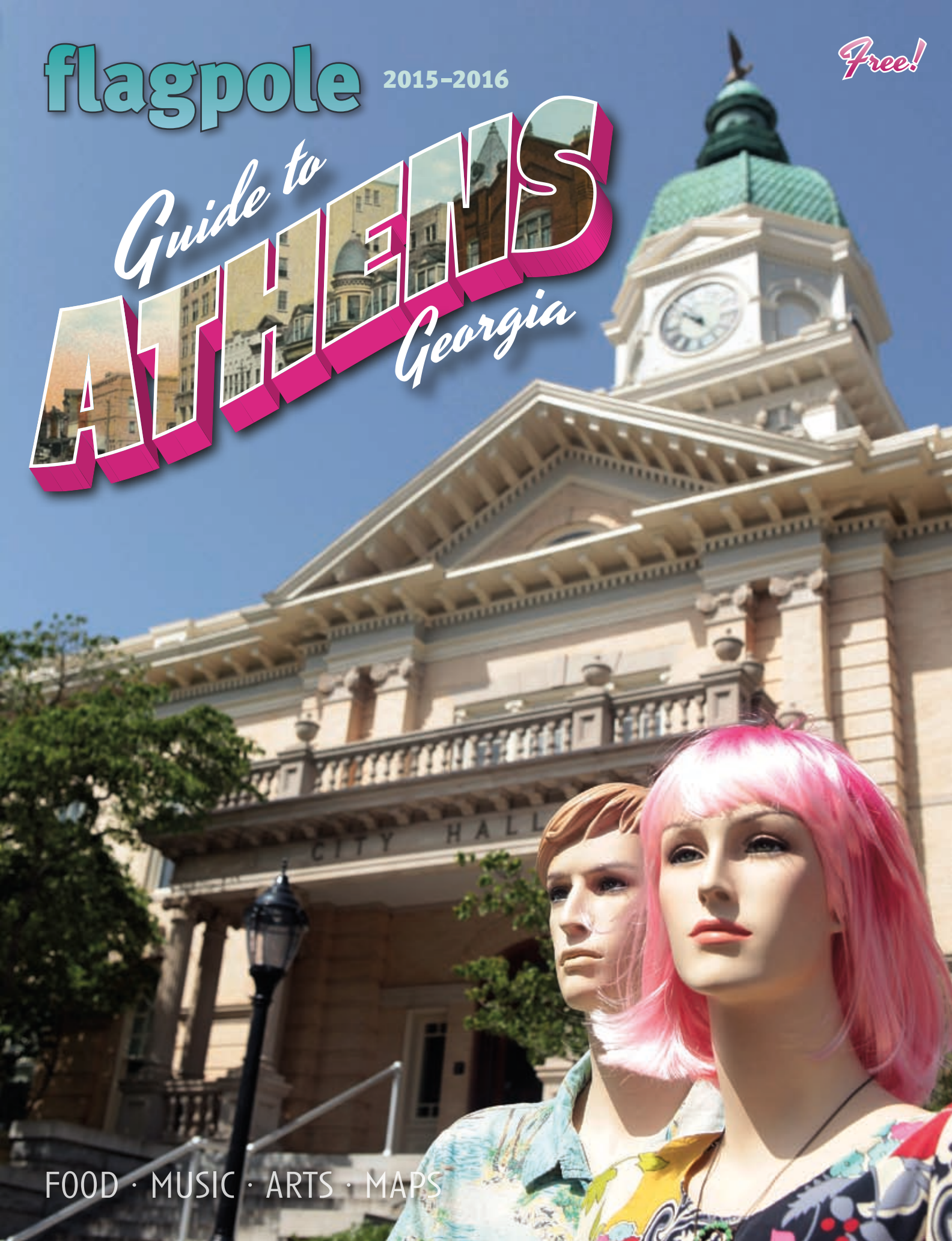


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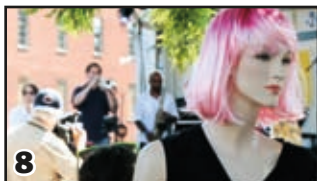
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ATHENS AT A GLANCE



Welcome to Athens, a small town with a big university and many of the amenities of a big city. We have music, arts, food, movies, theater, unique shops, attractive architecture, sports and a plethora of outdoor activities—all in a package small enough that it's easy to get around, and you'll never be a stranger. 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, holding a printed copy in your hand or reading it online at flagpole.com. You never know: You might find even more reasons to love Athens.

How We Got Here

Athens began at the site of a small mill and trading post on the banks of the North Oconee River, known as Cedar Shoals, where Daniel Easley had built a mill in the late 18th Century. A committee charged by the Georgia legislature with finding a site for a new state university encountered Easley and bought his well situated land on a bluff above the river.

The legislature chartered the University of Georgia in 1785, making UGA the oldest public university in the country, no matter what anyone in North Carolina says. Future governor John Milledge, who bought the university's initial 633 acres from Easley, named the village-to-be for the Greek cradle of philosophy. Athens was incorporated in 1806.

In the decades that followed, the town became known as the "Manchester of the South," because of its cotton mills. James Camak led the building of the city's first railroad, connecting Athens to Augusta in 1841.

Athens saw little action during the Civil War, but the Cook & Brother Armory (now known as the Chicopee building, owned by UGA) supplied rifles to the Confederate forces. A double-barreled cannon invented by local dentist John Gilleland was employed, defending the armory, though firing only one barrel. When tested earlier, the chain connecting the balls snapped, knocking down a chimney and killing a cow. The cannon is now displayed outside City Hall.

By the turn of the century, Athens had public schools, a police force and its first streetcar suburbs. Aviation pioneer Ben Epps (the local airport's namesake) built and flew his first plane in 1907, four years after the Wright Brothers.

African American students Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter integrated UGA when they enrolled in 1961. The local public schools were integrated nine years later.

Beginning in the late 1970s, Athens became internationally known for its rich music scene, which includes a variety of genres and has produced such acclaimed and popular artists as R.E.M., The B-52s, Widespread Panic, Vic Chesnutt, Neutral Milk Hotel, of Montreal, Danger Mouse, Corey Smith, Brantley Gilbert, Bubba Sparxxx, Reptar and Drive-By Truckers. Yes, that leaves out some big ones—any list would.

In the early 1980s, Athens' first mall out on Atlanta Highway nearly killed downtown, as the main stores fled to the 'burbs. Slowly, the big stores were replaced by bars, restaurants, music venues and new retailers. In the past few years, a surge in student-housing development is changing downtown yet again, leaving locals to wonder what's next.

Who's in Charge

After three failed attempts, Athens and Clarke County voters chose to unify the two governments in 1990. That's why it's called "Athens-Clarke County" and is both a municipal and a county government.

Athens residents are represented by 10 commissioners in 10 districts and a mayor, currently Nancy Denson, who is elected at-large; an appointed manager runs the government. (District maps, contact information, meeting agendas and sign-ups for police and zoning alerts 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.

Although Athens is a liberal college town, it is mainly represented by conservative Republicans in Atlanta and Washington. Contact info for legislators—Reps. Spencer Frye, Regina Quick and Chuck Williams, and Sens. Bill Cowser and Frank Ginn—the text of bills and other information is available at legis.ga.gov. For Gov. Nathan Deal and the executive branch, visit georgia.gov. Georgia's two U.S. senators are David Perdue and Johnny Isakson. Our congressmen are Doug Collins and Jody Hice.

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. Superintendent Philip Lanoue was named National Superintendent of the Year for 2014. 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).

Athens is also a hub of higher learning in Georgia, with not only the state's flagship public university, but campuses of Piedmont College, North Georgia University, Athens Technical College and a medical-school partnership with Georgia Regents University of Augusta, as well.

Intrigued by politics? Read *Flagpole's* City Dope column and the In the Loop blog at flagpole.com for the latest scoops.

Where to Go

Downtown is the beating heart of Athens, with a big share of our hotels, bars, restaurants, shops and music venues. But there is so much more to the city.

Just across Broad Street from downtown is the University of Georgia's North Campus, with its iconic Arch and shady lawn that's open to all. While UGA is known everywhere for the Bulldogs football team, it's also the area's biggest employer and cultural center, with an art museum, theaters, concert halls, almost daily lectures and, yes, a stadium, too. Pay close attention to The Calendar at flagpole.com/events and in the weekly *Flagpole*, as well as UGA's master calendar at calendar.uga.edu, to stay in the know about campus happenings.

West of downtown are Hot Corner (Washington and Hull streets) and the nearby Hancock-Reese Historic District, traditionally the center of African American life but now changing and gentrifying, as is another traditionally black neighborhood across the river, East Athens (or, as old-timers call it, "East of Athens").

Also west of downtown, split by shop- and restaurant-lined Prince Avenue, are the Cobbham and Boulevard neighborhoods, both filled with lovely historic homes. Further west, near the bypass or the Loop, as it's known, is another historic neighborhood, Normaltown, which has seen a resurgence in recent years. Normaltown is also home to the UGA Health Sciences Campus, formerly a teachers' college and Navy Supply Corps base.

South of campus, at the intersection of Milledge Avenue and Lumpkin Street, is Five Points, another walkable neighborhood of stately homes and locally owned stores and restaurants. Many of the historic mansions along Milledge have been converted to fraternity and sorority houses.

Should a visitor desire something more familiar, many chain restaurants and big box stores (with a smattering of local flavor, too) are located off Lexington Road, Barnett Shoals Road, Alps Road, Atlanta Highway and Epps Bridge Parkway, all a few miles' drive from downtown.

Flip to p. 32 for a map to get your bearings. In addition, several organizations offer more information on the history and sights of Athens, including:

- **Athens Welcome Center:** 280 E. Dougherty St., **706-353-1820**, athenswelcomecenter.com
- **UGA Visitors Center:** College Station Road at River Road, **706-542-0842**, visituga.edu.

continued on next page ►

Athens Welcome Center



Circa 1820
Church-Waddel-Brumby House



BY THE NUMBERS

- **Area:** About **122 square miles** (geographically the smallest county in Georgia)
- **Population:** **116,714** (2010 Census—includes UGA students)
- **Demographics:** **65%** white, **27%** black, **7%** Hispanic, **3%** Asian (2010 Census)
- **University of Georgia enrollment:** **35,197** (Fall 2014)
- **Largest employers:** **UGA** (10,000), **Athens Regional Medical Center** (3,000), **Athens-Clarke County government** (1,600), **St. Mary's Hospital** (1,400), **Clarke County School District** (1,300)

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ATHENS LOCAL

◀ continued from previous page

- **Athens Convention & Visitors Bureau:** 300 N. Thomas St., **706-357-4430**, visitathensga.com.
- **Oconee County Welcome Center:** 22 N. Main St. Bldg. B, Watkinsville; **706-769-5197**, visitoconee.com.

If your curiosity still isn't sated, the UGA Libraries maintain a site (libs.uga.edu/athens) with more than 1,500 links containing information on just about any Athens-related topic you could think of, from crime stats to a list of churches.

How to Get Around

Athens is small enough that—especially if you stick pretty close to downtown—you can get anywhere on foot or by bike. Most in-town streets have sidewalks. BikeAthens (bikeathens.com) offers a handy map of streets with bike lanes.

City buses are based at the Multimodal Transportation Center at 775 E. Broad St., behind the Classic Center. Buses run every hour or half-hour seven days a week, stopping 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 Athens Transit free when they swipe their UGACards. UGA buses run more frequently in and around campus, and they're free for everyone. See athenstransit.com and transit.uga.edu for routes and schedules.



