimp and crab dip. Entrees include Chicken Rockefeller (chicken breast stuffed with spinach, feta & cream cheese; served with mashed red potatoes & squash casserole) or a brie and peach chutney panini. For breakfast, build your own frittata or enjoy a bagel from the local bakery, Ike & Jane. **DRINKS:** A long list of wines, premium spirits and beers. Specialty drinks abound, including La Grande Jatte (Hendricks rose and cucumber infused gin, St. Germain elder flower liqueur, sparkling water and cilantro) and the Starry Night (Van Gogh banana vodka, coconut rum, pineapple and orange juice). \$\$



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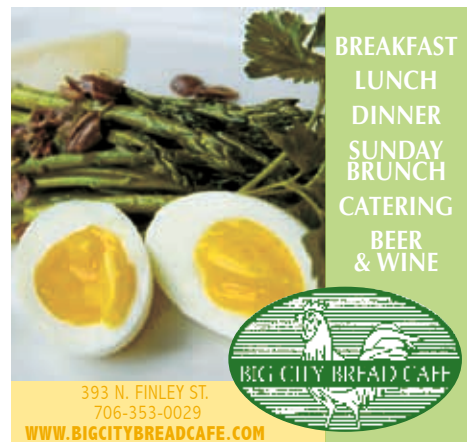
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Magnolias

312 E. Broad St. • 706-543-0797

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Spacious two-story bar with classic Southern charm. Simple touches such as magnolias on an overhead trellis, little white lights and dark wood accents create a refined yet casual atmosphere. Pool tables upstairs. Sports games projected on multiple large screens. **DRINKS:** The usual array of brews behind the bar, plus daily deals on domestics and wells. For something refreshing, try an Absolut peach tea or Stoli strawberry lemonade. \$

Main Moon Restaurant

2061 Experiment Station Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-8686

FILE UNDER: Asian. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Quick and casual counter-service is the focus. **MENU:** Over 100 variations of popular Chinese dishes like chow mein, stir fry, fried rice, lo mein and egg foo young. Chef specials include Mongolian chicken, Szechuan beef and Hunan shrimp. A Weight Watchers portion of the menu can aid customers to make decisions in line with their diets. \$\$

Mama Bird's Granola

909 Broad St., Suite 400 • 678-997-9647

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** 8:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m., Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** A source for locally grown produce and freshly baked treats. The shop additionally offers yoga and cooking classes. The industrial-sized kitchen can be shared—gain access through an application process found the website. **MENU:** Local produce, cheese, meat, bread, jellies and eggs as well as 1000 Faces coffee and treats like cookies, and muffins. Housemade granola flavors include Apple Bliss, Cran Bananza, Vanilla Chai and Ginger Coconut. \$

Mama Sid's Pizza

2240 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-549-6100

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** BYOB, Buffet, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Casual family-run pizzeria that has been open for more than 30 years of business. **MENU:** An all-you-can-eat buffet is perfect for pizza lovers with a large appetite and a small budget. Order off the menu for salads, subs, pasta, hot wings, calzones and more. \$

Mama's Boy

197 Oak St. • 706-548-6249

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Reservations, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, 7 days. Weekend Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Whether your party is big or small, old or young, Mama's Boy will easily accommodate you in its charming space that modernizes "Southern." Weekend brunch usually has a line out the door. **MENU:** Breakfast is served all day, and the Mill Town Breakfast Plate (two eggs any style, thick-cut bacon, cheese grits and a big buttermilk biscuit) is a good way to fuel up for the day ahead.

Scramblers cater to meat-eaters, vegetarians and vegans alike. If you want something (slightly) smaller, you can build your own breakfast sandwiches, and the Georgia peach French toast will satisfy your sweet tooth. Lunch options include fried chicken brined in sweet tea (of course), a pimento cheese burger and a fried green tomato sandwich. Tuesdays highlight pancakes. Strawberry lemonade and a house blend of Jittery Joe's are available among the drinks. \$\$

The Manhattan Café

337 N. Hull St. • 706-369-9767

Find us on Facebook
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, DJs. **THE LOOK:** A much-adored alternative spot beloved by Athens townies and long-time natives. The unique space is full of eclectic furniture, unusual art, a jukebox and random knick-knacks. **DRINKS:** The diverse line-up of drinks matches the creative atmosphere. The Manhattan (bourbon or rye, sweet vermouth, bitters) and the popular Blenheim's spicy ginger ale with Maker's Mark are favorites among many house specialties. Check the chalkboard for seasonal cocktails. Beers from both ends of the spectrum, wine and sake, too. Soak up the alcohol with munchies like White Castle burgers, Zapp's chips and complimentary popcorn. \$

Marker 7 Coastal Grill

1195 Milledge Ave. • 706-850-3451

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tu.–Sun. Dinner, Mon. **THE LOOK:** Right in the middle of Five Points, Marker 7 occupies a renovated historic house with a great all-weather deck shielded from the elements. **MENU:** Kind of an upscale seafood shack, despite Athens' landlocked location, Marker 7 does a great job capturing the feel of the coast in its menu and its atmosphere. Smoked salmon pimento cheese might sound weird, but it's tasty. Baskets of fried stuff (clam strips, artichoke hearts, oysters, calamari, crab balls) are great for nibbling before moving on to entrees like braised mahi mahi, shrimp and grits and seafood pasta. There are a few options for folks who hate seafood (a cheeseburger, pork tenderloin, grilled bbq chicken breast), plus a kids menu and desserts like Key lime pie and fried Oreos. \$\$

Marti's at Midday

1280 Prince Ave. • 706-543-3541

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** Take a seat in the cheery dining area, the sunroom or the front patio of this popular lunch destination, or grab something to go. **MENU:** Chef Marti Schimmel provides an array of gourmet Southern-style sandwiches, salads, snacks and sweets. Signature items include tarragon or curry chicken salad, pimento cheese, gumbo and mint sweet tea. The full portions are often enough to make two meals. For breakfast, a simple menu of homemade muffins, bagels and Jittery Joe's coffee. Several homemade frozen casseroles are also available for pick-up, including chicken and orzo pasta with sundried tomatoes and spinach, black bean enchiladas and chicken tetrazzini. \$\$

Max

243 W. Washington St. • 706-254-3392

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Huge space with three full bars, and a crowd so diverse you're sure to see someone you know. Enjoy the large outdoor patio and an impressive list of activities: pool tables, arcade games, pinball machines, a photo booth, Super Chexx hockey game, air hockey and darts. Max has expanded into "The Sideroom" next door, allowing for another full bar and an elevated stage for live bands. **DRINKS:** A good selection of bottled beer and always a few locals on draft. Stop by during "Beer o'Clock" for cheap drinks. Bartenders will gladly whip up cocktail requests from the fully stocked bars. \$

Mayflower Restaurant

171 E. Broad St. • 706-548-1692

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Cash or Checks Only, Delivery. **HOURS:** Breakfast, 7 Days. Lunch, Sun.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** Family-run Southern diner that has been a downtown institution for over 60 years. **MENU:** Country-style comfort food. Omelets, biscuits, hotcakes, steak, country ham and more for breakfast. Hearty lunch options rotate daily and include pot roast, fried chicken livers and lemon pepper tilapia alongside vegetables like fried okra, cabbage, sweet potato souffle and squash casserole. \$

Mell's Place

4648 Atlanta Hwy., Bogart • 706-548-0830

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Cash Only, Music. **THE LOOK:** Established in 1952, this country roadhouse is one of the oldest bars around. Karaoke, pool, keno games and line dancing nights are held frequently. **DRINKS:** A selection of the usual bottled domestics and classic cocktails. \$

Mellow Mushroom

320 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-0892

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Outside Seating, Trivia, Gluten-Free Options. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A colorful and bustling place with giant mushrooms, high ceilings and sports games on the TVs. **MENU:** Pizza is the focus here, with a wide selection of specialty pies like the Kosmic Karma (red sauce base, spinach, sundried and roma tomatoes, feta, mozzarella and a pesto swirl) and Thai Dye (olive oil and garlic base, curry chicken, mozzarella, tomatoes, basil, cucumbers and chili sauce). Salads, calzones, hoagies and munchies, too. **DRINKS:** A wide-ranging selection of 40 beers on tap includes many regional, craft and high-gravity brews. More than 25 other bottled beers, as well wine and liquor. \$\$

The Melting Point

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-254-6909

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Reservations, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 days. **THE**



Look: Elegant, multi-tiered music venue at the Foundry Park Inn that serves food to concert-goers, hotel guests and the general public alike. **Menu:** Enjoy an intimate concert with classed-up versions of traditional gastro pub fare. Burgers are either Black Angus or black bean with imaginative toppings. Sandwiches include hot roast beef. Shrimp and grits take it up a notch. For something lighter, ask for an "Opener" like Dips and Pita, with Southwestern black bean, pimento cheese, chipotle tequila avocado and more dips. **Drinks:** A wide selection of wines, scotches, microbrews and craft beers. Local brews on draft get a lot of attention on Terrapin Tuesdays. For something different, ask for a Georgia Julep (Bulleit, peach nectar, fresh mint, soda) or The Harvey (jalapeño vodka, mango vodka, pineapple). \$\$

Menchie's

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-850-8336
196 Alps Rd. • 706-208-7223
menchies.com

File Under: Ice Cream. **Features:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **Hours:** Open 7 Days. **The Look:** A brightly decorated interior with neon pink-and-green accents makes for a fun spot to hang out. **Menu:** Self-serve and pay-by-weight frozen yogurt. The lineup rotates often, but expect 14 flavors to choose from such as Cake Batter, Duce de Leche, Peachy Keen and Irish Mint. Load on the fresh fruit, nuts, cereal, candy and syrups. Options can accommodate food allergies, sensitivities and diets. \$

Mirko Pasta

1075 Baxter St. • 706-549-4552
2 S. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-310-1233
mirkopasta.com

File Under: Italian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **Features:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **Hours:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **The Look:** Athens-based, casual dining franchise created by Italian chef Mirko Di Giacomantonio. **Menu:** Create your favorite dish from 17 homemade pastas (apple, sage and sausage ravioli, potato gnocchi, spinach pappardelle) and 12 sauces such as Mare (mixed seafood in tomato sauce), Funghi (wild mushrooms, cream and parmesan) and Norma (tomato sauce, eggplant, ricotta and mozzarella). Add chicken, shrimp, sausage, salmon or meatballs for protein. There's also a handful of already put-together entrees (like Pollo Marsala and Lasagna Verde), salads, antipasti and desserts. Enjoy a complimentary white bean and olive oil dip with fresh bread while your meal is prepared. \$\$

Moe's Southwest Grill

1320 Baxter St. • 706-369-7776
moes.com

File Under: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **Features:** Catering, Outside Seating. **Hours:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **The Look:** "Welcome to Moe's!" greets you as you enter this colorful assembly line-styled eatery with plenty of seating. **Menu:** Southwestern fare prepared fresh to order with sustainability in mind. Burritos, tacos, quesadillas, nachos and salads are stuffed with your choice of grass-fed sirloin steak, all-natural chicken, ground beef, pulled pork or organic tofu and veggies. Free chips and five varieties of salsa with every meal. Mix up flavors of soda on the Coca-Cola Freestyle machine. \$