ZOOMWORKS

For longer-distance travel, Southeastern Stages' (**706-549-2255** or southeasternstages.com) station is inside the Texaco convenience store at 4020 Atlanta Highway. Megabus (us.megabus.com) offers daily rides to and from Atlanta, North Carolina and Virginia for as low as \$1. Buses depart and arrive at the Multimodal Transit Center every day but Sunday, when they rendezvous at the UGA East Campus Parking Deck.

Athens lacks rail or commercial air service at the moment. The nearest Amtrak station is Gainesville. For air travel, MARTA connects Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport with pickup and drop-off points for buses to and from Athens. Also try Groome Transportation's airport shuttle; **800-896-9928** or groometransportation.com.

If you must drive, downtown metered parking is 75 cents an hour Mon.–Sat. 8 a.m.–10 p.m. (Sundays are free), with a two-hour time limit from 8 a.m.–6 p.m. Most meters now accept cards in addition to coins. Other than The Classic Center (\$5 flat fee), downtown parking decks cost \$1.50 per hour after the first half hour, 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 you can only park in a deck. Most surface lots are permit-only. Call **706-542-PARK** or go to parking.uga.edu.

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, 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. The ride-sharing app Uber recently expanded to Athens, too.

What Not to Do

Don't say you weren't warned—Athens has a few weird laws.

- Smoking is illegal inside any public building (even bars), in public parks and on the UGA campus.
- The party atmosphere downtown fools many, but this ain't Savannah, and you can't drink on the street. Stay inside the metal rails if you're in a sidewalk cafe. Also note that the open-container ban doesn't apply on campus on football game days, so tailgate away.

ZOOMWORKS



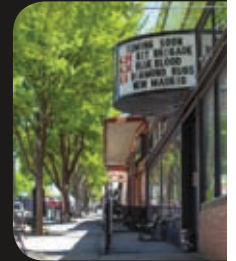
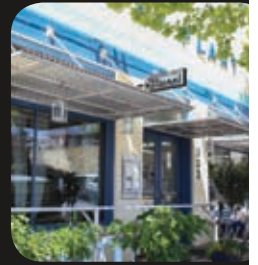
- Last call is 2 a.m., except on Sundays, when it's midnight. Bars that don't sell food can't open on Sundays at all. (Restaurants can serve you a bloody Mary starting at 10:30 a.m.)
- Drinking under age 21 is illegal everywhere, but here, the cops aren't messing around. If you're caught with a fake ID or drinking under age, you get a ticket.
- Again, not a weird rule, but please don't litter. Trash cans, recycling bins and cigarette-butt receptacles are all over downtown. Use them.

ZOOMWORKS

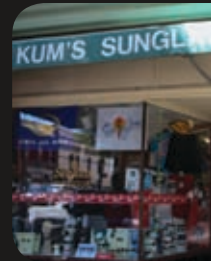
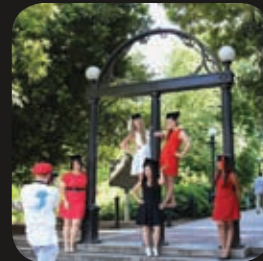


- It's illegal for more than two unrelated people to live in houses in areas zoned single-family. Check with the ACC Planning Department before signing a lease.
- A noise ordinance regulates loud parties in residential neighborhoods, so young people, don't be shocked if your grown-up neighbor (or even Johnny Law) knocks on your door and asks you to turn it down.
- 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. Nevertheless, enjoy Athens!

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ANNUAL ATHENS EVENTS

These familiar happenings anchor the Athens year. Be sure to check *Flagpole's* Calendar in the paper and online (flagpole.com) for updates to these events and others.

UGA Football 2015 | Sept. 5 University of Louisiana-Monroe, Sept. 19 South Carolina, Sept. 26 Southern University and A&M College, Oct. 3 Alabama, Oct. 17 Missouri, Nov. 7 Kentucky, Nov. 21 Georgia Southern. Traffic is heavy prior to and following games. To find out game times, which are usually determined by TV scheduling, see georgiadogs.com.

Athens Intensified | Oct. 7-10, 2015 | A "hand-selected, artist-driven musical event" throughout the downtown music scene. athensintensified.com

North Georgia Folk Festival | Oct. 10, 2015 | Always a highlight for local folk music, out at Sandy Creek Park. athensfolk.org.

AthHalf | Oct. 25, 2015 | This popular half-marathon is run over a course that begins downtown and is designed to showcase Athens and UGA. athhalf.com

The Wild Rumpus Parade and Spectacle | Oct. 31, 2015 | This aptly named downtown parade has grown to include a kids' show, a stage show and an after-party. wildrumpus.org

The Downtown Parade of Lights | Dec. 3, 2015 | Begins at 7 p.m. at Dougherty and Pulaski streets and ends with the lighting of the tree at City Hall. athensclarkecounty.com/2589/downtown-parade-of-lights.

Indie South Fair | Dec. 5 & 6, 2015 | This large outdoor market of folk and functional art also has several other markets during the year. indiesouthfair.com

A Taste of Athens | Mar. 20, 2016 | Selected food and drink purveyors lay out a movable feast in the Classic Center to benefit Community Connection. communityconnection211.org/taste

Slingshot | Mar 24-26, 2016 | A still-growing conglomeration of music, art, electronica and comedy fills downtown in the spring. slingshotathens.com

Dancing with the Athens Stars | Apr. 16, 2016 | Local celebrities work hard with their paired dancers to kick up their heels in the Classic Center for Project Safe. project-safe.org/Dancing-with-the-Athens-Stars.html

FLUKE! | Apr. 23, 2016 | Local comic, zine and graphic creators get together to show off their stuff 11 a.m.-6 p.m. at the 40 Watt Club. flukeathens.com

Boybutante Ball | Apr. 16, 2016 | A glamorous Athens tradition (27 years) at the 40 Watt Club celebrates guys as dolls to raise money for AIDS Athens. boybutante.org

Twilight Criterion | Apr. 29 & 30, 2016 | This breathtaking downtown bicycle race is world-class and has lots of attendant activities. athenstwilight.com

Human Rights Festival | Apr. 30 & May 1, 2016 | One of Athens' longest running festivals, HRF is a people's fest downtown that speaks out for democracy through word and music. athenshumanrightsfest.org

Hot Corner Festival | June 10 & 11, 2016 | An outpouring of music, food and fellowship at Hull and Washington streets downtown celebrates Athens' African American business roots. facebook.com/hotcornerath

Flagpole Athens Music Awards | June 23, 2016 | Musicians get awards voted by *Flagpole* readers, and live music fills the Morton Theatre. flagpole.com

AthFest Music, Arts and Kids Festival | June 22-26, 2016 | Hundreds of local bands fill the outdoor stages and the clubs, pulling music fans downtown, where they also enjoy an artists' market and kids' activities plus food and drink. athfest.com

2015 ATHENS FAVORITES: FLAGPOLE'S READER PICKS

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- 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. 14
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY LOCAL ART**
Frontier
- FAVORITE PLACE TO SEE LOCAL ART**
ATHICA p. 12
- FAVORITE THRIFT /VINTAGE STORE**
Atomic p. 20
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY WINE**
Five Points Bottle Shop
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY BEER**
Five Points Bottle Shop
- FAVORITE UNIQUELY ATHENS STORE**
Atomic p. 20

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. 24

Pets and Kids

- FAVORITE VET CLINIC**
Boulevard Animal Hospital
- FAVORITE PET GROOMER**
The Dawg House Grooming and Gifts
- FAVORITE PLACE TO TAKE KIDS ON A RAINY DAY**
Athens-Clarke County Library p. 19

FAVORITE KIDS' CLASSES: MOVEMENT

- Canopy Studio p. 15
- FAVORITE KIDS' CLASSES: CREATIVE**
Treehouse Kid and Craft p. 18

Services

- FAVORITE HOTEL**
Hotel Indigo p. 10
- FAVORITE PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO**
ZoomWorks
- FAVORITE FLORIST**
Always Always Flowers
- FAVORITE HAIR SALON**
Republic Salon
- FAVORITE STYLIST (3 WAY TIE)**
Lyric Bellotte at Republic Salon
Matt Wheeler at Emporium Hair and Color Salon
Shayne McBride at Washington Square
- FAVORITE MASSAGE THERAPIST**
Kimberly Anderson
- FAVORITE TATTOO STUDIO**
Pain and Wonder Tattoo Studio
- FAVORITE SPA**
Urban Sanctuary Spa
- FAVORITE FITNESS INSTRUCTOR**
Tania Mendoza Yelton, Zumba Instructor at Chase St. Yoga
- FAVORITE PLACE TO GET FIT**
Pure Barre Athens
- FAVORITE ADULT CLASSES: MOVEMENT**
Canopy Studio p. 15
- FAVORITE ADULT CLASSES: CREATIVE**
Good Dirt p. 14
- FAVORITE CAR REPAIR SHOP**
Auto Tech of Athens
- FAVORITE CAR DEALERSHIP**
Phil Hughes Honda
- FAVORITE PLUMBER**
Carson Plumbing
- FAVORITE ELECTRICIAN**
Blue Moon Electric
- FAVORITE HVAC**
Stiles Heating and Cooling
- FAVORITE LAWYER TO GET YOU OUT OF A JAM**
Jeff Rothman
- FAVORITE BANK**
Athens First Bank and Trust
- FAVORITE REALTOR**
Cord Siblisky
- FAVORITE LOCAL BUSINESS**
Avid Bookshop p. 20

Stuff Around Town

- FAVORITE NON-PROFIT/CHARITY**
Project Safe
- FAVORITE FESTIVAL/EVENT**
AthFest: Music, Arts, Film and Kids Festival p. 8

LODGING



Athens lodging choices are diverse and fit most pocketbooks. Rates shown here are the hotel's starting, standard reservation charge, not including 14 percent for taxes, plus an additional \$5 state levy. Keep in mind that hotel room rates in Athens are higher on weekends and much higher on football game weekends, if available, and can be higher than shown here during other seasonal and special events.

Symbols: 🍳 Breakfast Available | 📶 Internet Available | 🐾 Pets Okay | 🏊 Pool | 🍸 Hotel Bar | 🧊 Refrigerator | 🍽️ Kitchen Available | ❤️ Fitness Center | 🚲 Bike Rental

Downtown

Best Western Athens

170 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-546-7311
bestwestern.com/colonialinnathens
\$70 | 63 rooms | 📶 🐾 🏊 🧊

The pool is closed during renovations, probably until March 2016, and pets must be 25 pounds or under.

Comfort Suites

255 North Ave. • 706-995-4000
choicehotels.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 | 📶 📶 🧊 🧊

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 | 113 apartment-style rooms | 📶 🏊 ❤️

Graduate Athens Hotel & Spa

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-549-7020
graduateathens.com
\$99 | 119 rooms | Athens-themed rooms and a spa, plus The Foundry, a live-music venue and restaurant, on the edge of downtown | 📶 📶 🐾 🏊 🧊 ❤️ 🚲

Hilton Garden Inn

390 E. Washington St. • 706-353-6800
hiltongardeninnathens.com
\$139 | 185 rooms | 📶 📶 🏊 🧊 ❤️

Holiday Inn

197 E. Broad St. • 706-549-4433
holidayinnathensga.com
\$129 | 208 rooms | 📶 📶 🏊 🧊 🧊 ❤️

Holiday Inn Express

513 W. Broad St. • 706-546-8122
hiexpressathensga.com
\$99 | 160 rooms | 📶 📶 🏊 🧊 ❤️

Hotel Indigo

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0430
indigoathens.com
\$149 | 130 rooms | An art gallery off the lobby plus the Rialto Room, a live-music venue | 📶 📶 🐾 🏊 🧊 ❤️

Travelodge

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

Westside/Mall

Quality Inn & Suites

2715 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-549-1530
choicehotels.com
\$65 | 47 rooms | 📶 📶 🐾 🧊 🧊

Budget Host Inn/Campus Inn

3425 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-549-0251
campusinmotelathens.com
\$50 | 38 rooms | 📶 🐾 🧊 🧊

Candlewood Suites

156 Classic Rd. • 706-548-9663
candlewoodsuites.com/athensga
\$81 | 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
\$89 | 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
\$99 | 65 rooms | 📶 🐾 🚿 🛏️ ❤️

North Athens

Bulldog Inn

1225 Commerce Rd. • 706-543-3611
bulldoginn-athens.com
\$49 | 51 rooms | 📶 🐾 🚿

South Athens

The Colonels on Angel Oaks Farm

3890 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-559-9595
thecolonels.net
\$125 | 7 rooms in an antebellum country house | 📶 📶 🐾

\$125 | 6 rooms in an 1825 house and adjoining cottage on 30 acres. | 📶

Springhill Suites by Marriott

3500 Daniells Bridge Rd. • 706-353-8484
springhillsuitesathens.com
\$104 | 99 rooms | 📶 📶 🚿 ❤️

Camping

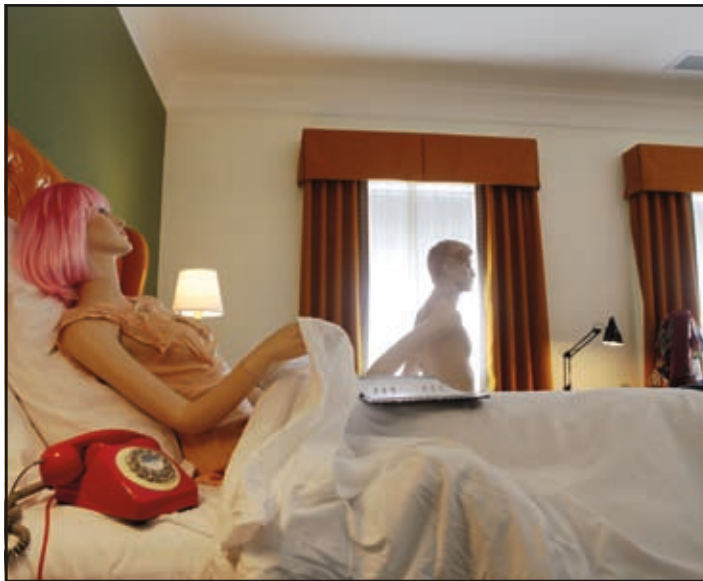
Bell Acres Resort

158 Bell Acres Rd., Maysville • 706-677-2931
belleacresresort.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

ROOMWORKS (GRADUATE ATHENS)



Intown Suites

2044 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-355-3121
intownsuites.com
\$200/week | 139 apartment-style rooms | 📶 📶 🚿

Worth the Drive

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
\$42 | 18 rooms | 📶

Fair Havens Bed & Breakfast

75 Old Edwards Rd., Arnoldsville • 706-208-8900
fairhavensplantation.com

broadriveroutpost.com
\$1 Camping on wooded site with showers. No RV's | 🐾

Pine Lake

5540 High Shoals Rd., Bishop • 706-769-5486
pinelakervcamp.com
\$22 (tent), \$45 (cabin), RV rates also available, bathhouse, checks/cash only | 📶 🐾 🚿 🛏️

The Sandbar

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

Watson Mill State Park

650 Watson Mill Rd., Comer • 706-783-5349
gastateparks.org/watsonmillbridge
\$26 (tents), \$85 (cabins, sleep 8), RV camping available | 🐾



Graduate ATHENS

A BOUTIQUE HOTEL WITH
HOME FIELD ADVANTAGE

We've crafted the perfect setting for your visit to downtown Athens, just a short walk from the scenic and historic UGA campus; Graduate is the all-around smartest place to stay in town.

- Modern, Collegiate-Inspired Rooms
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Outdoor Pool
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- Great Food, Live Music @ The Foundry Bar & Mill
- On-Site Espresso Bar
- Full-Service Spa
- 24 Hour Fitness Center

👁️ A top rated Athens hotel on tripadvisor.com



706 549-7020 | 295 E. DOUGHERTY ST. | ATHENS | 30601
graduateathens.com | GA

ART VENUES

ZOOMWORKS (GEORGIA MUSEUM OF ART)



Athens is home to a considerable number of art galleries, given its size, and even more artwork can be found woven into the fabric of the town, adding bursts of color and character to the walls of coffee houses, restaurants, bars and gift shops. Check *Flagpole's* weekly "Art Around Town" section for a comprehensive list of current exhibitions. Through efforts of local organizations like the Athens Cultural Affairs Commission and the Athens Area Arts Council, the local arts scene continues to flourish. Third Thursday, a partnership among several of the largest venues listed below, hosts extended hours and free shuttle service from 6–9 p.m. on the third Thursday evening of the month. During the first weekends of June and December, many local ceramic studios, such as Farmington Pottery, Wolf Creek Pottery, Woodruff Pottery, Carter Gillies Pottery, David Morgan Pottery, Jeff Bishoff, Normaltown Pottery and Marmalade Pottery offer open houses and sales. For information on artist receptions and special events, check *Flagpole's* weekly calendar in print or online at flagpole.com.

ARTini's Art Lounge

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

Hours: Gallery-Tues.-Fri. 12-5 p.m., Sat.-Mon. by appointment

In addition to the wine and instruction, there's also a gallery, which presents rotating exhibitions by local artists.

Athens Institute for Contemporary Art (ATHICA)

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

Hours: Thurs. 1-9 p.m., Fri.-Sun. 1-6 p.m. and by appointment, with reduced summer hours

Located in the Chase Park warehouses alongside several other creative businesses, this nonprofit gallery balances Athens-centric exhibitions with those of professional artists from across the country. ATHICA will showcase a collection of innovative art in its first-ever juried exhibition in the fall of 2015. Past collaborative projects such as "Athens Arcana: A Contemporary Tarot" and "Detour Thru Your Mind: An Illustrated Peoples' History of Athens, GA," offer exemplary glimpses into the current local artists scene. In addition to traditional kickoff

parties, exhibitions are accompanied by kids' workshops, performances and talks with visiting artists.

Aurum Studios

125 E. Clayton St. • 706-546-8826 • aurumstudios.com

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Specializing in jewelry, Aurum also features ceramics, woodwork, glass and paintings, with rotating exhibitions highlighting the works of local artists.

Chappelle Gallery

25 S. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-310-0985 • artgallerywatkinsville.com

Hours: Mon.-Sat., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Run by ceramic artists Jerry and Kathy Chappelle out of the historic Haygood House, Chappelle Gallery in downtown Watkinsville shows and sells the work of over 100 local and national artists in media including handmade pottery, glass, paintings, fiber arts, jewelry and more. The couple also co-founded artist community Happy Valley Pottery in 1970.

Ciné

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

Hours: When the theater is open, but a ticket is not necessary

More than just an art-house movie theater, Ciné is also a venue for visual art. The exhibit space runs down both walls leading from the entrance and highlights a few select artists each year. Art can be viewed during the same hours as the theater, which vary, but you don't have to buy movie tickets 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

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-6 p.m. during the academic year and by appointment in the summer

Part of UGA's College of Environment and Design and housed in the former art school building.

The Classic Center

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

Hours: When the Center is open

In addition to awarding grants and scholarships, the Classic Center Cultural Foundation exists to fund the purchase of local art which adorns the large walls of the conference and events venue. Some art remains on view permanently, such as "Far Out," an oil on triptych canvas by Ana Anest, while even more changes biannually through exhibitions curated by Didi Dumphy.

Farmington Depot Gallery

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

Hours: Feb.-March, Fri.-Sun., 12-5 p.m.; Apr.-Dec., Thurs.-Sun., 10 a.m.-6 p.m., & appointment

Striking a delicate balance between fine and folk art, this charming gallery housed within a historic train depot is full of paintings, sculpture, ceramics, mosaics, furniture and more. Receptions are regularly held for solo shows of the dozen or so artists who own and staff the gallery, and events such as Festiboo, an annual fall artists' market, often feature live music, hayrides and barbecue.

The Gallery @ Good Dirt

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

Hours: daily, 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

In addition to the clay classes, there's a ceramics gallery where founder Rob Sutherland's work is frequently featured.

Gallery@Hotel Indigo-Athens

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0430 • indigoathens.com/amenities/galleryhotel-indigo

Hours: Same as the hotel lobby

Exhibitions in the gallery typically have a group focus and a theme, and the Glass Cube, located just outside the hotel's main entrance, serves as an experimental installation space.

Georgia Museum of Art

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

Hours: Tues., Wed., Fri. and Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thurs. 10 a.m.-9 p.m., Sun. 1-5 p.m.

Georgia's official art museum, located on UGA's East Campus, houses a large and diverse permanent collection and frequently changing temporary exhibitions. Admission is free, and activities include gallery tours, lectures, films, workshops for teens, a monthly Family Day and late-night art parties with a DJ.

Lowery Imaging Gallery

2400 Booger Hill Rd., Danielsville • 706-248-9599 • loweryimaginggallery.com

Hours: Sat.-Tues. 12-5 p.m. and by appointment

The gallery of photographer Robert Lowery specializes in large-scale, art-quality prints sourcing their inspiration from the deep rural South.

Lyndon House Arts Center

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

Hours: Tues. and Thurs., 12-9 p.m., Wed., Fri. and Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Run by Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services, the arts center displays professional exhibitions within large, sunny galleries upstairs and down, while the adjacent Ware-Lyndon House museum offers a glimpse into Athens' past through period decor and artifacts.

The Myers and Bertelsmann Galleries at Athens Academy

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

Hours: open during the academic year, during school hours

The two galleries typically display student work, but the walls occasionally host local artists.

Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation (OCAF)

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

Hours: Tues.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Housed in a turn-of-the-century school building, OCAF is a nonprofit that promotes performing, visual and literary arts through a range of festivals, exhibitions and classes.

UGA Lamar Dodd School of Art Galleries

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

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-5 p.m., except for university holidays and Third Thursday

UGA's renowned art school neighbors the Georgia Museum of Art, and its multiple galleries host exhibitions by students, faculty and visiting artists, as well as receptions and lectures by artists and art historians.

SOUTH KITCHEN + BAR

CREATIVE FOOD WITH A SOUTHERN ACCENT

SATURDAY & SUNDAY BRUNCH 11AM-3PM



HAPPY HOUR 3-6PM

1/2 OFF SPECIALTY
COCKTAILS

\$12 BOTTLES OF HOUSE
RED/WHITE WINES



**DATE NIGHT
WEDNESDAYS**

3-COURSE MEAL AND
A BOTTLE OF WINE

\$40/COUPLE



2014 BEST NEW RESTAURANT (ATHENS BANNER-HERALD)

PRIVATE ROOMS • CATERING • LARGE EVENT SPACE

SOUTHKITCHENBAR.COM | 247 E. WASHINGTON ST.

ART YOU CAN DO

ZOOMWORKS (GOOD DIRT)



Everybody knows Athens is an art town, with a world-class art department at UGA and lots of trained, working artists all over the area. That doesn't mean that art is closed off to everybody else. The list of opportunities listed below shows that art is available here to all who want to get involved.

ARTini's Art Studio, Gallery & Lounge 296 W. Broad St. • 706-353-8530 • artinisartlounge.com

Instructor-led classes for all skill levels to create their own paintings while enjoying a beverage. Unbooked Saturdays are "ARTeenies" kid sessions.

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

Beginner jewelry-makers get access to studio artists and assistance with everything from beading to stone-setting.

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

Paint a ready-made pottery piece and get it glazed and fired—alone or with a party.

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

The basics of garment-making in beginner and intermediate sewing courses, as well as a teen sewing camp.