The National

232 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-549-3450
thenationalrestaurant.com

File Under: Something Different, Bars. **Features:** Reservations, Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **Hours:** Lunch, Mon.-Sat. Dinner, 7 Days. **The Look:** Clean and simple Spanish-influenced restaurant with one large, light-filled dining room and a great bar adjacent. **Menu:** If you want to impress someone at lunch, The National is a great way to go. Chef Peter Dale's menu features more casual and lower priced options than, but still focuses on refinement and light tastes. The power lunch, essentially a protein-focused veggie plate that bursts with color, is an especially great bang for your buck. Dinner ups the ante, with beautiful meat, poultry (try the harissa-rubbed yogurt-marinated chicken if it's on the menu) and fish options, plus an accommodating attitude toward vegetarians. The snacks, such as patatas bravas (Spanish fried potatoes with aioli and a spicy tomato dipping sauce), olives and boquerones (anchovies) are a fun way to pad out your meal. **Drinks:** An Enomatic wine system means the restaurant can offer a lot of interesting choices by the glass, and the bottle list is longer and deeper. You can get a beer, if you like,

but the cocktail list, which changes seasonally, is creative, well-crafted and sophisticated. You can order snacks at the bar, which stays open after dinner is over and offers occasional late-night dance parties. \$\$\$\$

New Earth Athens

227 W. Dougherty St. • 706-543-8283
blog.newearthmusicall.com

File Under: Bars and Clubs. **Features:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **The Look:** A large, environmentally conscious venue focused on being as sustainable as possible. Hang out by the bar or step onto the outdoor patio for a breath of fresh air. Newly re-envisioned as a community center, the venue now offers weekday yoga, cook-outs and special daytime events in addition to its nightly performances. **Drinks:** An organic bar offers planet-friendly libations in addition to healthy, non-alcoholic alternatives. Baked goods to snack on. \$

9d's Bar

400 Clayton St.
facebook.com/9dsbar

File Under: Bars and Clubs. **Features:** DJs/Live Music. **The Look:** This upstairs bar is decked out in memorable movie posters and always plays the 90s' greatest hits from 'N Sync to TLC. Dancing ensues. **Drinks:** A full bar with the usual spread of bottled beers. No drafts, but plenty of cheap domestics, tall boys and house shots to help you brave the dance floor. \$

NONA

279 E. Broad St. • 706-353-7065
neworleansnathens.com

File Under: Something Different, Bars. **Features:** Outside Seating, Reservations. **Hours:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days, Weekend Brunch. **The Look:** IN UPSTAIRS AND DOWNSTAIRS DINING ROOMS AND AT THE ORNATE BAR, NONA continues an Athens tradition in Creole and Cajun fine dining. **Menu:** Dishes inspired by the culinary traditions of Louisiana. Start out with Oysters Bienville, fried crawfish cakes or a cup of sherry crab soup. Specialties include Creole pork jambalaya, Seafood Courtbouillon (shrimp, oysters and fish simmered in a white wine and tomato broth, served over rice with a side of collard greens) and Bourbon Street Filets in five distinctive flavors: unadorned, pepper-crusted, covered in sauce, stuffed with blue cheese or topped with fried oysters. Ask about the fresh catch of the day. Save room for a dessert of crème brûlée or bourbon pecan pie. For brunch, order beignets with raspberry sauce, Crab Cakes Benedict or the NONA Omelette with sautéed andouille sausage, peppers, onion, cheese and Creole tomato sauce. **Drinks:** Six draft beers (always including a few locals), an extensive wine list and refreshing cocktails to choose from. New Orleans-inspired drinks include the Hurricane, Sazerac (whiskey, bitters, syrup, anisette) and Bourbon Milk Punch (bourbon, vanilla, half and half, confectioners' sugar and garnished with nutmeg). \$\$\$

Normal Bar

1365 Prince Ave. • 706-548-6186
facebook.com/normal.bar.7

File Under: Bars and Clubs. **Features:** Outside Seating. **The Look:** Cozy, laid-back neighborhood bar in the heart of Normaltown. The warm, wooden interior with the booths and dart board leads through to an adjacent listening room. Outside, you'll find a heated area in the winter and a dog-friendly, shaded patio in the summer. **Drinks:** Top-shelf liquors and cleverly crafted cocktails such as the American Mule (grapefruit juice, vodka and ginger beer) and Plata Fresco (cilantro infused tequila, lemon bitters, lime, simple syrup and soda). Fancy non-alcoholic drinks are also available such as The Bumble (lavender, lemon, honey and soda). A good list of beer and wine, too. Enjoy a bowl of housemade boiled peanuts alongside your drink. \$

Nowhere Bar

240 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-546-4742
facebook.com/nowherebarathens

File Under: Bars and Clubs. **Features:** Live Music. **The Look:** A downtown bar popular among locals and with those who newly discover it. Live bands every night, sounding better than ever on the new stage through the enhanced sound system. To the left, lamps shaped as Nascar racing cars hang above pool tables. To the right, you'll find the bar, several TVs and a stage decorated with posters and knick-knacks. Pick a song to play from the jukebox or play a game of darts. A full-service bar. **Drinks:** Eight

the

Pine

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beers on draft with all of the usual suspects behind the bar. Bartenders stay busy pouring shots and mixing drinks well into the night. \$

The Office Lounge

2455 Jefferson Rd. • 706-546-0840

facebook.com/officeathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Trivia, Karaoke, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** Tucked into a cozy corner of the Homewood Village Shopping Center, this lounge has a strong neighborhood bar vibe and opens early for the midday and after-work crowd. Hot spot for karaoke, pool, Keno and live music on the weekends. **DRINKS:** Sip on your favorite brew (a couple dozen beers in all) or a cocktail while munching on complimentary popcorn. Bartenders here claim to pour the strongest drinks in Athens. Easy enough to find out for yourself. Just drop by. \$

The Old Pal

1320 Prince Ave. • 706-850-4340

theoldpal.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Upscale sophistication amid wood and old brick with a relaxed atmosphere and a dog-friendly patio. **DRINKS:** Named after the famous cocktail, the bar features classic drinks along with local and craft brews. Many cocktails are prepared with seasonal ingredients and housemade syrups, tonics and sodas. \$

The Olive Garden

3666 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-227-2225

olivegarden.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$

Omega Bar

3155 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-338-1832

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs. **THE LOOK:** This night club with a large dance floor frequently hosts DJs, themed parties, Latin dance nights and "grown folks parties" with live jazz. **DRINKS:** All the usuals behind the bar with plenty of drink specials to keep the night going. \$

On the Border Mexican Grill & Cantina

3640 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-247-7290

ontheborder.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$

On the Rocks

255 E. Clayton St. • 706-354-6666

facebook.com/OnTheRocksAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **THE LOOK:** No-frills interior with mirrors lining exposed brick walls. **DRINKS:** No draft system or specialty cocktails, but plenty of cheap domestic beers, wells, shooters and margaritas. Check their Facebook for daily specials. \$

100 Proof

364 E. Broad St. • 706-850-8500

facebook.com/100proofathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A beach bar specializing in frozen drinks. A rooftop patio with a full service tiki bar and tall palm trees has a great view of downtown and campus. **DRINKS:** A dozen frozen drink machines offer brain-freezing beverages ranging from strawberry daiquiris to 190 Octanes. Plenty of shots and bombs to keep the party going into the wee hours of the night. \$

Outback Steakhouse

3585 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-613-6015

outbacksteakhouse.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Curbside Pick-Up. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$\$

Outtakes

1793 Oconee Connector • 706-355-9122

georgiatheatrecompany.com/university16.aspx

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A full service restaurant housed inside of the new, state of the art University 16 Cinemas. **MENU:** American fare like hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, pizzas and

salads. Visitors can view movies in a special dine-in auditorium with servers or pick up meals ahead of time to bring into the other theatres. \$

Panera Bread

3151 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-546-6812

panerabread.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$

Paul's Bar-B-Q

124 E. Main St., Lexington • 706-614-1843

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Checks. **HOURS:** Lunch Sat. & 4th of July. **THE LOOK:** An old store building filled with tables covered in red-and-white checked tablecloths, straight chairs and shelves with supplies. Third-generation local owners and some third-generation customers, too. Downtown Lexington, GA, 15 miles east of Athens on Hwy. 78. Park under the trees across the road. **MENU:** Nothing but slow-cooked, pulled-pork barbecue and ribs, with the traditional sides: stew, cole slaw, meaty baked beans, loaf bread, pickles and iced tea—sweet or not. Come early; stay awhile. This is barbecue the way it used to be. \$

Pauley's Original Crepe Bar

134 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-0034

pauleyscrepebar.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** European-inspired eatery that makes for a relaxed spot to eat during the day and a buzzing bar to drink in at night. The large TVs offer a great place to watch the big games. **MENU:** Over two dozen crepes. Try a savory Chicken Philly crepe, a BrieLT, Greek or Caprese—or build your own from the list of ingredients. Most crepe creations can be found on the menu as sandwiches, too. Satisfy your sweet tooth with Strawberry and Nutella or S'mores crepes. **DRINKS:** Over 150 beers including 28 on tap, with a wide selection of wines as well. To clear your palate or your head, try a Manmosa (champagne, OJ and vodka) from the full bar. \$

Peking Restaurant (Eastside)

1935 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-549-0274

facebook.com/PekingEastside

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Buffet, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Wed.—Mon. **THE LOOK:** Surprisingly elegant space with traditional and ornate decor located in an Eastside shopping center. This place has been serving Athens since the early 80s. **MENU:** Mandarin Chinese cuisine with the usual lo mein, chow mein, fried rice and egg foo young, plus a handful of Korean items. Ask for the special orange menu for a list of traditional and uncommon Szechuan dishes like fei teng fish, yu shing eggplant and kung pao chicken. Lunch specials (served with fried rice, soup and an egg roll) and the large buffet are good options for those trying to eat for cheap. \$\$

Peking Restaurant (Westside)

2725 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-549-9333

pekingathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Buffet, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.—Fri. & Sun. Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Resembles a large Chinese palace with an ornate interior that adds to the enjoyment of the experience. **MENU:** A giant selection of Szechuan, Hunan and Mandarin cuisine with favorites including a deep-fried red snapper with sweet and sour sauce, a roasted Peking duck served with Chinese pancakes and king crab stir-fried with snow peas, bamboo shoots and water chestnuts. Plenty of lo mein, chow mein, fried rice and egg fu yung dishes. Pre-set dinners based on the quantity of guests makes sharing dishes in large parties easy. The expansive weekday lunch buffet is all-you-can-eat and the best bang for your buck. \$\$