Double Dutch Press 1377 Prince Ave. • 706-546-0994 • doubledutchpress.com

Classes in screen-printing, linocut, stamp-making and more; or rent a table and print your own work.

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

Year-round workshops and "Try Clay" classes for all ages in a variety of techniques, including using the wheel and handbuilding.

The Kristen Ashley Artist Shop 127 N. Jackson St. • kaartist.com

Photo room rentals, calligraphy workshops and art supplies.

Lyndon House Arts Center 293 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3623 • athensclarkecounty.com/lyndonhouse

Adults and youth can take a variety of classes, including painting, photography, metalsmithing, stained glass and cartoon illustration.

Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation (OCAF) 34 School St., Watkinsville • 706-769-4565 • ocaf.com

A wide variety of art and craftwork programs, with classes and workshops including jewelry, metalwork, pottery, painting and playing the bagpipes.

The Pearl Girls 548 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-850-5296 • thepearlgirls.com

Classes in pearl-stringing and wire-wrapping, with pearl circles for advanced help.

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

Introductory knit and crochet classes up to intricate intarsia designs. Bring your own project on First Fridays to mingle with the fiber community.

Sewcial Studio Sewing & Quilt Shop 2500 W. Broad St., Suite 305 • 706-247-6143 • sewcialstudio.com

Fabric sales and classes in sewing-machine care and quilting.

Smokey Road Press 675 Pulaski St., Unit 600 • smokeyroadpress.com

Learn traditional techniques for printing your own stationery and binding your own books in this letterpress and binding studio.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia 2450 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-542-1244 • botgarden.uga.edu

Informal garden rambles, classes on digital plant photography and other garden art—you can even become a Master Gardener.

Treehouse Kid & Craft 815 W. Broad St. • 706-850-8226 • treehousekidandcraft.com

DIY workshops and summer camps covering drawing, fashion and fiber crafts.

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

Photography courses, including sports photography, as well as Photoshop tricks and tips.

Uptown Art Uncorked 3061 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-208-7337 • uptownart.com

At your own private event or in class, unwind with a drink and a canvas while instructors help you create.



Athens has lots of activities that get people out exercising and having fun. In addition to the parks and recreation facilities provided by local government, here are some pursuits provided by local “activists.”

Active Climbing

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

Experience the fun and fitness of indoor, air-conditioned rock climbing with routes up to 20 feet.

Athens Area Men’s Baseball League

297 Hoyt St. • 706-207-8939
aamb1.com

The private Athens Area Men’s Baseball League welcomes players of all skill levels for full nine-innings baseball with classic wooden bats from April–August.

Athens Disc Golf Club

400 Bob Holman Rd.; 1051 Elder Rd., Bishop • 706-742-2738
athensdiscgolf.com

The Athens Disc Golf Club welcomes anyone to the courses at Sandy Creek Park and Herman C. Michael Park.

Athens Vertical Pole Dance Academy

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

Learn the fundamentals of pole dancing from experienced instructors; also, fitness classes and parties for adults of all abilities.

Big Dog’s on the River

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

Kayak through a beautiful stretch of the Middle Oconee River with a few sets of shoals to break up the ride.

BikeAthens Group Ride

149 Tracy St.
bikeathens.com

Enjoy group bicycle rides through town and longer Agro Cycle Tours to outlying farms.

Broad River Outpost

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

Enjoy whitewater or scenic slow waters in kayak or canoe day or night. Beginner and kid friendly.

flagpole.com

Canopy Studio

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

All ages and abilities learn aerial dance on trapeze or silks from experienced instructors. Seasonal performances are also open to the public.

Classic City Roller girls

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

Join up if you’ve got what it takes, or just enjoy the bump-and-bruise competition. Year-round season.

Escape the Space

297 Prince Ave. • 706-389-5931
escapesthespace.com

You and your team are locked in a room and must gather clues to escape the space.

Georgia Food Tours

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

Explore locally owned restaurants, spend the day on a bicycle tour to a local farm, or throw a party or a romantic picnic.

Leap Trapeze

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

All ages swing from a high-flying trapeze with a safety net and expert instructors. Sign up for classes or a private party.

Rush Athens

10 Huntington Rd. Suite B • 706-548-4470
rushathens.com

Enjoy the trampoline park or play a few games of dodgeball. It’s all about high-energy fun.

The Sandbar

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

All ages can kayak the Broad River, enjoy more scenery on a zip line tour or unwind in a cabin.

Skate Park of Athens

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

Skaters and BMXers can bring their skills to this skatepark designed by Grindline and local volunteers. Open morning to sunset.

NORTHEAST GEORGIA'S #1 INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING GYM!

ACTIVE CLIMBING

655 BARBER ST. • 706.354.0038
ACTIVECLIMBING.COM

CANOPY STUDIO

- Classes
- Performances
- Workshops
- Private lessons
- Birthday parties

a non-profit community arts center offering instruction in flying dance trapeze, movement education & performance arts

Open to all ages & physical abilities

160-6 Tracy St • Athens
www.canopystudio.org

PARKS *and* RECREATION

ZOOMWORKS (MEMORIAL PARK)



Athens-Clarke County has an abundance of parks and recreation facilities. The symbols below indicate the route numbers of Athens Transit buses (athenstransit.com) or UGA buses (transit.uga.edu) that run near the various parks. Picnic shelters must be rented ahead of time, except for the one at Reese and Pope Park, which is free on a first-come basis. The *Flagpole* calendar carries weekly notices of parks and recreation activities. There are no public golf courses in Athens-Clarke County, but two are nearby: Lane Creek Golf Club at 1201 Club Dr., Bishop, 706-769-6699; and Sunrise Golf Club, Colbert-Danielsville Road, Colbert, 706-788-2720.

Symbols: 🐾 animals, ⚾ baseball, 🏀 basketball, 🏖️ beach, 🚲 bike, 🚤 boat, 🚌 bus route, ⛺ camp, Ⓞ disc golf, 🐕 dog park, 🎣 fishing, 🍷 food, 🍷 grill, 🏊 gym, 🤸 gymnastics, 🐎 horse trail, 🏟️ multipurpose fields, 🛖 picnic shelter, 🎮 playground, 🚻 restrooms, 🛼 skate park, 🍷 snack bar, ⚽ soccer, ⚾ softball, 🌊 Splash Pad, 🏊 swim, 🎾 tennis, 🏐 volleyball, 🚶 walk

Athens-Clarke County

athensclarkecounty.com/149/Parks-Facilities

Ben Burton Park

616 Mitchell Bridge Rd. • 706-613-3801

🚌 (5 & 7) 🎣 🏊 🚶

Hours: sunrise-sunset

Runs along shoals in the Middle Oconee River and is a great place for wading, walking and observing nature.

Bishop Park

705 Sunset Dr. • 706-613-3589

🏟️ 🚌 (5 & 7) 🎣 🏊 🛖 🎮 🚻 🛼 🎾 🚶

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

A true multipurpose park, where soccer and softball are popular, along with the lighted tennis courts (and two covered courts) and swimming in the summer, plus gymnastics. You also get the Athens Farmers Market on Saturday mornings during April-December.

Boulevard Woods

298 Barber St. • 706-613-3801

🚌 (8)

Hours: sunrise-sunset

A new (opening in September 2015), less-than-two-acre neighborhood park designed and built by neighbors with help from nonprofits and the city.

Dudley Park

100 Dudley Park Dr. • 706-613-3801

🏟️ (2 & 3) 🎣 🚶

Hours: sunrise-sunset

Just across the river from downtown, provides a green respite and an up-close view of the Murmur Trestle.

East Athens Community Center

400 McKinley Dr. • 706-613-3593

🏟️ (2 & 3) 🎣 🏊 🛖 🎮 🚻 🛼 🎾 🚶

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 2-6 p.m.

This multipurpose park and community center have something for everyone.

Holland Youth Sports Complex

250 Vincent Dr. • 706-613-3604

🏟️ (8) 🏟️ 🎣 🚶

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

Play ball! That's the purpose of this sprawling center for all things athletic.

Memorial Park

293 Gran Ellen Dr. • 706-613-3580

🏟️ (8) 🏟️ (9 & 14) 🎣 🏊 🚶

Hours: sunrise-sunset

Nestled into the Five Points neighborhood, Memorial Park is home to the Bear Hollow Zoo (open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.) and its own pond and swimming pool, as well as Athens Creative Theater.

North Oconee River Park

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

🚌 (1) 🎣 🏊

Hours: sunrise-sunset

Stretched out along the North Oconee River, this narrow strip of green is convenient for a picnic or just watching the water.

Reese & Pope Park

375 Reese St. • 706-613-3801

🏟️ 🚌 (6) 🏊 🚶

Hours: sunrise-sunset

A true neighborhood vest-pocket park.

Rocksprings Community Center & Park

291 Henderson Ext. • 706-613-3603

🏟️ 🚌 (5, 6 & 7) 🎣 🏊 🚶

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

This multipurpose park at the center of the Rocksprings Homes community has something for everybody of all ages, and there's always something happening all year long.

Sandy Creek Nature Center
205 Old Commerce Rd. • 706-613-3615

Hours: Tues.-Sat. 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

This educational center provides closeup views of snakes and other animals indoors and wildlife watching outdoors, with lots of opportunities for teaching and learning.

Sandy Creek Park
400 Bob Holman Rd. • 706-613-3631

Hours: Tues.-Sun. 7 a.m.-sunset

A celebration of the great outdoors in all its glory, including a professionally laid out disc golf course, a dog park and Lake Chapman. The park is connected to Sandy Creek Nature Center by Cook's Trail, a four-mile jaunt along—you guessed it—Sandy Creek.

Satterfield Park
3028 Cherokee Rd. • 706-613-3871

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

Satterfield Park is a center for team sports on the Eastside, and is especially popular with Little League teams.

Southeast Clarke Park
4440 Lexington Rd. • 706-613-3871

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

With its 12 lighted, hard-surface tennis courts, its famous World of Wonder playscape and its pro-designed skate park, Southeast Clarke Park is a mecca for physical activity and play.

Thomas N. Lay Park
297 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3596

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m., Sun. 2-6 p.m.

Lay Park is downtown and accessible to everybody looking for sports activity, indoors and out.

Trail Creek Park
200 Trail Creek St. • 706-613-0185

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

Formerly East Athens Community Park, Trail Creek Park is one of our newest and has something for almost everybody, including a mountain bike trail.

UGA Parks

Legion Pool
830 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-542-8235

Hours: late May through July 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m., first two weeks in August 3-7 p.m.

An elegant old pool in the middle of campus with a relatively short season, serving the university community plus those who join Friends of Campus Life: lap lanes, showers, dressing facilities and a snack bar.

Oconee Forest Park
College Station Road at Alumni Drive • 706-542-4287
warnell.forestry.uga.edu/ofp
Hours: Dawn to dusk

A 60-acre natural area nestled behind the UGA intramural fields; includes a 1.5-acre off-leash dog area and hiking, running, trail-bike paths, some of which run by Lake Herrick (no swimming).

State Botanical Garden of Georgia
2450 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-542-1244
uga.edu/botgarden
Hours: 8 a.m.-8 p.m.

A wonderland of gardens and river trails, a soaring visitors center and conservatory, a shop and a café and frequently a concert or a wedding or other gathering. The beautiful Day Chapel, nestled in the woods, is available for rental. No dogs.

Oconee County
oconeecounty.com/ocprd/index.php/oconee-parks-2

Bogart Sports Complex
S. Burson Ave., Bogart • 706-769-3965

Hours: dawn-11 p.m.

Ballfields for users from the northeastern parts of Oconee County.

Herman C. Michael Park
1051 Elder Rd., Bishop • 706-769-3966

Hours: dawn-11 p.m.

A large, sprawling park with facilities for a population crazy about sports.

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

Hours: dawn-11 p.m.

Lighted tennis courts and softball fields, plus a gym with tennis and volleyball courts; also a disc golf course.

City of Winterville

Pittard Park and Pavilion
Parkview and Church streets • 706-742-8600
cityofwinterville.com

Hours: sunrise-sunset

An inviting park with a kitchen-equipped pavilion large enough for family reunions, age-appropriate playgrounds and a stunning metal sign by local artist Beverly Babb.

State of Georgia

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

Hours: 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

Log cabins and campsites, horse facilities and playing on the rocks in the river, canoe and paddleboat rental—all within a short drive or a longish bike ride into Madison County.

**Live Well.
Age Well.**



The mission of the Athens Community Council on Aging is to promote a lifetime of wellness through engagement, advocacy, education and support.



ACCA
ATHENS COMMUNITY COUNCIL ON AGING
www.accaging.org | 706.549.4850

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Athens is as much a creative town for children as it is for adults, with lots of opportunities to experience music, art and culture. Here are some places to start. For seasonal events and activities, look for the “Kidstuff” listings in *Flagpole* weekly and online at flagpole.com.

Get Creative

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

Look for kid-friendly events tied to exhibits, and while you’re there, take time to explore the warehouse area.

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

Throughout the year, this indie cinema screens recent and classic films for all ages—with lots of animation.

Double Dutch Press
1377 Prince Ave. • 706-546-0994 • doubledutchpress.com

Beginner classes for little hands, plus workshops for older kids.

Good Dirt Clay Studio
485 Macon Hwy. • 706-355-3161 • gooddirt.net

Classes throughout the year for all ages and experience levels, and creative summer camps. The whole family can get hands-on experience with making artwork.

Lyndon House Arts Center
293 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3623 • lyndonhouseartsfoundation.com

Art shows, workshops, classes and summer camps throughout the year for a range of ages. Lyndon House exemplifies the benefits of public support for the arts.

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. Summer camps allow kids to further explore their artistic side.

Treehouse Kid & Craft
815 W. Broad St. • 706-850-8226 • treehousekidandcraft.com

Workshops throughout the year for toddlers up through middle-school ages, as well as summer camps for younger kids.

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Dr. Philip Lanoue
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CLARKE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Georgia Museum of Art

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

Family Day once a month links a take-home craft to a specific museum exhibition.

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, appropriate for ages 4-12. Note that there is an admission charge.

Read It

Athens-Clarke County Library

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

Storytimes cater to infants, preschoolers and early readers; kids and teens interested in chess can meet on Monday afternoons. There are movies, classes for all ages, live music, computers—with assistance.

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 and author visits.

Oconee County Library

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

Family movie nights, toddler storytimes, classes, workshops and events for all ages.

Winterville Public Library

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

Visit for regular preschool-focused storytimes and puppet shows, or take part in the Saturday Lego Club.

Get Support

Athens Mothers' Center

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.

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. There are classes and workshops for kids, parents and parents-to-be.

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

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 and other necessary items, 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.

Womanspace

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

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

flagpole.com

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BOOKS *and* RECORDS

ZOOMWORKS (WUXTRY RECORDS)



In addition to the stores below, books and records are always available at 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: 3898 Atlanta Hwy.) the Atlanta Union Mission Thrift Store (Homewood Shopping Center, 2415 Jefferson Rd.), the Project Safe Thrift Store (995 Hawthorne Ave.) and the J&J Flea Market (11661 Commerce Rd.). Barnes and Noble (3650 Atlanta Hwy.) is our only big-box books and records store.

2nd & Charles

2656 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-548-5356 • 2ndandcharles.com
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; Sun. 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Located next to Hobby Lobby, 2nd & Charles buys and sells books, CDs, movies, TV boxed sets, video games, comics, tablets, iPods, ereaders, vinyl and audiobooks.

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.

Atomic

260 W. Clayton St. • 706-316-0130 • facebook.com/atomicathens
Hours: Daily 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

A consignment marketplace that includes used and often rare vinyl at dirt-cheap prices.

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.

An intown, local bookshop made for the kind of browsing that lets you discover books you didn't even know you wanted.

Bizarro Wuxtry Comics & Stuff

225 College Ave. • 706-353-7938 • bizarrowuxtry.com
Hours: Mon.-Sat. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sun. 12-6 p.m.

Upstairs over Wuxtry Records, Bizarro Wuxtry is stocked to the rafters with new and used comics, graphic novels, indie zines and vintage toys.

Cosmic Debris

5300 Macon Hwy., Bishop • radiofreeathens.com
Hours: 11 a.m.-5 p.m. every day except Thursday

In the little red building behind the Chevron station: vinyl, cassettes, CDs, vintage turntables, needles, etc. Emphasizing earlier Athens music.

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.

Jackson Street Books

260 N. Jackson St. • 706-546-0245 • Find us on facebook
Hours: Daily 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Lots of used books, hardback and paperback in clearly labeled sections that help keep you oriented as you browse. Some rare books, too.

The Library Store

2025 Baxter St. • 706-613-3650 ext. 318 • athenslibrary.org/athens/support/the-library-store
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Fri. 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; Sun. 3 p.m.-5 p.m.

Inside the public library, the store carries a wide selection of used books: hardcover \$3, softcover \$2.

Low Yo Yo Stuff Records

261 W. Washington St. • facebook.com/lowyoyostuff
Hours: Mon.-Thurs. & Sun. 12-6 p.m.; Fri. & Sat. 12-9 p.m.

A wide selection of records, books and other merchandise in a funky atmosphere.

Mr. Comic Shop

18 N. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-769-7414 • facebook.com/mr.comicshop
Hours: Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

A well stocked comics and graphic-novel shop in 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 is still the hub of musical commerce in town, selling and buying CDs, vinyl, video, books and record players.

CINEMA

Athens gets the movies that everybody else gets, plus we have our own homegrown and university theaters that provide an important something extra for those who want more than the run-of-the-mill cinema experience. Athens is also increasingly a movie town as a location and as a source of talent for films shot here in whole or in part, with a growing pool of filmmaking talent and, out on the Atlanta Highway, our own Starland Studios production facility. Meanwhile, to see Hollywood and world cinema, here are the choices.

Athens Ovation 12

1575 Lexington Rd. • 706-354-0016 • carmike.com

Carmike's Ovation 12 offers full-service, dine-in, first-run moviegoing—with a service button to call a server to your seat—plus a full bar and a dining area in the lobby with nine televisions.

Ciné

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

Ciné, with its downtown location, is Athens' art-house cinema, but it's also a community meeting place, an art gallery and a cozy, full bar. First-run movies, foreign and American, as well as classics and annual special offerings like the Jewish Film Festival and the French Film Festival.

Georgia Museum of Art

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

The M. Smith Griffith Auditorium, nestled off the museum lobby, provides an infrequent, but intimate

viewing experience when the museum shows a film in conjunction with an art exhibit in one of the upstairs galleries.

Tate Cinema

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

This spacious theater is located in the Tate Student Center in the middle of the University of Georgia campus. All movies are open to the public for \$2, and parking is available in the adjacent deck. Second-run films and classics, picked by a student committee.

Beechwood Stadium 11 Cinemas

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

Metropolitan Opera live broadcasts are shown during the season, and Encore Screenings mix "older movies at bargain prices" in with the regular first-run fare. The Outtakes fast-food café also has a full bar.

Georgia Square Value Cinemas 5

3710 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-548-3426 •

georgiatheatrecompany.com

Reduced-cost second-run movies are featured out behind Georgia Square Mall.

University 16 Cinemas

1793 Oconee Connector • 706-355-9122 •

georgiatheatrecompany.com

The full suburban multiplex experience, featuring all the first-run movies, plus the Outtakes fast-food café serves beer and wine.



ZOOMWORKS (CINÉ)



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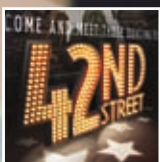
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BULLETS OVER
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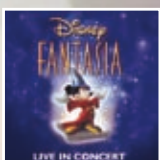
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KELLY HART

The Athens area is home to a multitude of people with the skillsets necessary for mounting performances in theater, film and music: acting, set design and construction, singing and making music, directing, management, lighting and sound. These amateur-professionals are willing to commit the time it takes to produce a show, in spite of the fact that most of them are working at “real” jobs, too. This talent provides a pool for all the theaters in the area and also bleeds into local movie-making efforts, when a film project comes along. Fortunately for all these endeavors, there is an audience for good theater here—whether in town, on campus or at a venue in a neighboring county.

The only way to keep up with all these theatrical offerings is by continuous consultation in the Calendar and Theater Notes sections of *Flagpole* each week and daily at flagpole.com.

Arts!Oglethorpe

info@artsoglethorpe.org • artsoglethorpe.org

Venue: The Historic Crawford Schoolhouse, 325 Park Ave., Crawford

AIO has turned an old schoolhouse into an efficient little theater that hosts a small selection of popular plays every year.

Athens Creative Theatre

706-613-3628 • athensclarkecounty.com/act

Venues: Quinn Hall, 283 Gran Ellen Dr. in Memorial Park and Morton Theatre, 195 W. Washington St.

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.

Athens Little Playhouse

706-208-1036 • athenslittleplayhouse.net

Venue: Athens Little Playhouse, 191 Alps Rd.

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, 200 N. Milledge Ave., Adinkra Hall and Memorial Hall Ballroom, UGA campus

The BTE provides theatrical opportunities for all students regardless of ethnicity and experience, while focusing on the works of African American playwrights.

Circle Ensemble Theatre Company

706-362-2175 • circleensembletheatre.com

Venues: Various

The Circle Ensemble Theatre Company is a professional, nonprofit theatre company that mounts productions and conducts classes for adults and children as well as encouraging local playwrights through reading workshops.

The Classic Center Theatre

706-357-4444 • classiccenter.com

Venue: 300 N. Thomas St.

The Classic Center Theatre is a venue that books traveling theatrical and other entertainment performances and local groups such as The Athens Symphony and Dancing with the Athens Stars.

Cornerstone Theatrical Productions

706-338-0239 • cornerstoneathens.com/shows

Venues: Oconee Civic Center, 2661 Hog Mountain Rd., Watkinsville; Cornerstone Studio, 1440 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville; 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.

Encore Productions

706-283-1049 • elberttheatre.org

Venue: The Elbert Theatre, 100 S. Oliver St., Elberton

Encore Productions performs in a refurbished 1940 movie palace in nearby Elberton. Encore also hosts a variety of acting opportunities for children and teens.

Jefferson Community Theatre

706-367-5714 • jeffersoncommunitytheatre.com

Venues: various

In addition to its theatrical productions, the Jefferson Community Theatre 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, giving many young actors and performers their first stage experiences.

On Stage

770-267-8379 • onstagerwalton.org

Venue: The Playhouse, 215 High School Ave., Monroe

On Stage is nearby Walton County's community theater, housed in an old church in Monroe's downtown historic district. On Stage mounts three plays per season, plus summer youth workshops.

Rose of Athens Theatre

706-340-9181 • roseofathens.org

Venues: Seney-Stovall Chapel, Ashford Manor B&B, 5 Harden Hill Rd., Watkinsville

Rose of Athens Theatre produces classic productions for both general audiences and school groups, plus academy classes, the No Shame: New Playwrights Series, Summer Shakespeare and special events.

Town & Gown Players

706-208-TOWN • townandgownplayers.org

Venue: Athens Community Theatre, 115 Grady Ave.

Town & Gown Players is a volunteer, community-driven company staging a wide variety of plays throughout the year. Town & Gown's Second Stage productions fill in between mainstage shows with plays that are more experimental and offbeat.