Peppino's

950 Whitehall Rd. • 706-613-1616

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tu.—Sun. **THE LOOK:** Family-friendly pizza parlor with quick order-at-the-counter service and big TVs to enjoy a slice while cheering on your favorite team. **MENU:** The standard NY-style staples: huge slices of thin-

and thick-crust pizza, calzones, subs (Italian sausage, Philly cheesesteak, eggplant parmigiana), stromboli, and a salad bar. Conveniently located between Watkinsville and Athens. \$

Picante's Mexican Grill

151 E. Broad St. • 706-353-8864

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.—Sat. **THE LOOK:** Downtown eatery across from the UGA Arch decked out with traditional decor. **MENU:** Affordable Mexican and Tex Mex favorites like burritos, tacos, quesadillas and fajitas. Try the Bulldog Burrito (chicken, spinach, mushrooms, cheese, rice and ranchera sauce). Daily specials offer items like a ceviche tostada and chorizo burrito verde. A full bar serves popular Mexican beers and margaritas in various flavors. \$

Piccolo's Italian Steak House

2061 Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsville • 706-705-1501

piccolositaliansteakhouse.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Refined yet comfortable dining with a large mural of Italian countryside spanning one wall. **MENU:** Fresh pasta made in-house using a hand-cranked pasta machine. Try timeless classics such as chicken marsala, linguine and clam sauce, fettuccini carbonara and veal saltimbocca. Hand-cut, black Angus steaks are fired on a Tuscan wood fired grill and offered in four styles: Tuscan (sea salt and cracked black pepper), Sicilian (bread crumbs, bacon bits, roma tomatoes and mozzarella), Au Poivre (cognac peppercorn cream sauce) and Marsala (mushrooms sauteed in sweet wine sauce). Sunday brunch features steak and eggs, fritatas, French toast, omelets and pancakes. Finish off your meal with a cannoli or the signature bread pudding of the day. \$\$\$

The Pine

1235 S. Millidge Ave. • 706-208-0059

thepineathens.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outdoor Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** The former Aromas has been renovated to highlight a wood-fired brick oven and knotty pine floors, with a cozy feel. **MENU:** Chef Jackie Burton teamed up with restaurateur Scott Parrish to open this New South restaurant. Progressive Southern fare featuring local produce and dishes made in the brick oven, cooked in cast-iron, are the focus. The bar will concentrate on small brewers, wine makers and distillers (all American, with the exception of the scotch) and craft cocktails. \$\$\$

Pita Pit

123 N. Jackson St. • 706-552-0051

pitapit.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, Mon.—Sat. Lunch & Dinner, Sun. **THE LOOK:** Assembly-line style café that offers a healthy alternative to typical fast food services. A few tables line the wall for anyone not on the go. **MENU:** Customize a light and tasty Lebanese-style pita filled with your choice of protein (chicken souvlaki, gyro, Black Forest ham, tuna, turkey, Philly steak, falafel, black bean patty), crisp veggies, cheese and signature sauces. Any pita can be prepared "fork style" as a salad. Breakfast pitas stuffed with eggs, bacon, hashbrowns and cheddar cheese are served around the clock when you want them. \$

Planet Smoothie

196 Alps Rd. • 706-316-3090

1993 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-353-8181

planetssmoothie.com

FILE UNDER: Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Vary by location. Open 7 days. \$

Plantation Buffet

1119 Martin Luther King Jr. Pkwy. • 706-353-3663

plantationbuffet.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Catering, Checks. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.—Fri. **THE LOOK:** Casual and family-oriented atmosphere. **MENU:** Good 'ole country cooking. The buffet rotates each day, but you can expect meats like fried chicken, steak and gravy, BBQ pork and meatloaf beside vegetables like BBQ beans, turnip greens, mashed potatoes, stew and candied yams. Don't forget the rolls, corn bread or hush puppies, and

save room for a homemade dessert (banana pudding, peach pie, coconut pudding). The buffet style means you can get your food and get to eating, quick. \$\$

Porterhouse Grill

459 E. Broad St. • 706-369-0990

porterhouseathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Outside Seating, Live Music, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Dinner, Mon.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Elegant, upscale dining on the edge of downtown. A 60-seat semi-private dining room is an ideal location for meetings, rehearsal dinners or exclusive occasions. **MENU:** The namesake steak, an 18-oz Porterhouse served with sautéed cremini mushrooms, is an obvious specialty. Other entrees include Chicken Saltimbocca, crab-stuffed tilapia with a lemon beurre blanc and sesame barbecued salmon topped with pineapple salsa. Lunch offers eight selections including a grilled salmon BLT and port wine beef tips for \$8.50 each. After your meal, indulge in a chocolate ganache tart or slice of seasonal cheesecake. On Sundays, an all-you-can-eat buffet features traditional Southern breakfast food, made-to-order omelets and pancakes, a carving station and three entrees selected by the chefs. **DRINKS:** A full bar with four beers on tap and a long list of wines. Treat yourself with a dessert wine or cognac. \$\$\$\$

Preserve

1660 W. Broad St. • 706-363-3783

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Itty-bitty space at Broad and Hancock, painted up cute. **MENU:** Housemade sausage and charcuterie, farmer's cheese, pickles, fancy sandwiches, "share-oriented" mains at dinner, French toast, vegan options and more, available for delivery via bicycle or dine-in. \$\$

The Pub at Gameday

251 W. Clayton St. • 706-353-2831

pubatgameday.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** A spacious bar with custom woodworking, a granite-topped bar and a large outdoor seating area. Relax on a leather couch to play a board game or watch sports on TV, or try your hand at a round of darts or Wii. Come in for monthly comedy nights. **DRINKS:** A large selection of scotch, bourbon and over 150 beers, including many craft, high-gravity and seasonal options. Bartenders will gladly whip up a cocktail from the selection of liquors at the full bar. \$

Pulaski Heights BBQ

675 Pulaski St. • 706-583-9600

pulaskiheightsbbq.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Two-story space down Pulaski Street next to the railroad tracks in the Leathers building, with a patio well stocked with sidewalk chalk and poured concrete details inside. **MENU:** Classic bbq from well-sourced animals (pulled pork, pulled chicken, fantastic ribs) pairs with sides reinterpreted through a chef's eyes (vinegar lime slaw, smoked potato salad, squash casserole heavier on squash than mayo, stew, smoked cauliflower). There are also copious options for pescatarians and vegetarians, regular specials (gumbo, bbq-bim-bop) and a contender for the best sandwich in town in the Redneck Reuben (house-smoked bacon, collards, pimento cheese and house ranch dressing on Texas toast). BYOB at press-time, but hopefully Pulaski Heights BBQ will be reestablishing its popular bar stocked with bourbons soon. Fingers crossed. \$\$

Rachel's Southern Style Restaurant

1021 Jamestown Blvd., Watkinsville • 706-310-0091

rachelssouthernstyle.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome & BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Fri., Lunch, Sun. **THE LOOK:** Quaint eatery down the road in Watkinsville. **MENU:** Traditional Southern cuisine with a rotating menu. Entree options include country fried steak, cawfish and fried chicken. Fried green tomatoes, mashed potatoes and gravy, squash casserole, potato salad, rutabagas and more for sides. Several homemade desserts to choose from, like chocolate peanut butter pie, peach cobbler and buttermilk pie. \$\$

Rafferty's Restaurant & Bar

15 Huntington Rd. • 706-613-0045

raffertys.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Wi-Fi.

HOURS: Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. \$

The Rail Athens

1120 Mitchell Bridge Rd. • 706-354-7829

facebook.com/therailathens

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Trivia, Wi-Fi, Live Music. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A laid-back bar and grill full of pool tables, dart boards, slot machines and big-screen TVs. Trivia contests, dart league nights, pool tournaments and Texas Hold'em Poker are held weekly. **MENU:** Typical bar food such as burgers, wings, sandwiches, nachos and fries. **DRINKS:** Fifteen beers on draft and a fully stocked bar to appease the pickiest of drinkers. \$

Raising Cane's

795 Baxter St. • 706-548-2008

raisingcane.com

FILE UNDER: Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** This chicken joint's close proximity to the UGA high-rise dorms and Greek houses on Milledge Ave. make it a popular spot for students seeking fast food. **MENU:** The four meal choices (The Box, The 3 Finger, The Caniac and The Sandwich) all come with chicken fingers, a combination of sides (crinkle-cut fries, creamy coleslaw, Texas toast), and a drink. Cane's secret-recipe sauce is what draws most people back time and time again. Kids' meals available. \$

Rashe's Cuisine

211 Tallassee Rd. • 706-850-4164

facebook.com/rashecuisine

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Take Out, Catering, Outdoor Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, Thu-Sat. **THE LOOK:** The one-time Cali 'N Tito's location has more outdoor space than in, with a stage for music, a creak and a smaller area for covered dining. **MENU:** Rashe's makes Jamaican specialties including jerk chicken, ribs, plantains, veggies, salmon, salads, oxtail and more. Meats come from Bentley's Butcher Shop in Winder. You can also find Rashe's food occasionally at the West Broad Farmers Market. \$\$

Red Lobster

1956 W. Broad St. • 706-549-5376

redlobster.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$\$

Redfearn Grille

197 E. Broad St. • 706-549-4433

holidayinnathensga.com/redfearn

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Catering. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** This sleek modern dining area inside the Holiday Inn serves visitors and the public. **MENU:** Stuffed French toast, waffles, biscuit sandwiches and omelets in the morning. For lunch, take a trip to the buffet or choose between locally inspired salads, burgers and sandwiches. Evening entrees include a New York strip steak, sun-dried tomato ravioli, fried chicken and balsamic glazed pork chops. **DRINKS:** Full bar offering a good selection of wine and cocktails. \$\$

The Roadhouse

137 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-2324

facebook.com/roadhouselive

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** As one of the oldest watering holes downtown, little has changed since its first day. Posters of popular musicians decorate the heart-of-pine walls and the bar itself was constructed using old church pews. **DRINKS:** Nothing frilly going on behind the bar, with all the usual domestics and imports on hand. Budget-friendly drinks are always flowing, and the bar boasts that it's been "serving hangovers since 1991." \$

The Roof Top by The Branded Butcher

215 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-7670

georgiathatre.com/rooftop

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, M.–Sat. **THE**

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www.canopystudio.org

Look: Located on the top of the Georgia Theatre, this rooftop restaurant and bar has a great view of downtown and is open even when the Theatre isn't; just head up the elevator from the side entrance on Clayton Street. **Menu:** The venue's neighbor, The Branded Butcher, oversees all foodie options. Grass-fed beef burgers, BBQ (smoked pork shoulder or tofu), house-made bratwursts and cheese dogs, veggie bahn mi sandwiches, tacos and fries. Enjoy sides of fingerling potato salad, carrot-fennel slaw or Zapp's potato chips. Many dishes use ingredients made in-house, such as the reuben with house-made pastrami and sauerkraut. Bar snacks like fried chicken skins, deviled eggs trio and trotter tots are always tempting. **Drinks:** A full bar offers refreshing classic cocktails and several beer choices. \$