University Theatre (Department of Theatre and Film Studies)

706-542-4400 • drama.uga.edu

Venues: Fine Arts Theatre and Cellar Theatre on the UGA campus


The UGA Department of Theatre and Film Studies produces a full slate of plays from across the genre spectrum throughout the academic year, utilizing students and faculty from the department.

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 productions year-round for general audiences and a second schedule of children's productions through the Children's PLAYhouse program.



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NEW PLAY FESTIVAL Mar. 23-Apr. 3
SWEENEY TODD Apr. 14-24

706-542-4400 drama.uga.edu
UniversityTheatreUGA @UGATheatre

MUSIC VENUES

ZOOMWORKS (40 WATT CLUB)



Athens' world-renowned music scene is centered around the downtown core, supported by a thriving network of clubs, hosting nightly showcases of everything from electronica to hip hop to punk rock and beyond. There are thousands of local shows each year; it can be overwhelming trying to keep track of it all. To help kickstart your Athens music experience, we've spotlighted a few concert venues below. Pick up a copy of *Flagpole's* weekly print edition or visit flagpole.com to keep up with who's playing where.

Caledonia Lounge

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

Intimate and unassuming inside and out, Caledonia is where the cool kids come to hear hot, under-the-radar talent.

40 Watt Club

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

The 40 Watt is synonymous with the Athens music scene. Its stage continues to welcome acclaimed indie acts and mainstream hit-makers, and it also serves as a launching pad for local bands.

The Foundry

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-389-5549 • thefoundryathens.com

Within the Graduate Athens hotel complex, The Foundry offers an escape from the hustle and bustle of downtown's club scene, with great acoustics, a full-scale restaurant, plentiful seating and generally earlier starting times for most performances.

Georgia Theatre

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

One of the Southeast's premier venues, the Georgia Theatre has become the local spot to catch globally acclaimed touring acts. The rooftop, complete with bar and restaurant, hosts music when the weather is right.

Hendershot's Coffee Bar

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

This mid-sized java joint just west of downtown is the spot to catch early-evening folk, jazz and rock gigs. There's good music nearly every night, and families are always welcome. (Don't fret: There's also a full bar.)

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Live Wire Athens

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

The focus at Live Wire is on cutting-edge music—national and international EDM, jam and rock acts—and the spacious outdoor area is great for hanging out with your friends.

Nowhere Bar

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

This grungy, charming hole-in-the-wall is a longtime Athens favorite that continues to host a wide variety of local and touring rock, jam, funk and folk acts nightly.

Other Music Venues

Bar Georgia

159 W. Clayton St. • 706-850-9040

Boar's Head Lounge

260 E. Washington St. • 706-369-3040

The Classic Center

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

Flicker Theatre & Bar

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

The Globe

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

Go Bar

195 Prince Ave. • 706-546-5609 • Find us on Facebook.

The Grotto

140 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-9933 • @GrottoAthens

Highwire Lounge

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

Iron Factory

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

Little Kings Shuffle Club

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

Lumpkin Street Station

175 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-395-6790 • facebook.com/lumpkinstreetstation

Max

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

Morton Theatre

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

Normaltown Hall

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

Nuci's Space

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

The Office Lounge

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

UGA Performing Arts Center

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

The World Famous

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

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A CLASSIC CITY CEREMONY

Athens Is a Great Place for a Wedding—Especially an Offbeat One



Creature Comforts

By **Jodi Cash**

Athens is an ideal place to get married, for many reasons: It's flush with creative and capable people, reasonably inexpensive and home to venues for any aesthetic. Athens is also an easy place to keep wedding guests happy—there is a plethora of restaurants, bars, hotels, shops, historic buildings and gorgeous outdoor spaces. With limitless options, it's easy to throw an event as personal as your own Athens experience.

"You have everything you need to host an event and to make your guests feel comfortable, all within a 10-mile radius," says Candice Beaty, a local wedding planner. "And Athens is so community-oriented that you can have a lot of creative freedom. Anything goes."

But even in a town as wonderful as this one, planning a wedding can be daunting. To begin, it's best to evaluate mutual interests and values as a couple and determine how best to represent those. No matter who you are, there's something for you and your soon-to-be spouse in Athens.

For Beer Lovers

Full disclosure: My husband and I had the first wedding reception hosted at Creature Comforts Brewing Co., shortly after the brewery opened in April 2014. All brides say their wedding day is the happiest day of their lives, but I have to say that I think our wedding was equally enjoyable for friends and family in attendance. With endless locally

brewed beer on tap and sweet Creature Comforts signature glasses as our party favors, the atmosphere was celebratory, to say the least.

"What's really great about Creature Comforts is that we are in a central location; we're downtown, and we're in a beautiful, big, open space," says Shannon Vinson, the brewery's in-house special events and media manager.

“When it comes time to have a wedding, particularly if you met in Athens or if [you and your fiancé] have shared memories in Athens, you can use that as a feature of your wedding.”

— Shannah Cahoe Montgomery
ZoomWorks Photography

Inside the brewery, wedding guests can get up-close and personal insight into how craft beer is made. They can see the tanks and, if a bride and groom so choose, tours of the facility can be arranged for friends and family to enjoy during the reception—an added bonus for those who fear awkward conversation or a stiff lack of activities.

Athens is lucky to have three breweries in town, all of which can be rented out for events like

wedding receptions. If you're interested in having more green space than the downtown Creature Comforts can offer, Terrapin Beer Co., on Newton Bridge Road, and Southern Brewing Co. on Collins Industrial Boulevard are appealing options.

The same general idea goes at all breweries—wedding guests get glasses, and everybody drinks the beer. And in addition to the ample outdoor area, Terrapin has a recently renovated interior that lends itself to an attractive, rustic wedding aesthetic. SBC also boasts an outdoor beer garden, with games like cornhole to keep guests entertained.

For the Outdoorsy Couple

Athens has wholeheartedly embraced local agriculture; in case you didn't know, UGA is a land-grant university, and proper stewardship of farms in the state is one of the university's top priorities. But this phenomenon isn't limited to university responsibilities or the popularity of farmers markets here—there are many farms in and near Athens just waiting to host your big day.

If one farm venue goes above and beyond embodying what makes Athens wonderful, it's Sweet Olive Farm, which began as a refuge for animals. Owners Susan Pritchett and Kat Howkins have rescued dogs, pigs, chickens, goats, alpacas, geese, turkeys, sheep, donkeys, a wild mustang and a small herd of mini-ponies—all living on this quaint and magical property.

The charm of this wedding facility is not limited to fields where animals roam free—there is also the

ornate Victorian home where Pritchett and Howkins reside. It was moved to the property from Elberton in the late 1980s, and it offers a beautiful space for wedding parties.

“People seem to like communing with the animals and being in the old buildings; there’s something pleasant about it,” says Howkins. “It’s laid back, and it just lets you do what you want, and that’s what I love about Athens, too.”

Sweet Olive Farm is one of many in the Athens area to choose from. If you’re in the market for the barn-and-boots look, you should also investigate Historic Smithonia Farm, The Barn on Belmont, Cloverleaf Farm and Antique Acres, to name a few.

For the Artsy Couple

It’s a special thing that the Georgia Museum of Art is in Athens. What’s even better is that the museum can be rented for weddings.

“It’s one of the more contemporary spaces to have an event in,” says Michael Lachowski, the museum’s public relations coordinator. “And it has really amazing light.”

If your wedding is held during the museum’s operating hours, guests will have freedom to enjoy whatever exhibitions are on display. If you’d prefer an after-hours wedding, at an added fee (to cover security guards), guests can still get access to the galleries.

The option exists here for the event to be indoor and outdoor, with a grand hall and an auditorium inside and a sculpture garden outside. But this isn’t the only way to make art a prominent feature of your wedding.

“I would consider most weddings [to have] an art theme,” says wedding planner Josh Smith.

And that’s understandable—most weddings mean to express something visually, and that’s a good reason to bring in any artists you know. Source centerpieces, accents and décor from crafty friends who are willing to help. And don’t rule friends out just because their résumés don’t include making 400 origami nametags or a master’s degree in calligraphy. Instead, think more broadly about the strengths of



KAT HOWKINS

your friends, family and especially your wedding party and be willing to ask them to lend their skills. Better to pay someone who knows you to capture you more effectively than to order something canned and generic from a stranger.

For the Bulldog Fan

If you ever took the official UGA campus tour, your guide likely warned you that to have a wedding inside the Chapel, you need to “pick your date before you find your mate.” But I am here to dispel the urban legend that there’s a waiting list spanning years to get married at the Chapel—it’s just not true. The official policy is that you must reserve your campus space at least a year before the date. But it’s also not true that the Chapel is the only place on

campus to have your wedding. There’s many a beautiful lawn and garden just waiting for you.

The first thing to do when you decide to have your wedding on campus (or really anywhere within 10 miles of it) is to check the university schedule and book accordingly. You should never—I repeat, never—plan an Athens wedding on a football game day, unless you enjoy the idea of drunken strangers stumbling into your ceremony, hours of traffic preventing anyone from making it to the church on time or a room full of men watching the game on their smartphones while you say your vows. And remember that any major event in Athens will cause hotels to fill up quickly. I’d recommend selecting your hotel and calling to block off rooms as soon as you have your date.

continued on next page ➤

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Having a Dawg-themed wedding on campus or elsewhere also does not mean that Uga X must be your ring bearer or that Coach Richt must be the officiant.

“If you love UGA, it will be represented in your wedding,” says Beaty, who has planned many a Bulldog fan’s wedding. “There’s a tasteful way to do everything.”

Add a few subtle UGA elements or Bulldog traditions to your wedding, and people will get the picture. A couple can run through a banner as their cinematic exit from the reception; if they’re on campus, they can ring the Chapel bell or have guests sign a large print of Sanford Stadium. And just because a cake is frosted in sophisticated fashion with white fondant and perhaps a few real flowers as accents doesn’t mean that inside it can’t be completely red and black.

If you fear UGA fandom being too drastic a theme for your actual wedding or reception, keep in mind that themes are equally, if not more, useful for showers and parties.



Georgia Museum of Art

ERIN GREER OF FLASHPAN PHOTOGRAPHY



The Arch at the entrance to UGA

For Music Lovers

You know Athens is a town renowned for its music, and this is a truth that really resonates with many of its inhabitants.

Former *Flagpole* Music Editor Michelle Gilzenrat Davis and her husband Shane Davis defined the Athens rock and roll wedding. Their reception was in the Rialto Room, a swanky music venue inside Hotel Indigo. The wedding party got ready in one of the hotel’s rooms decked out with iconic photos of famous musicians, framed records and even a baby grand piano in the Presidential Suite. After the wedding, they rode in a London taxi to the 40 Watt Club with a large pack of friends to join them for an after-party—a great option if a wedding in a traditional music venue doesn’t suit you.

“Athens is so much more laid back as a town that it’s helpful when you’re getting married and you’re stressed out, because the vendors are much more friendly and relaxed.”

— Michelle Gilzenrat Davis
former Athens bride

And to have a wedding that’s all about music, it should be reflective of the music you and your fiancé most love.

“Don’t Google ‘wedding band,’” says Gilzenrat Davis. “If you see a local band you like, ask them.”

There are few Athens musicians who couldn’t use a little supplemental income here and there, and playing a wedding is a pretty festive occasion to make some extra cash. This is also an opportunity

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Georgia Theatre

ZOOMWORKS

to include any musicians in the family. In the case of the Davises, Michelle's dad and his longtime band took the stage to play a few songs in homage to their Polish heritage and to the newlyweds' own love of music.

You can make music and the music you loved in Athens a prominent feature of your wedding, even if it isn't on the tables or in the grab bags. Just think of songs that remind you of your days in town, and file an advance request with your band or DJ.

There are many music venues that also make ideal wedding spaces. If you've dreamed of seeing your name on the Georgia Theatre or 40 Watt Club marquees, now is your time. You can have a wedding at Athens' most iconic venues, complete with live music and vows onstage. As with most events

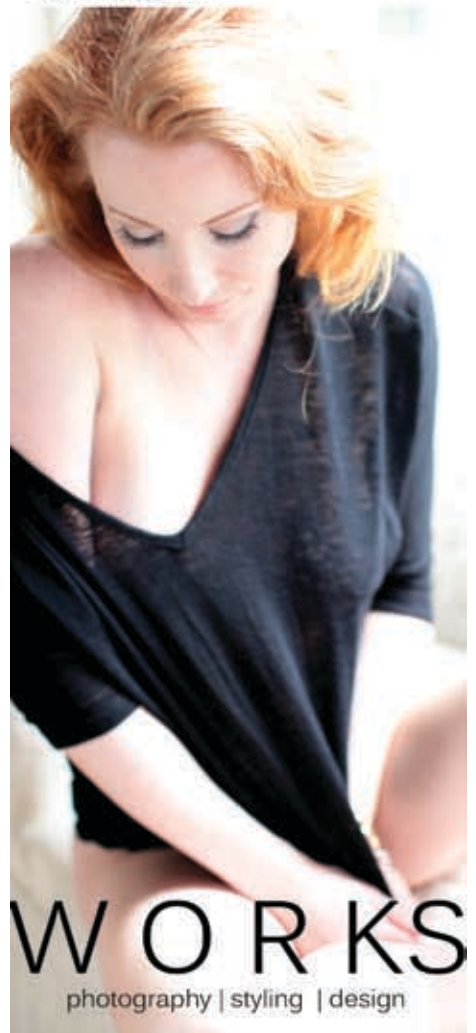
in Athens, the trick is to avoid asking for a wedding date that interferes with the big business days for venues—that includes gamedays, music festivals and big Friday and Saturday nights. The venues are easier to get into if you're down for a daytime wedding or the unconventional Sunday wedding.

What Really Matters

It's less about the wedding and more about the marriage—or at least it should be. Most likely, your wedding day will be just one of the happiest days of your life spent in Athens, and that's a memory worth clinging to. But so long as you both say "I do," you're getting the job done.



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FOOD ON THE RUN



Finding and eating food is not confined to the many restaurants and cafés around Athens. Food will find you wherever you are out and about—at festivals, markets, events and after hours, when most other places have closed.

Athens Farmers Market
705 Sunset Dr. & 271 W. Hancock Ave. • 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. In addition to produce, you'll find meats, cheese, coffee, eggs from happy chickens, cold-pressed juice, gifts and excellent handmade pasta. You also get live music, cooking demonstrations and (yay!) Farm Cart, serving up tasty breakfasts and dinners.

Empanadas and Other Favorite Things
706-215-1509 • [Find us on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/empanadasathens)

Found at Athens Farmers Market as well as elsewhere, this stand by Juan Villaveces and family sells both traditional meat and veggie (e.g., butternut squash) versions of the Latin pocket food.

Georgia Food Tours
706-410-1111 • georgiafoodtours.com

Food-focused tours by foot, bicycle or car led by authoritative guides, with tastes along the way. They're a great option for newcomers, visitors or even longtime Athenians.

Hip Pops
160 Tracy St., Ste. 13 • 706-705-2161 • hippopsathens.com

Handmade popsicles in fresh flavors with punny names, available from the little purple cart at special events, in the freezer at Daily Groceries and in the brick-and-mortar location in the Chase Park Warehouses Mon.–Fri. afternoons.

Holy Crepe
706-765-7087 • theholycrepetruck.com

No regular hours yet, but pop-ups, festivals and appearances at the Classic Center's Sunday Center Market. Sweet and savory crepes.

King of Pops
678-732-9321 • kingofpops.net

Atlanta-based fancy popsicles under a rainbow umbrella. Regular locations include Five Points and downtown (at Broad and College), but the carts show up at Athens Church, the YWCO soccer fields and various special events.

Kona Ice
770-310-3931 • [facebook.com/konaiceathens](https://www.facebook.com/konaiceathens)

Retailing shaved ice with brightly colored syrup in a ton of flavors, this truck sets up at special events, prearranged happenings and on Baxter Street during UGA home games.

The Lil' Ice Cream Dude
706-255-7450 • lilicecreamdude.com

Pre-teen entrepreneur Beau Shell retails novelty popsicles and ice cream at special events, in Sanford Stadium and via catering.

Oconee Farmers Market
23 N. Main St. & 4 Main St., Watkinsville • oconeefarmersmarket.org

The Oconee Farmers Market operates in downtown Watkinsville Sat. 8 a.m.–1 p.m. in front of the courthouse. Produce, prepared foods, meats and gifts—all from within a 100-mile radius.

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 retailer of prepared foods. There's a second branch with more limited options weekends on the Eastside in A Weekend A'Fair at 790 Gaines School Rd.

Streets Cafe
706-540-2134 • streetscafe.com

This food truck focuses on Korean, American and Latin specialties, sometimes all blended together, as in the kimchi quesadilla, Korean tacos, chipotle pork sliders and more. You can find it at Terrapin Brewery on Newton Bridge Road, late-night downtown and at special events and festivals.

Sunday Center Market
440 Foundry St. • 706-208-0900 • sundaycentermarket.com

This market features local produce, food trucks, crafts, live music and kids' activities in the Classic Center's new Foundry Street pavilion. Sundays May–Oct., 11 a.m.–4 p.m., except football weekends.

UGArden Produce Stand
2500 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-549-4850 • ugarden.uga.edu

UGA student organization with a stand to sell its produce at great prices Thursdays 4:30–6 p.m. at the garden. UGArden also partners with the Athens Community Council on Aging at 134 Hoyt St. during the school year on Tuesdays from 11 a.m.–2 p.m.

West Broad Farmers Market
1573 W. Broad St. • athenslandtrust.org

In the West Broad School, next to garden plots run by Athens Land Trust, the market runs Sat. 10 a.m.–2 p.m. and Tues. 4–7 p.m., with a strong focus on educational activities. Live DJ, chess, crafts and yoga in the garden. For eats, there's healthful soul food, Mannaweenta Ethiopian, Rashe's Jamaican and Abraham's Parlor (Trinidadian street food).

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:

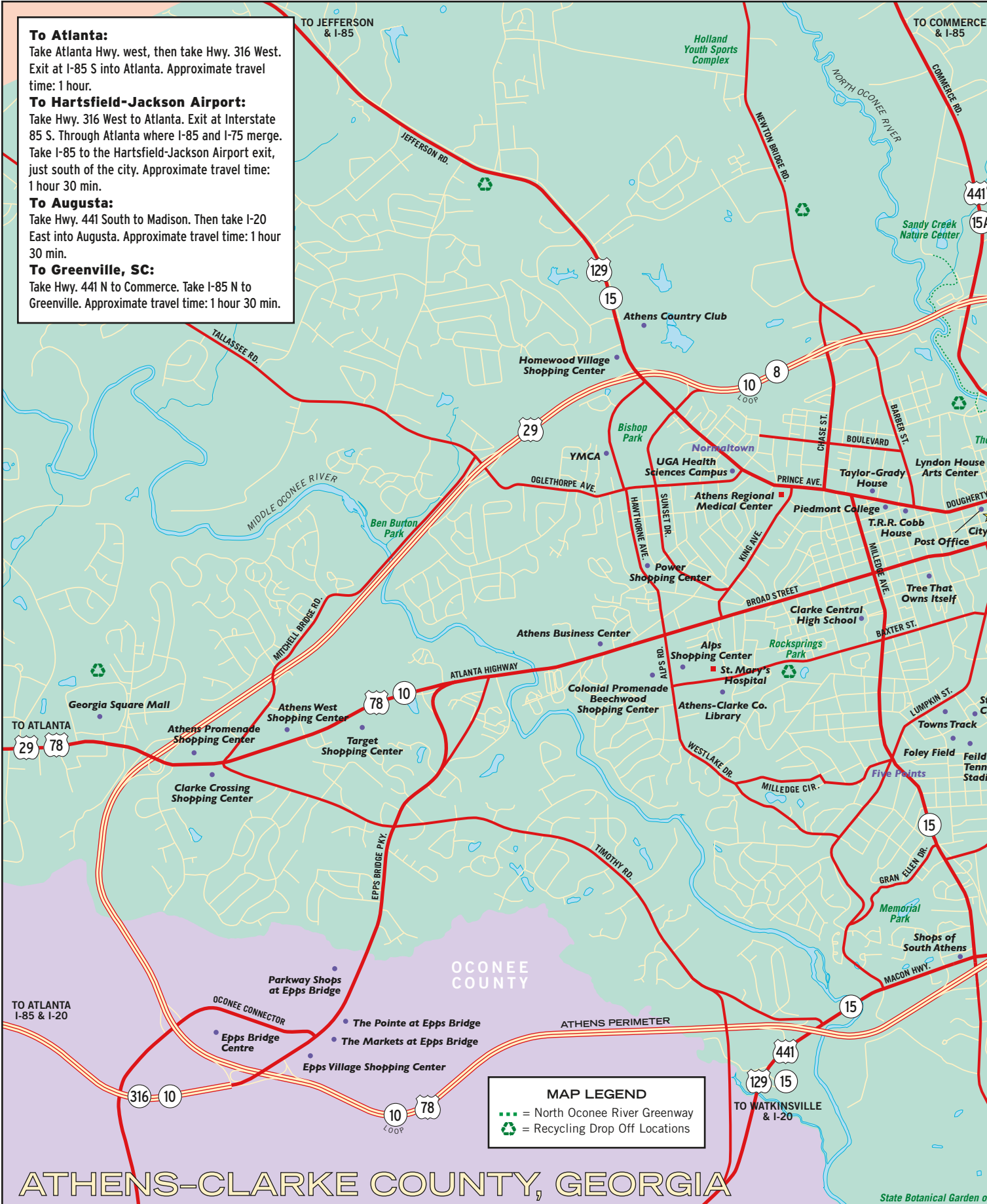
Take Hwy. 316 West to Atlanta. Exit at Interstate 85 S. Through Atlanta where I-85 and I-75 merge. Take I-85 to the Hartsfield-Jackson Airport exit, just south of the city. Approximate travel time: 1 hour 30 min.