Rooter's Grocery and Barbecue

150 E. Whitehall Rd. • 706-207-5668
rootersbarbecue.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.–7 p.m., Thurs.–Sat. 12–4 p.m., Sun. **THE LOOK:** Take-out joint offering both single servings and bulk quantities of BBQ. **Menu:** Pulled pork BBQ, ribs and chicken. Have your BBQ as a sandwich or plate with two sides (slaw, baked beans, stew, cabbage casserole, potato casserole). Rotating specials like quail, Georgia Caviar (beans, cilantro, jalapeños, pickled okra) and smoked chicken salad. Try a combo plate or a Q-Dawg (smoked sausage link on a hoagie bun, with pulled pork, slaw and pickles). Pecan pie, lemon chess pie or banana pudding for dessert. \$\$

The Royal Peasant

1675 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-549-7920
royalpeasant.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **Features:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, Mon.–Sat. Lunch & Dinner, Sun. **THE LOOK:** The covered patio is bigger than the inside of this tiny English pub in Five Points, but the bar is long and a popular place to watch soccer. **Menu:** Classic pub food, which means bangers and mash (sausages and mashed potatoes with a side of turmeric-accented cabbage), lamb stew, curry with basmati rice and naan, fish and chips and wonderful burgers (both beef and lamb). There are usually a couple of wonderful English desserts, too, like buttermilk pie or sticky toffee pudding, and regular specials like shepherd's pie. **Drinks:** A lot of UK beers, mostly in the bottle, but some on tap, and several different dry ciders, some international choices, some American craft brews, a few wines and some nice whiskey (and whisky!). \$\$

Ru San's

196 Alps Rd. • 706-552-0488
rusans-athens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Reservations, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days.

THE LOOK: Located in the Beechwood Shopping Center, this spot has a heated outdoor patio, large dining area and casual atmosphere. **Menu:** An overwhelming selection of 50 original house rolls, 36 specialty rolls and many sashimi and sushi combinations. Dinner entrees feature lobster tempura, plum wine glazed bacon scallops, seaweed wrapped salmon with black bean lime sauce and ahi tuna with macadamia nut pesto, among traditional staples like yakisoba, udon, teriyaki and fried rice. **Drinks:** Premium cold sakes and cocktails such as the Samurai Sunset (Kobai plum wine, cranberry juice, champagne, lemon) and Sushi Mary (Gekkeikan sake, tomato juice, orange juice and wasabi-soy sauce). Beer and wine, too, plus plum wines. \$\$

Ryan's Family Steakhouse

1021 Dowdy Rd. • 706-543-8203

ryans.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Buffet. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Weekend Brunch. \$\$

Sabine's Coffee Haus

210 W. Main St., Lexington • 706-743-7777

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** German style coffee haus occupying a small cottage nearby in Lexington. Owned and operated by a family from Germany's Hessian countryside. **Menu:** Simple but exceptional coffee drinks brewed with care, plus frappés and smoothies. Belgian waffles topped with fruit are popular in the morning, as are the fresh pastries, cake slices, cookies and macaroons. Lunch offers croissant sandwiches as well as authentic German bratwurst and currywurst which are cooked outdoors on the stone grill and worth the drive if you're in the mood for German food. \$

Sakura Steak House

3557 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-227-0001

sakuraathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** This beautifully crafted restaurant is divided into three distinct sections: a bar, sushi dining area and hibachi grill. A three-dimensional cherry tree, bamboo screens, stone flooring and a curved ceiling punctuated by small star-like holes creates a natural and elegant atmosphere. **Menu:** An extensive menu of nearly 200 options offering hibachi dinners cooked right at your table, sushi, sashimi, hot pots, yaki udon and teriyaki meals. Sixteen artistically prepared chef special rolls to choose from such as the Godzilla Roll (salmon, red snapper, kani, scallions—deep fried with a special sauce) and the Crazy Dragon Roll (spicy crunchy tuna topped with a whole eel). Lunch offers bento boxes, sushi and hibachi meals served with soup, salad and rice. **Drinks:** Try a Japanese beer or sake. A fully stocked bar is capable of providing a large variety of cocktails. Wine, too. \$\$\$\$

Sandbar

220 College Ave. • 404-271-8440

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A beachy scene decorated with palm trees, surf boards, a large shark hanging from the ceiling and a statue of Captain Morgan by the door. A second full bar downstairs hosts dance parties much louder than the laid-back atmosphere above. **Drinks:** Tropical drinks are in keeping with the theme, with Mudslides, daquiris, piña colodas, Hurricanes, Mojitos and pitchers of margaritas. Intense drinks like the Sandblaster (190-proof shot) and the 32 oz. Blackout Buckets are sure to wipe you out. A few drafts and fair number of bottled beers, too. \$

Saucehouse Barbeque

830 W. Broad St.

saucehouse.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Catering. Opening in the fall of 2014, Saucehouse Barbeque promises a brand-new concept in the art of the 'que. \$

The Savannah Room

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-542-6341

georgiacenter.uga.edu/restaurants

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** A large, well appointed, comfortable restaurant with natural light in UGA's Georgia Center for Continuing Education. **Menu:** Get a taste of the South with entrees like shrimp and grits, Cowboy Steak Salad, grilled Atlantic salmon and, of course, burgers. The menu always includes at least one sustainable option locally grown by the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. \$\$\$

The Savory Spoon

705 Sycamore St., Jefferson • 706-367-5721

thesavoryspoon.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tues.–Sat. Brunch Sat. **THE LOOK:** The space is clean but spare, and the location (in a strip shopping center in Jefferson) makes the focus on local produce and the high level of cooking all the more impressive. **Menu:** Chef Josh Aaron, a native Athenian, likes to play around with his menu, which means it changes frequently, especially depending on what veggies are in season. He executes even simple dishes with élan and a gift for bringing out the best in his produce, roasting fresh okra just the barest bit and tossing it with good salt. Dinner brings bigger plates of proteins like braised lamb, Copper River sockeye salmon and wild-caught yellowfin tuna. The commitment to local farms and sustainability is real, not just fashion and lip service. Regular special events keep things fresh, too, and there's wine along with 16 beers on tap. \$\$



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schlotzskys.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Sleek interior with several big-screen Mac computers to play games on while you wait. **MENU:** Oven-toasted sandwiches on freshly baked bread are the anchor of the menu. Try an Albuquerque Turkey, Angus Pastrami Reuben, Homestyle Tuna or Dijon Chicken. Cinnabon piping hot buns. \$

Scott & BJ's BBQ

4007 Danielsville Rd. • 706-546-1005

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Cash and Checks Only. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Thurs.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Country 'cue spot with a few booths, a lunch counter and the motto "Where the Food Speaks for Itself." **MENU:** BBQ pork, chicken, beef and ribs with sides like baked beans, hash, slaw, potato salad, collard greens and seasonal vegetables. \$\$

Sea Bear Oyster Bar

297 Prince Ave. • 706-850-4367

seabearoysterbar.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Daily 3 p.m.–midnight. **THE LOOK:** Peter Dale and Patrick Stubbers, of The National, team up on this sleek oyster bar in The Bottleworks. **MENU:** Oyster happy hour runs from 3–6 p.m. daily before dinner proper gets started. You can pick your eats from small plates, including a raw bar, traditional oysters (raw and cooked) and seafood; some twists on classic bar food and seasonal vegetables. **DRINKS:** Beer, wine, absinthe, sake, cocktails, punch and a frozen drink machine to make frozen Negronis. \$

Sr. Sol

2455 W. Broad St. • 706-850-7112

175 Tallassee Rd. • 706-546-1570

srsolestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Delivery, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** The original spot on Tallassee is attached to a gas station, and the Broad Street location is housed in a large stucco building. **MENU:** Popular choices like burritos, tacos and fajitas alongside harder-to-find items like gorditas, sopes, tostadas, chalupas and tortas. Tacos can be filled with a dozen meats including buche (pork stomach), tripietas (intestines), lengua (tongue), pastor (marinated pork) and barbacoa (beef BBQ). **DRINKS:** Wash down your meal with a margarita or beer. Jarritas (Mexican sodas) and aguas frescas (flavored waters), too. \$\$

Shane's Rib Shack

196 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-548-4650

shanesribshack.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Trivia, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Casual BBQ joint with counter-service. **MENU:** Slow-smoked pork, BBQ chicken, ribs, chicken tenders, salads and wings (tossed in buffalo, lemon pepper, teriyaki or BBQ sauce). Balance out your plate with coleslaw, baked beans, corn on the cob, fried okra, potato salad, Brunswick stew or french fries. \$\$

Shokitini

251 W. Clayton St. • 706-353-7933

shokitini.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Posh dining room with a projected big screen behind the sushi bar. Private karaoke rooms upstairs. **MENU:** An extensive selection of sashimi and sushi. Special rolls include the Red and Black Roll (tuna, salmon, red snapper, crab, avocado—topped with red and black tobiko) and the Gameday Roll (deep-fried shrimp, avocado, cucumber—topped with teriyaki chicken). Hot dishes include udon noodles, lobster tail, filet mignon and sea scallops. Green tea cheesecake, fried oreos and red bean ice cream for dessert. **DRINKS:** A dozen hot and cold sake options including saketini cocktails. \$\$\$

Silver Dollar

262 College Ave. • 706-353-3093

facebook.com/silverdollarathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Lodge-like decor includes a silver tin

ceiling, deer mounts and a mountain landscape mural spanning the wall. A spacious covered outdoor patio with a corner location makes for good people-watching. **DRINKS:** Plenty of cheap domestics, well drinks and daily specials. \$

Sips Espresso Café

1390 Prince Ave. • 706-363-7211

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A small coffee shop in the heart of Normaltown with a covered open-air patio. **MENU:** A daily selection of pastries and treats from local bakeries. **DRINKS:** Standards like lattes, cappuccinos and espresso drinks plus the Cubano (espresso extracted with raw sugar) and the Cortadito (equal parts milk and espresso). Tea, frosties and fruit smoothies, too. \$

Siri Thai Cuisine

367 Prince Ave. • 706-548-7667

1040 Gaines School Rd. • 706-850-3500

sirithaicuisine.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Wed.–Mon. **THE LOOK:** Both locations (in-town in The Bottleworks and on the Eastside in Ansonborough) are accented with greenery and images of Thailand in clean, simple surroundings. **MENU:** Like many Thai restaurants, Siri puts a strong emphasis on hospitality. Its large menu includes tons of curries (veggie and not, all prepared with the classic ingredients of the cuisine, like Thai basil, chilis, garlic, ginger and fresh herbs), noodle dishes, duck, seafood, Thai bbq and nice fresh salads. Lunch specials come with choice of two from among soup, salad and spring roll, and desserts include pumpkin custard, purple rice pudding and specialty ice creams all combine to provide an elegant and tasty dining experience for those who know their Thai cuisine and those who are expanding their horizons. \$\$

Sister Louisa's Church

254 W. Clayton St.

facebook.com/sisterlouisasgloryhole

FILE UNDER: Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** 11–9:00 p.m., Sun.–Th. 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Fri.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** This is artist Grant Henry's branch of his Atlanta religion-themed dive bar. He's been bustling around town picking up tchotchkes to decorate the walls and seriously renovating the interior of the space to reflect a welcoming outrageousness. Ping-pong, bar food and fun art will be a part of the picture. **DRINKS:** What you would expect in a dive bar: not fancy but real. Amen. \$

Smoothie King

2361 W. Broad St. (The Omni Club) • 706-369-3111

1591 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-2600

smoothieking.com

FILE UNDER: Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Vary by location. Open 7 days. \$

Sonny's Real Pit Bar-B-Q

3755 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-546-0385

sonnysbbq.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$\$

South Kitchen and Bar

247 E. Washington St. • 706-850-6277

southkitchenbar.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Dinner and late night, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** This interesting space in The Georgian has stained glass, dark wood, fresh flowers, gorgeous tile and a rich social and culinary history—a fresh use of this popular space by the team behind Trappeze and Highwire. **MENU:** Small plates include a trio of deviled eggs flavored with blue cheese and hot sauce, pimento cheese-bacon and Masala curry; chicken rilletes with housemade pickles; and fried goat cheese with sourwood honey and pink peppercorns. Larger plates range from a Tillamook cheeseburger with pickled onions to a veggie plate with risotto to pork belly with truffled mac and cheese and fried pickled okra. **DRINKS:** Draft beers are available in full or half pours, wines by the glass are sophisticated and well described, and the list of cocktails is focused but smart, with ingredients like tea-infused applejack, egg whites, rhubarb bitters and fresh fruit. \$\$

Agua Linda

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speakeasyathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Catering. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Tucked away in one of downtown's few second-story spaces, Speakeasy offers wonderful views of UGA's historic North Campus in a beautiful environment accented with glass and iron. **MENU:** Small plates are the real focus here, with Southern inspirations. If the cornmeal-crusted fried housemade pickles served with lemon dill aioli are on the menu, get at least one order. The spinach dip in a bread bowl, coconut shrimp and crab cakes with hoppin' john are all popular. Those with bigger appetites can order from the selection of "signature plates." Parking in either the College Avenue or Washington Street deck is validated. **DRINKS:** As you might guess from its name, booze is not unimportant here. There's a big wine list of mostly American and French choices, with a few Spanish and Italian wines, plus a nice menu of specialty cocktails like the Stormy Morning (elderflower liqueur, Violette, cava and lime). \$\$\$

Square One Fish Co.

414 Thomas St. • 706-353-8862

squareonefishco.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Live Music, Outside Seating, Delivery, Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** There are lots of seating options in this large space on the eastern edge of downtown, all with a seaside theme that trends upscale rather than crab shack. Banquet room available for private parties. **MENU:** Although the kitchen is happy to make your kids some chicken fingers, it's happier shucking oysters, frying frogs' legs, making sweet conch into fritters or preparing soft-shell crab. Fresh fish comes in a wide variety of upscale preparations, and steaks are available, too. Brunch on the patio makes you feel like you're on vacation. **DRINKS:** Mostly New World wines can be ordered by the half-bottle as well as the glass or the full bottle. They offer a handful of specialty cocktails as well as the usual spread of beers. The Dirty Phickletini incorporates the zingy juice from locally made Phickles Pickles, and the bar likes to play around with standards, adding its own twist. \$\$\$

Starbucks

1761 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-353-2206

10 Huntington Rd. • 706-353-6632

2301 College Station Rd. (Kroger) • 706-353-8543

100 College Ave. • 706-543-0114

starbucks.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru (Epps Bridge Pkwy. & Huntington Rd.), Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Vary by location. Open 7 days. \$

Steak 'n Shake

2033 W. Broad St. • 706-353-6969

steaknshake.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** 24 Hours, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Retro-style diner franchise. **MENU:** Steakburgers come in a variety of flavors like Western BBQ and Bacon, Jalapeño Crunch and Grilled Portobello and Swiss. Classic diner fare includes chili, melts, hot dogs, salads, sandwiches, mini Steakburger Shooters, onion rings and fries. For breakfast, order pancakes, skilletts, scramblers, parfaits and biscuit sandwiches. Milkshakes, offered in two dozen flavors including chocolate covered strawberry, mint cookies 'n cream and peanut butter banana, are the other big attraction. So popular the city had to install a traffic light. \$

Stevi B's Pizza

122 Alps Rd. • 706-208-9552

stevib.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. \$

Stonewall's

142 N. Jackson St.

facebook.com/stoneybaloneys

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outdoor Seating. **THE LOOK:** Named after the Confederate general Stonewall Jackson. Upstairs, you'll find an open air patio and a stage where live bands and DJs perform regularly. **DRINKS:** Lone

Star beer and shots of Fireball whiskey are the most popular, but there's plenty of other brews and shots to choose from. \$

Strickland's Restaurant

4723 Atlanta Hwy., Bogart • 706-548-7003

stricklandsrestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Checks. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Breakfast, Sat. **THE LOOK:** A family-run operation that's been in business for over 50 years. Head down the Atlanta Highway past the Georgia Square Mall to find this friendly spot. **MENU:** Southern comfort food. Fluffy buttermilk biscuit sandwiches (filled with choice of eggs, cheese, sausage, smoked link, steak, chicken, bacon or ham), pancakes, grits and hashbrowns in the morning. Have biscuits and home-made sawmill gravy if you've got a big appetite. Standard meat 'n' three lunches with rotating items like ribs, catfish, pork chops, mashed potatoes and gravy, cream corn and greens. \$

Stripling's General Store

4501 Monroe Hwy., Watkinsonville • 770-725-7772

striplings.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** **HOURS:** 6 a.m.–8 p.m., Mon.–Sat. 1–6 p.m., Sun. **THE LOOK:** A inviting general store established in 1964 with the motto, "You never sausage a place!" **MENU:** The butcher shop serves up various sausages, country cured ham, steaks, BBQ, stuffed pork chops, smoked bacon and jerky. Old-fashioned hoop cheese straight from Wisconsin. Lots of jellies, jams, preserves, honey, seasonings, sauces, pickles, relishes and snacks. \$

Stuffed Burger

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-850-8411

stuffed-burger-athens.com

FILE UNDER: Burgers. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Cozy wooden booths, granite counters, comfortable surroundings for eating and visiting. **THE MENU:** Home of the Juicy Lucy. Black Angus hamburgers (or turkey, upon request and veggie options like the black bean and corn burger) are cooked with a pocket full of melted cheeses (bleu cheese, pimento, smoked provolone) and fillings (bacon, jalapeños, mushrooms) in the center. Weekly specials offer special stuffings like macaroni and cheese, pulled pork and pot roast. Deep-fried hot dogs come covered in chili, cheese and slaw or wrapped in bacon. Omelets, French toast and pancakes for brunch. If you really want to get stuffed, ask about the 5.5 pound food challenge. Sweets include milkshakes and deep fried Oreos. **DRINKS:** 4 beers on draft, more than 20 in bottle. Wine, too. \$\$

The Sultan

1074 Baxter St. • 706-850-7725

thesultanathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. Lunch, Sun. **THE LOOK:** This Middle Eastern eatery has a casual dining area decorated with tapestries and a sunny outdoor patio. **MENU:** Authentic Middle Eastern cuisine like shawarma (marinated chicken, beef, lamb or gyro served over rice), kibbeh balls (wheat, onions and beef), kabobs, falafel, stuffed grape leaves, baba ghanouj (mashed eggplant), tabouleh and spinach folds. Lunch offers Lebanese-style mana'esh (flatbreads topped with cheese, spices and veggies) and wraps. \$\$

Sundown Saloon

50 Gaines School Rd. • 706-850-1180

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** The TVs, darts and pool tables at this Eastside watering hole offer plenty of entertainment away from downtown. Weekly events include live music, karaoke and open mic nights. **DRINKS:** Standard selection of domestics and imports. Inexpensive well shots and cocktails make it easy to get buzzed on a budget. \$

Taco Stand

2230 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-549-5481

247 E. Broad St. • 706-549-1446

670 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-549-2894

facebook.com/thetstand

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar (Broad St.), Beer (Milledge Ave. & Eastside), Outside Seating

(Broad St. & Milledge Ave.). **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Varies somewhat by location, but a laid-back atmosphere and fast-casual setup are common denominators of this Athens institution that has been around since 1977. **MENU:** A simple assortment of Mexican favorites like burritos, enchiladas, quesadillas, nachos, tacos and tostadas, with tofu options for the veggie-inclined. Try a specialty taco like the fried chicken taco (juicy deep-fried chicken tenders, matched with special Taco Stand secret fried chicken sauce and topped with lettuce and cheese in a soft taco tortilla). For an eclectic burrito, order The Hershel, a sun-dried tomato tortilla stuffed with BBQ pork, zesty BBQ sauce and jalapeño coleslaw. \$

Tacqueria Tsunami

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-353-0040

tacqueriatsunami.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Mexican and South American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outdoor Seating, Take Out, Beer and Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** High ceilings and a modern look, plus a patio and a bar mark this location of the small franchise in the Epps Bridge area. **MENU:** Asian/Latin fusion focuses mostly on tacos, which combine ingredients like Korean beef with soy-sesame vinaigrette, teriyaki chicken with pineapple pico de gallo and tempura-fried fish with Asian slaw, cilantro and spicy mayo. Asian Nachos use fried wonton wrappers instead of chips, and empanadas filled with Vietnamese pork, beef or roasted corn salsa make a tasty snack. \$

Taqueria Del Sol

334 Prince Ave. • 706-353-3890

taqueriadelcsol.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. Dinner, Tu.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** The owners won an award for their conversion of a gas station into this beautiful blue-and-white space with a big all-weather patio. **MENU:** Chef Eddie Hernandez and his team believe a simple, focused menu leads to better and more consistent results. Specials, including entrees, change weekly, allowing for experimentation, but the six basic tacos (Memphis, brisket, fried chicken, carnita, fish and veggie) are always available and well priced. The turnip greens have a slow, spicy build, and both the salsa trio and the guacamole are quality. No high chairs, and no bending the rules, although you can eat at the bar if you don't want to wait in line to order. **DRINKS:** Please don't order a frozen margarita. The bar has a great selection of premium tequilas plus bottled beer and a few wines by the glass. \$

Taqueria La Jalisco

3750 Old Jefferson Rd. • 706-316-3560

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A small taqueria housed inside an unassuming Mexican grocery store. **MENU:** Authentically prepared Mexican cuisine including carnitas, chorizo tacos, tortas al pastor and a few freshly made salsas. \$

Taqueria La Parrilla

1431 Capital Ave., Watkinsonville • 706-310-9991

2439 Jefferson Rd. • 706-549-4977

855 Gaines School Rd. • 706-548-5040

lapa.us

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar (Jefferson Rd. & Gaines School Rd.), Beer & Wine (Watkinsonville), Delivery, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Family-friendly Mexican restaurant with festive south-of-the-border decor. **MENU:** Close to 50 combination meals, including 18 vegetarian options. Plenty of burritos, quesadillas, enchiladas, chimichangas, flautas, tamales and tacos. Tacos with steak, sausage, chicken, fried pork or marinated pork. A special low calorie section of the menu features health-conscious dishes. Finish dinner with sopapilla or fried ice cream. **DRINKS:** Enjoy a margarita or Mexican beer with your meal. Domestics to choose from, too. \$\$\$

Taste of India

131 E. Broad St. • 706-559-0000

indiaathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Buffet, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Fine dining accented by candles and traditional Indian tapestries and statues. Buffet table in the back. **MENU:** Versatile Indian menu with vegetarian, chicken, seafood, lamb,

goat and even a handful of vegan options. Popular tandoori dishes are marinated in yogurt and spices and baked in a clay oven. Try the Lamb Mango (lamb cooked with mangoes and ginger), spicy seafood vindalho or Paneer Makhni (homemade cheese cooked in tomato and butter sauce). Combination entrees and the daily lunch buffet offer possibilities for loading up on a little bit of everything. Pair your meal with a mango or strawberry lassi (blended yogurt drink) or Darjeeling tea. Finish it all off with a traditional dessert like kheer (rice pudding) or kulfi (dense ice cream). \$\$\$

Taziki's Mediterranean Cafe

227 Prince Ave. • 706-247-7619

tazikiscafe.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and Wine, Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Corner space with good light in The Bottleworks. **MENU:** This franchise out of Birmingham does a fast-casual version of Greek/Mediterranean with occasional Southern influence (e.g., a spicy pimento cheese served with pita chips). You can add chicken salad, tilapia, grilled lamb or grilled chicken to an entree-size salad, but there are lots of vegetarian and vegan options, too. Gyros come with a "healthy side" such as basmati rice, roasted new potatoes, grilled veggies, fruit or tomato-cucumber salad. Order dinner for four a couple of hours in advance to pick up a feast of grilled meat or veggies, salad and rice or potatoes. Baklava or cake for dessert. \$\$

Team Biscuits and Burgers

745 Danielsville Rd. • 706-543-8326

teambandb.biz

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, M.–Sat. Dinner, Th.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Spirited red and black decor and plenty of bulldawg pride. Pull up to the drive-thru window for a grab-and-go meal, or order inside and take a seat on the covered outdoor patio. **THE MENU:** Breakfast biscuits are prepared with your choice of sausage, bacon, bologna, steak, chicken, country ham, tenderloin, smoke-link or salmon. Make your burger (beef, chicken, salmon or shrimp) a combo by adding one side (fries, coleslaw, sweet potato fries or side salad) and a drink. Also offering baked or deep-fried wings, BBQ sandwiches, hotdogs, grilled cheeses and BLTs. \$

Ted's Most Best

254 W. Washington St. • 706-543-1523

tedsmostbest.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Outside Seating, Live Music, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A smart refurbishment of a previously industrial space, Ted's has a fantastic patio with a bocce court that is usually a sandbox for the munchkins. **MENU:** Small oven-fired pizzas are prepared with refinement but without snobbery (gluten-free crust available). Try the bacon and egg (made with pancetta and an egg in the middle with a still-runny yolk), the Big Island (Hawaiian reinterpretation, with thinly sliced pineapple fanned out like flowers) or build your own. Pasta, entrees, sandwiches (panini and subs), calzones, sliders and awesome salads are available, too, plus cheesecakes in the cold case. **DRINKS:** Five taps, a few wines and a bunch of well-priced beers in the bottle. \$\$\$

Ten Pins Tavern

2451 Jefferson Rd. • 706-546-8090

tenpinstavern.com

FILE UNDER: American. Bars. **FEATURES:** Live Music. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A bowling alley, bar, restaurant and lounge area all rolled into one. Get in the zone before your game by fueling up with a meal or a drink. **MENU:** All-American fare like pizza, cheeseburgers, bratwurst, hot dogs and buffalo wings. Fried okra, later tots, hand-cut fries and pickle chips on the side. **DRINKS:** A full bar has everything from well drinks to top-shelf liquors. Mostly domestic beers, with a couple locals to choose from. \$

The 10 Yard Line

318 E. Washington St.

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating.

DRINKS: Standard domestics and imports with plenty of wells, shots and bombs. Self-proclaimed locale "where all your bad decisions take place." \$

Thai Spoon

149 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-9222

thaispoonathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. Dinner Sun. **THE LOOK:** Although it is surrounded by bars, Thai Spoon couldn't be less like them. Instead, it adds to the diversity of downtown dining, with a busy, cozy, richly decorated interior. **MENU:** The lunch specials are a great deal at Thai Spoon, coming with a spring roll, tasty mushroom soup, coffee or tea and jasmine rice at an excellent price. Not a meat-eater? You can branch out beyond tofu and vegetables to try suegai, a vegetable protein. The menu is large, including steamed mussels in clay pot, papaya salad and spicy glass noodle salad alongside the traditional range of curries and noodle dishes. \$\$

Tin Drum Asiacafé

196 Alps Rd. • 706-543-8979

tindrumcafe.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Gluten Free Options. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Order at the counter using a touch-screen device for speedy service at this Asian fusion café. **MENU:** Noodles, curry, fried rice, stir-frys and tacos prepared with all-natural meats and organic tofu. House dishes include tikka masala, mango stir-fry, basil fried rice and the Tin Drum Curry (crispy chicken, spinach, peanuts, red curry and sweet coconut chili sauce). Asian tacos (teriyaki chicken, panko shrimp and cucumber wasabi sauce, Thai chicken with chili hoisin sauce) are filled with rice, cabbage slaw, cilantro, scallions and soy-sesame vinaigrette. A separate menu with gluten free items is available. \$\$

Tlaloc El Mexicano Restaurant

1225 N. Chase St. • 706-613-9301

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Small, brightly painted eatery with a name that means "God of Rain." **MENU:** Goes beyond the typical Mexican restaurant with authentic Mexican and Salvadorian specialties such as sopas (corn cakes topped with meat, pico de gallo and fresh cheese), papusas (corn cakes stuffed with meat, cheese and beans), tacos dorados (fried tacos stuffed with mashed potatoes or meat), tortas de pambazo (fried potatoes and chorizo between two slices of bread fried in red salsa), huaraches, enchiladas, gorditas and chilaquiles. For breakfast, eggs, sausage, ham and bacon served with rice and beans. Lunch specials change daily. On the weekends, you'll find menudo, a traditional soup made with tripe (beef stomach). Pair your meal with a Mexican beer or margarita, jarrito (Mexican soda), horchata (sweet rice water), tamarindo (tamarind juice) or Jamaica (sweet flower drink). \$\$

Topper's International Showbar

100 N. Jackson St. • 706-613-0504

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **THE LOOK:** Athens' only strip club has been around for more than 20 years. Late-night spot with exotic dancers onstage and sports on the flat-screen TVs. Multiple pool tables in the back. Male revues and ladies' nights are held often. **DRINKS:** Plenty of inexpensive champagne and domestic beers, plus house shots and cocktails to give big spenders lots of options. \$

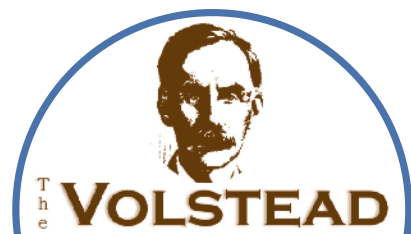
Transmetropolitan

145 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-8773

1550 Oglethorpe Ave. • 706-621-6081

transmetonline.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Pizzeria with a classy-casual aesthetic. The downtown location has a comfortable upstairs bar area, and the west-side Transmet has a rooftop patio for dining and sipping. **MENU:** Home of the Hungry Sasquatch, a meat lover's dream loaded with pepperoni, Italian sausage, meatballs, ham, bacon and a few veggies. Try a specialty pie or choose from a large selection of pasta bowls, salads, calzones and paninis. A build-your-own option with 40 toppings to choose from is available to customize pizzas, pasta and salad. **DRINKS:** Several beers on draft, including multiple craft beers, and 25+ in bottle. Full selection of wine and a 20+ list of vintage cocktails like the Pacific Cooler (Pearl Pomegranite Vodka, Peach Schnapps, Sprite and soda) and the Transmet Sidecar (Applejack, Cointreau, fresh lemon). \$



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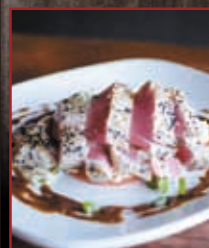


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Trapeze Pub

269 W. Washington St. • 706-543-8997

trapezepub.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars.

FEATURES: Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. Weekend Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Two big rooms of warm wood and big booths with a pressed-tin ceiling and a windowed kitchen. **MENU:** Everything on the menu is fresher and lighter than you would expect, with a cross-cultural emphasis. Start with small plates (tiny sliders) and snacks (pimento cheese, boiled peanuts, cayenne candied nuts), then move on to the Pub Burger (topped with housemade pickles, grilled onions, arugula and gruyere), the Double Pig sandwich (both braised pork and spiced bacon), the fish and chips (buttermilk-dredged; served with gribiche as well as ketchup) or the winter lentil stew. Lunch offers some excellent deals from a smaller menu. Cheese plates are available for nibbling, and there's even a quinoa salad with roasted sweet potatoes if you want to go for something healthier. **DRINKS:** The beer menu makes a literal thunk when set down. There are more than 200 options in the bottle and 30 on tap, divided into categories that include the standards but also branch out into barley wines, lambics and mead. You can drink wine or order a cocktail from Highwire Lounge (owned by the same folks and accessible through double doors at the back of one room), but really you should opt here for beer. \$\$

Treppenhau

114 College Ave. • 706-355-3060

Find them on Facebook.

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs, Live Music (occasionally). **THE**

LOOK: A two-story draft house inspired by German beer halls and complete with steel and wooden accents, a stained glass skylight and a lounge with fur-lined walls. **DRINKS:** European and American craft beer is the focus here, with 20 on draft and even more in bottles. Order a giant stein full of one of the 12 German beers on tap. Classic cocktails like the Ginger Collins, Black Russian and Blue Hawaii. Over a dozen aged scotches, too. \$

Two Story Coffeehouse

1680 Lumpkin St. • 706-850-5422

twostorycoffee.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A cozy historic house with two levels for distinct purposes. Catch up with friends downstairs or find a chill spot to curl up and read upstairs. Designated quiet room for studying. **MENU:** High quality, classic coffee drinks prepared with a manual pour over, Chemex or personal French press. Several teas to choose from, including blooming tea posies. Specialty drinks include The Babarr (chai with a shot of espresso and stick of cinnamon) and the Fire & Ice (gelato and espresso dessert). For something cold, order a fruit smoothie, coffee-free blender (chocolate, vanilla, chai), frozen

Latte Ghiaccio or Italian soda. Pastries, gelato and other snacks to munch on. \$

Uptown Art Uncorked

3061 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-208-7337

uptownart.com/athens

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Reservations, Delivery. **HOURS:** Open Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Painting studio located in the Target shopping center that offers group classes, private parties and kids' camps. Check the website for a monthly schedule. **DRINKS:** Try your hand at painting a masterpiece while you drink a glass (or bottle) of wine, beer, soda or coffee. \$

Utage Athens Sushi Bar

440 E. Clayton St. • 706-227-9339

utageathenssushibar.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Take a seat at the sushi bar to watch the chefs prepare rolls at this fine dining spot. **MENU:** Wide variety of specialty rolls such as the UGA Roll (fried asparagus, masago, tuna and white fish on top with eel sauce) and the Gatorhater Roll (tuna, smoked salmon, eel, cream cheese, fried asparagus). Teriyaki, curry and grilled meat dinner entrees are served with miso soup and salad. Cleanse your palate with a scoop of green tea, red bean or ginger ice cream for dessert. Come in for the lunch combos to get the most bang for your buck. **DRINKS:** Sake, Japanese beers, wine and cocktails. Try a Geisha Girl (rum, orange juice, cranberry juice, melon liqueur) or Singapore Sling (gin, sour mix, grenadine, soda, cherry liqueur). \$\$

The Varsity

1000 W. Broad St. • 706-548-6325

thevarsity.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Fri. & Sat. **THE LOOK:** "What'll ya have?!" greets you at the door of this retro fast-food eatery, still going strong after 80 years of business. Classic car shows are held often. **MENU:** Hot dogs (with cheese, slaw or chili), burgers, BLTs, grilled cheeses, chicken sandwiches and salads. Pair your meal with french fries or onion rings, and wash it all down with a famous Varsity frosted orange shake. Fried apple or peach pies, 16 flavors of ice cream and brownies for dessert. \$

Viva! Argentine Cuisine

247 Prince Ave. • 706-850-8284

vivaargentinecuisine.com

FILE UNDER: Latin American, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Delivery, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tu.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Lots of blue and white (the colors of the Argentine flag) mark the interior of this long, narrow space in

The Bottleworks. A small bar sits at the entrance. **MENU:** Although Argentina is famous for beef, you'll find lots of choices for vegetarians here, especially among the delicious soups but ranging to vegetarian versions of lomo (usually sliced grilled protein, tomatoes and red onions atop a bed of french fries) and pastel de papas (a sort of Argentine shepherd's pie). Of course, the steaks are excellent, too, well and simply cooked and often served with housemade chimichurri sauce. The proveleta (a plate of thick-cut provolone, grilled and topped with olive oil, sun-dried tomatoes and herbs, served with French bread) is worthy of your attention. Owner Gaby Lindsay is famous for her Atomic Cupcakes, which come in regular and mini sizes and usually feature a surprise filling. \$\$

The Volstead

351 E. Clayton St. • 706-354-5300

facebook.com/VolsteadAthens

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Catering, Live Music, Delivery, Trivia, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A restaurant by day and bar by night, named after the congressman responsible for prohibition, Andrew Volstead. **MENU:** Classed-up burgers (available with angus beef, turkey or bean patties), steak, sandwiches, salads, fish tacos, wings and other popular pub fare. Start off with fried pickles or spicy corn fritters. **DRINKS:** 28 all-Georgia beers on frosted taps provide draft beers on the verge of freezing, and a frozen Shoc-a-Vodka system creates blistering five-degree shots. A unique frost rail that runs the length of the bar keeps your drink icy cold through the night. Plenty of wines and cocktails, too. \$\$

Walker's Coffee & Pub

128 College Ave. • 706-543-1433

facebook.com/walkerspub

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 days. **THE LOOK:** An ideal place to study during the day and a social spot to drink at night. The pub offers a spacious interior with large booths and bar seating, an outdoor patio, a covered breezeway and a downstairs nook that hosts weekly karaoke. **MENU:** All the essentials are here: locally roasted coffees, teas, blended frozen drinks and juice. Refuel for your studies with a pastry, bagel, breakfast burrito or drunken waffle (made with Guinness and chocolate chips) in the morning or any of several simple sandwiches (ham and cheese, PB&J, hummus) and veggie quesadillas for lunch. **DRINKS:** Six beers on draft and over 70 in bottles, including many microbrews. Marry the coffee and pub halves with an Irish Coffee or Keoke Coffee. \$

Weaver D's Fine Foods

1016 E. Broad St. • 706-353-7797

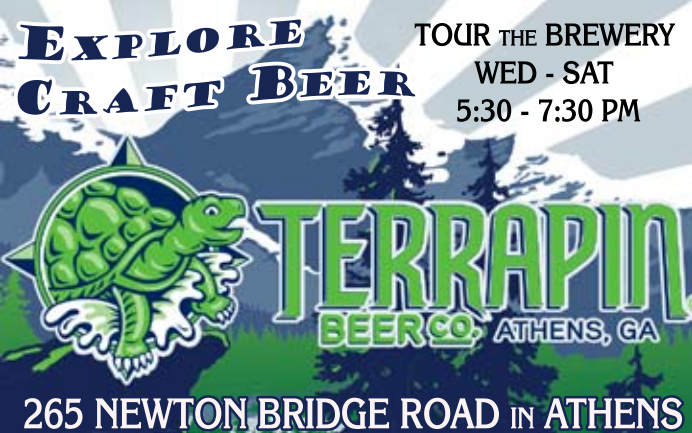
FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:**



DOWNTOWN
367 Prince Ave.
(Bottleworks)
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flagpole.com

A bright green local landmark with a big reputation due to its "Automatic for the People" slogan made famous by R.E.M. The restaurant has served Athens for more than 25 years, and owner Dexter Weaver's big personality can only be matched by the big flavors of his food. **MENU:** Enjoy hefty portions of Southern soul food favorites like fried chicken, pork chops, squash casserole, macaroni and cheese, black eyed peas, green beans, buttermilk cornbread and fried tilapia sandwiches, homemade desserts. Wash it all down with sweet tea or lemonade. \$\$

What's Cooking

2546 Commerce Rd. • 706-850-0606

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Cash Only, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner. **THE LOOK:** An under the radar, roadside spot located off of Hwy. 441. Order at the window and take a seat on the colorful patio surrounded by cacti, tropical plants and kitschy decor. **MENU:** Authentic Latin cuisine like fajitas, enchiladas, quesadillas, tortas Cubanas, sope, tacos Mexicanos and mole. \$

Whiskey Bent

335 E. Clayton St. • 706-548-8899

facebook.com/whiskeybentathens
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** DJs/Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Spacious place with a simple, no-frills decor and large wooden booths constructed out of repurposed barrels. The downstairs is open for busy nights and private parties, and boasts pool, beer pong, darts and a second full bar. **DRINKS:** Whiskey is the obvious focus here, with over 15 different types on display. You'll find all the familiar faces like Jack Daniel's, Jim Beam and Johnnie Walker. Ask about the bar's special Jack Daniel's "Whiskey Bent" Single Barrel. \$

White Tiger Gourmet

217 Hiawasee Ave. • 706-353-6847

whitetigergourmet.com
FILE UNDER: Something Different, Down-home and BBQ, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Live Music, BYOB, Delivery, Art, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tues.-Sat. Dinner, Thurs.-Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Once a neighborhood grocery in the middle of the Boulevard historic district, this space has a big selection of toys for children, a rotating selection of local art, seating both inside and out and a real neighborhood feel. **MENU:** Anything cooked on the griddle is guaranteed delicious, from the Happy Top Cheeseburger (grilled onions, American cheese, field greens, mayo) to the grilled tofu sandwich (the veggie version of the same) to the collard greens, cabbage or broccoli that appear among the veggie sides. You can get bbq (pork or tofu) at lunch, dinner or brunch, where it tops pancakes or home fries. The sourcing is responsible, and the food prepared with love. Vintage sodas are cold in a case, and cookies are by the register, with chocolates and ice cream also available to feed your sweet tooth. Dinner offers more variety and frequent specials. \$\$

Wildcat Grill at Broad River Outpost

7911 Wildcat Bridge Rd., Danielsville • 706-795-3242

facebook.com/BROwildcatgrill
FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Outdoor Eating. **THE LOOK:** A food stand at the canoeing and kayaking outpost on the Broad River. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner 7 days in season. **MENU:** burgers, dogs, curried rice, waffles, sandwiches, banh mi, vegetarian tamales, boiled peanuts. \$

Willy's Mexicana Grill

196 Alps Rd. • 706-548-1920

willys.com
FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, Catering, Outside Seating, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A brightly colored eatery with an assembly-line method to making orders. **MENU:** Made-to-order burritos, tacos, nachos, quesadillas and salads with your choice of spicy adobe chicken, cilantro garlic steak, citrus-based sinaloa chicken or tofu, chipotle BBQ pork, rice, beans and vegetables. All ingredients are fresh and never frozen, and meats are marinated in-house. Willy's Coca-Cola Freestyle machine can mix up over 100 different combinations of sodas, juice and flavored waters. \$

Wingster Café

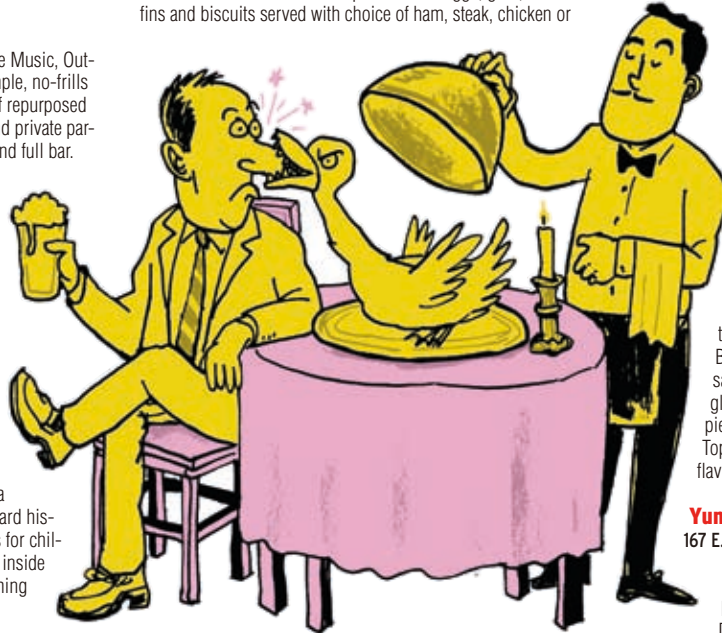
521 Baxter St. • 706-583-9611

wingsteraathens.com
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Located near the high-rise freshman dorms, this is a popular late night spot for pick-up-and-go service. **MENU:** The wings served here have never been frozen to maintain optimum freshness and available in bulk. Fried or grilled chicken wraps and sandwiches (which can also be made with beef or double cheese) are flavored with your choice of homemade sauce: cool ranch, honey BBQ, dijon honey mustard, teriyaki, Cajun, Caesar, chipotle and "Norris" hot sauce. \$

Wok Star

225 Cherokee Rd., Winterville • 706-742-2555

wintervillewokstar.blogspot.com
FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery. **THE HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** An American-Asian fusion restaurant just a short drive from Athens. **MENU:** A country style breakfast menu focuses on staples such as eggs, grits, muffins and biscuits served with choice of ham, steak, chicken or



sausage. For lunch and dinner, choose among American burgers and sandwiches or Asian dishes such as moo goo gai pan, lo mein, spicy garlic eggplant and sesame shrimp. The secret is to ask to see the auxiliary menu for a list of spicier, more authentic and unfamiliar Chinese dishes. \$\$

The World Famous

351 N. Hull St. • 706-543-4002

theworldfamousathens.com
FILE UNDER: American, Bars, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Art. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Small but thoroughly charming, with one room devoted to the bar and another with a stage at the back for live performances and some tables and booths. Fresh flowers, bowls of fruit, folk art and cool woodwork contribute to a comfortable vibe that says you can bring your family or hang out late without them. **MENU:** Smart, muscular takes on bar food from Chef Jarad Blanton, who trained in fine dining. Most things require wet naps when you finish but are worth the mess, including a fantastically well put-together chicken-and-waffle sandwich. Locally produced Honey Pops (frozen organic strawberries sweetened with honey) are awesome on a hot day. **DRINKS:** Cute and creative cocktails, well-priced beer, wine, caffeinated beverages and housemade sodas in innovative flavors. \$

YoBo Cantina Fresca

1591 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-549-3900

yobocantinafresca.com
FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **MENU:** This Charleston-based healthy Tex-Mex restaurant's pro-

teins include Spring Mountain Farms antibiotic-free chicken, and the menu offers salads, burritos, tacos, quesadillas and more, heavy on the veggies. Bar offerings are mostly margarita variations, plus a small selection of beer and wine. \$

Yoforia

142 Clayton St. • 706-548-4388

1210 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-548-4020

yoforia.com
FILE UNDER: Ice Cream. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 days. Late Night, Fri.-Sat. **THE LOOK:** Bright orange and green colors highlight a modern, clean design. Pick up an empty bowl and create your dream dessert at the self-serve stations. **MENU:** A dozen flavors of organic frozen yogurt prepared fresh daily, with twice as many toppings ranging from granola to gummy worms. Try green tea, pumpkin spice, pomegranate or dark chocolate and load on the candy, nuts and fresh fruit. A freezer full of frozen yogurt pies (key lime, cookies and cream, cheesecake) can be found at the downtown location to take the pleasure home with you. \$

Your Pie

1591 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-7424

196 Alps Rd. • 706-549-3179

350 E. Broad St. • 706-850-5675

1045 Gaines School Rd. • 706-355-7048

yourpie.com
FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Trivia, Delivery, Wi-Fi, Gluten-Free Options. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Th.-Sat. (Downtown) **THE LOOK:** Customization is key at this locally based franchise. Watch as your 10" personalized pizza is hand-tossed and popped into the brick oven as you choose precisely the ingredients you'd like from the prep line. **MENU:** Build your own dream pizza from a selection of eight sauces, 10 cheeses and 36 toppings. Vegan and gluten-free pizzas are available. Several specialty pies, brick-oven paninis and bread bowl salads, too. Top off your meal with a cool gelato, offered in a dozen flavors. \$\$

Yummy Pho

167 E. Broad St. • 706-354-6006

Find us on Facebook
FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, Delivery, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A mural of bulldaws at the beach creates a tropical vibe at this colorful eatery with a large covered outdoor seating area. **MENU:** Popular Vietnamese dishes like pho (noodle soup with veggies, protein and herbs), banh mi sandwiches, fried rice, curry and bun (vermicelli noodles with fresh veggies). Abundant vegetarian and vegan options. Try a traditional Vietnamese coffee served with sweet condensed milk or a bubble tea offered in 10 flavors like mango, coconut and taro. \$

Zeb Dean's Barbecue

5742 Hwy. 29 N., Danielsville • 706-795-2701

Find us on Facebook
FILE UNDER: Downhome & BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Checks. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, W.-Sat. Lunch, Sun. **THE LOOK:** Unassuming BBQ joint with humble decor. **MENU:** Dean's signature pepper-vinegar sauce attracts 'cue hounds from far and wide, and the cream-corn-based Brunswick stew has also contributed to this spot's reputation as worthy of a short roadtrip. Pig out on hickory smoked BBQ, burgers, chicken sandwiches, fries, tots and slaw and all the usual trimmings you expect in an old-time barbecue joint. \$

Zoe's Kitchen

145 Alps Rd. • 706-850-3400

zoeskitchen.com
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Health-conscious Mediterranean-inspired eatery. **MENU:** Pita sandwiches, kabobs, roll-ups, pita pizzas and salads. Try a classic Greek salad, fresh hummus and a grilled Gruben sandwich (grilled turkey, Swiss, slaw and spicy mustard on rye). Sides like braised white beans, rice pilaf, basil-feta pasta salad and roasted veggies. \$

Food on the Run

JOSHUA L. JONES

Food carts are still in short supply in Athens, except during festival season, when they sprout like mushrooms, but there are a few nontraditional places to pick up snacks and meals around town. You just have to keep an eye out for some of them, since they're sort of a movable feast.

Athens Farmers Market

athensfarmersmarket.net

Held Sat. 8 a.m.–12 p.m. Apr.–Dec. at Bishop Park and Wed. 4–7 p.m. Apr.–Oct. in the Creature Comforts parking lot downtown, the Athens Farmers Market grows every year. You can even use credit, debit or EBT (doubled) if you stop by the tent near the entrance to pick up some wooden tokens. In addition to produce from local farmers, you'll find pastured, heritage-breed meats, cheese made from local milk, locally roasted coffee, eggs from happy chickens, cold-pressed juice, gifts and excellent handmade pasta. Live music is a regular attraction, as are cooking demonstrations.

Empanadas and Other Favorite Things

706-215-1509 • Find us on Facebook

Found at various times and locations, these pocket foods are perfect to eat on the run, and Juan Villaveces' empanada stand sells both meat and veggie versions.

Georgia Food Tours

706-410-1111 • georgiafoodtours.com

Enjoy food-focused tours by foot, bicycle or car that treat you to a range of experiences. At two–four hours, the tours in various areas of Athens (downtown, Prince, beer, Boulevard, etc.) are well worth their \$48-60 price tag, which includes tastes at every stop. The Georgia Food Tours are a great option for newcomers, visitors or even longtime Athenians.

Hip Pops

160 Tracy St., Ste. 13 • 706-705-2161 • hippopsathens.com

Rap and hip hop provide the names for these handmade popsicles, available from the little purple cart around town, at Daily Groceries and in the brick-and-mortar location in the Tracy Street Warehouses Tues.–Fri. afternoons.

Holy Crepe

706-765-7087 • facebook.com/holycrepeathens

Still in its infancy but hoping to be setting up regularly at New Earth Music Hall soon, Holy Crepe is run by a Frenchman, so you know it's the real deal. He serves both sweet and savory crepes and experiments with other goodies such as caneles. Look for pop-ups and free samples until he has a permanent home.

Kat Kat Icee

478-321-8613 • facebook.com/katkaticeetreats

Setting up weekends (mostly Saturdays) in the afternoon across the street from the Georgia Theatre, Kat Kat Icee serves frozen novelties. Sometimes all you want is a Bomb Pop. The proprietor claims he/she is a cat, of the LOL variety, but you'll have to see for yourself.



King of Pops

223 College Ave. • kingofpops.net

The Atlanta-based business with a fleet of rainbow-umbrellaed carts has one in Athens usually set up at the corner of College and Broad downtown. The owners bought a farm to supply some of their raw ingredients, which go into popsicles like strawberry-lemonade, grapefruit-hibiscus, chocolate sea salt and more. Also available from various markets and restaurants.

La Fonda Dawgs

Jackson Street on campus

Hot dogs, sausages, burgers (veggie and meat), sodas and chips below UGA's Main Library on Jackson Street at the old cemetery, mostly during the academic year, served with a big smile.

The Lil' Ice Cream Dude

706-255-7450 • lilicecreamdude.com

You're likely to see his cart at your next event. He gets around, with his ice cream delights.

Oconee Farmers Market

23 N. Main St. & 4 Main St., Watkinsville • oconeefarmersmarket.org

Like AFM, the Oconee Farmers Market operates in two different locations, both in downtown Watkinsville (which isn't all that big): Sat. 8 a.m.–1 p.m. in front of the courthouse and Tues. 4–7 p.m. at Watkinsville First Christian Church. It only accepts vendors from within a 100-mile radius of the market. You can buy pound cakes, shea butter, scuppernongs, lamb, wool, beef jerky, preserves, gourds, jewelry, grass-fed beef from several different breeds and a wide array of seasonal fruits and veggies.

Opa Robby's

3129 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-850-8210 • oparobbysmarket.com

Open daily 10 a.m.–6 p.m. in a brightly painted former garage in front of Target, Opa Robby's is a combination country store, farmers' market and

source for frozen soups, casseroles and slow-cooker meals. You can get humane meats, local eggs, wild-caught shrimp, hoop cheese, tasty zucchini bread, great deals on produce (beets, potatoes, tomatoes, whatever's in season, much of it organic), local honey, crafts, bread from Kiki's Bakery and more. There's a second branch with more limited options open weekends on the Eastside in A Weekend A'Fair at 790 Gaines School Rd.

Streets Cafe

706-540-2134 • streetscafe.com

Streets is a food truck that focuses on Korean, American and Latin specialties, sometimes all mashed together, as in the kimchee quesadilla, Korean tacos, chipotle pork sliders and more. It serves at Terrapin Brewery on Newton Bridge Road Thurs.–Sat. 5–7:30 p.m., in the Costa de Jalisco parking lot on Barber Street Tues.–Fri. 11:30 a.m.–2 p.m. and occasionally at other locations, sometimes including late-night.

UGArdens Produce Stand

134 Hoyt St. • 706-549-4850 • facebook.com/ugardeners

The Athens Community Council on Aging partners with UGA students Mon. 12 p.m.–3 p.m. to help fight senior hunger and offer up tasty produce at \$2 a pound (\$1 if you use EBT). They take credit, debit and checks as well as cash. The produce stand pops up other places, too.

West Broad Farmers Market

1573 W. Broad St. • athenslandtrust.org

The offerings at the West Broad market may be more limited than those at the Athens Farmers Market, but the atmosphere, in the old Rutland Academy, tucked away in the heart of town, is rich in community and fellowship. The market runs Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. and Tues. 4–7 p.m., with a strong focus on educational activities. You can find chess, Ethiopian and Jamaican food, yoga, music, crafts, children's activities and, of course, seasonal produce.



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