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:

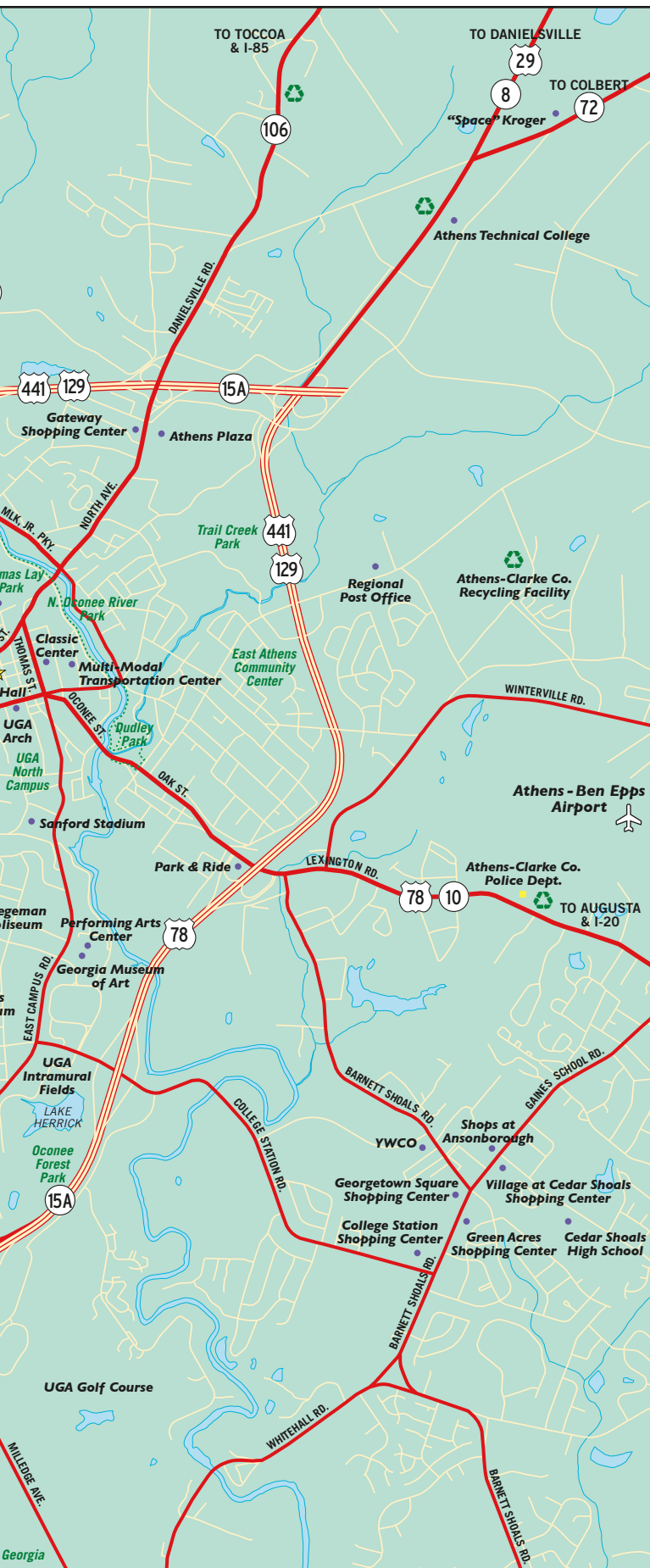
Take Hwy. 441 N to Commerce. Take I-85 N to Greenville. Approximate travel time: 1 hour 30 min.



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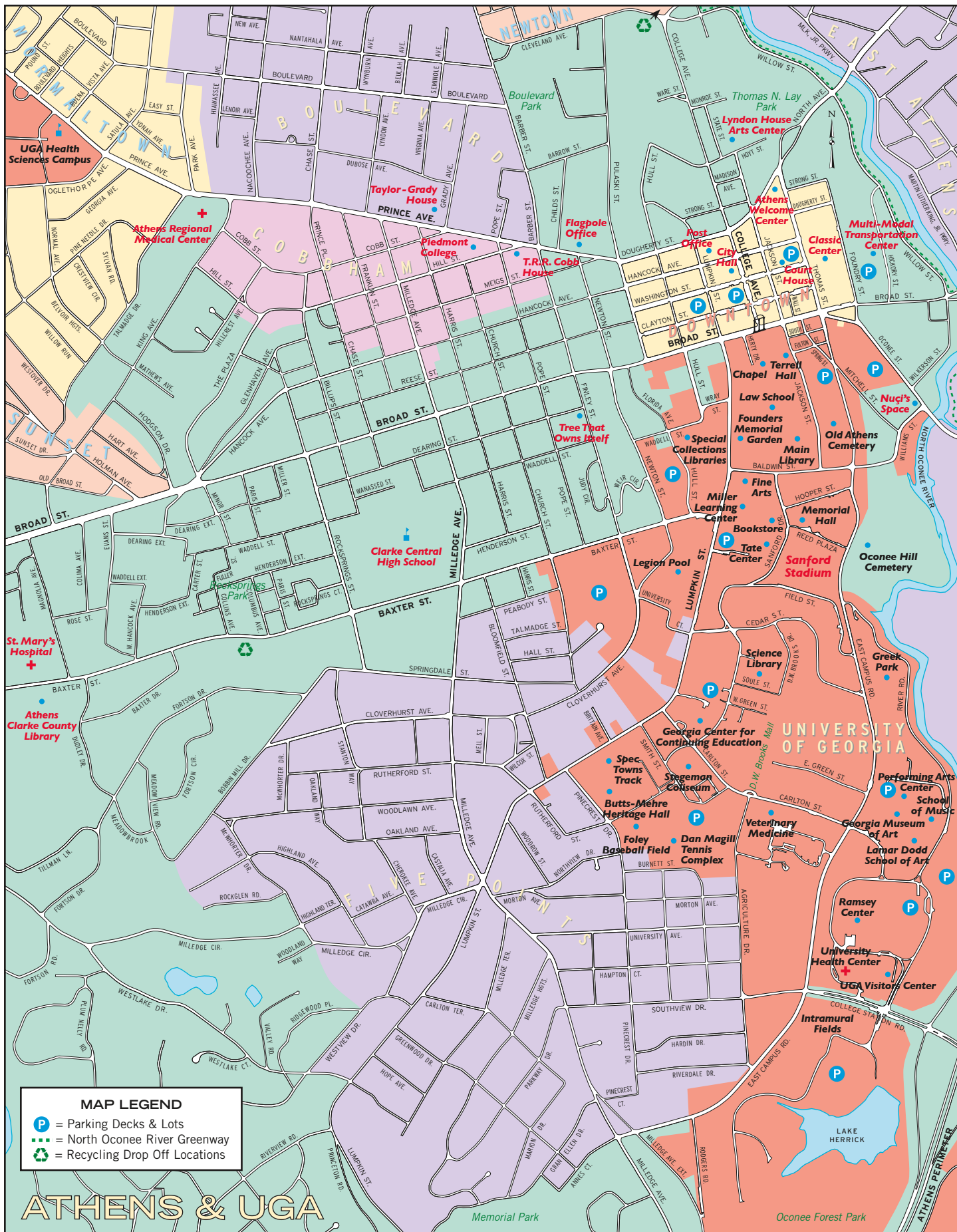
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MAP LEGEND

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ATHENS & UGA

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Hendershot's Coffee Bar 237 Prince Ave., 706-353-3050; p. 47
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Ike and Jane 1307 Prince Ave., 706-850-1580; 90 Carlton St. (Georgia Museum of Art), 706-542-4662; p. 48
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Insomnia Cookies 228 E. Clayton St., 877-632-6654; p. 48
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. Millledge Ave., 706-208-1979;

RESTAURANT *and* BAR LISTINGS



1000 Faces Coffee Tasting Room

585 Barber St. • 706-534-8860

1000facescoffee.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses, Something Different. **HOURS:** Open Mon.–Fri., 9 a.m.–5 p.m. **THE LOOK:** More a store than a hang-out, this space in the DOC building on Barber Street houses the local micro-roaster's production facilities. It's not fancy, but they're enthused to give you a tour. **MENU:** 1000 Faces hosts public cuppings the last Friday of the month at 3:15 p.m., educating those who attend about the process of roasting coffee, how to think about its flavor components and their mission to bring good small-batch brew to Athens. It's the best kind of personalized evangelism, and you'll get at least one great cup of coffee out of it. \$

A-OK Cafe

154 College Ave. • 706-355-3002

facebook.com/aokcafe

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Hiding below Marvin's Shoe Service, with occasional banging noises

coming from upstairs. **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. Sushi was recently added as an option. \$

Add Drug Store

1695 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-2239

facebook.com/add.drug

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, simple sandwiches (egg salad, tuna salad, pimento cheese, BLT) and small baskets of fresh, hot French fries at low, low prices for lunch. Malts, milkshakes, floats and classic vanilla and cherry sodas made in front of you. \$

Agua Linda Mexican Restaurant & Cantina

2080 Timothy Rd. • 706-543-0154

1376 Prince Ave. • 706-543-1500

agualindarestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Friendly and family-owned, Agua Linda's original location on Prince has a jam-packed patio in nice weather. The Timothy location is spacious on the inside and also has outdoor seating. **MENU:** Lots of Ameri-Mex standards (burrito supreme, etc.). Your kids can get chicken fingers, but if you're willing to be more

adventurous, there's also horchata, Mexican-style tacos with al pastor or barbacoa, tortas and an array of Especialidades. **DRINKS:** Margaritas (frozen and non), bottled and draft beer, sangria and micheladas (beer cocktails). \$\$

Allgood Lounge

256 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-0166

allgoodlounge.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Opens at noon. **THE LOOK:** The self-proclaimed "worst bar ever" is anything but. This watering hole has an eclectic mix of patrons with a locals scene in the afternoon that shifts to the college crowd in the evening. A spiral staircase leads to an intimate rooftop patio complete with a tiki bar. **DRINKS:** Offering 55 whiskeys, 18 tequilas, 20 rotating craft beers on draft and over 200 bottle beer selections. Build your own Bloody Mary bar from 12–9 p.m. \$

Amici

233 E. Clayton St. • 706-353-0000

amici-cafe.com

FILE UNDER: Pizza, Bars. **FEATURES:** Trivia, Catering, Outside Seating, Art, Take-Out, Delivery, Full Bar, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Casual dining space with dark wood, long bar and brick walls. **MENU:** This Georgia chain focuses most on pizza and wings but also does sandwiches, pasta, salads and soup. Pizza comes by the slice, by the pie or folded to make a calzone, with your own combo of toppings or a gourmet variety like the Muay Thai (chicken, cilantro, sweet chili sauce, feta, banana peppers, red onion) or the Pimento (pimento cheese, onions, bacon, jalapenos). **DRINKS:** Full bar with lots of draft choices. The Beer of the Month is usually a good craft brew. \$

👑 = 2015 Athens Favorites flagpole reader picks (see p. 9)

\$	\$7 & under	Average Price of Entree
\$\$	\$8–\$12	
\$\$\$	\$13–\$17	
\$\$\$\$	\$18 & up	

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 Art Lounge

296 W. Broad St. • 706-353-8530

artinisartlounge.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Art Classes. **THE LOOK:** ARTini's is the place to drink and draw in an inviting gallery and lounge space. Local artists teach different paintings each day. Classes include instruction and supplies. No previous artistic skill is required. **DRINKS:** Beer, wine, sodas and bottled water. \$

Athens Bagel Co.

268 N. Jackson St. • 706-543-5001

athensbagel.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A locally owned bagel bakery in a nice, open space downtown. **MENU:** Big, good 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

athenshealth.org

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian-Friendly. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** ARMC's cafeteria (in the basement of the Talmadge Tower) isn't just for visitors or staff; the general public is welcome to this hidden cafeteria, too. **MENU:** Selections rotate daily. Expect nutritious yet comforting options like rotisserie chicken, grilled salmon, vegetable stir-fry, macaroni and cheese, turnip greens and apple crisp cobbler for dessert. The Dogwood Deli, on the first floor of Prince Tower, does sandwiches, salads, smoothies and Jittery Joe's coffee 8 a.m.–5 p.m. weekdays. \$

Athens Wok

493 E. Clayton St. • 706-850-2695

athenswok.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-Out, Beer & Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. Late Night Fri. & Sat. **THE LOOK:** Counter service and hibachi-style cooking in a casual atmosphere; friendly owners. **MENU:** Thai, Chinese, Korean and Japanese dishes in generous portions, made with chicken, steak, salmon, shrimp, vegetables or tofu, plus sushi. The Thai curries are some of the best things on the menu, but everything is fast and made with fresh ingredients. \$

Automatic Pizza

1397 Prince Ave. • 706-850-2037

facebook.com/automaticpizzazaathens

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Outside Seating, Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** An old, neighborhood service station, formerly a Pizza Hut, with antique gas pumps installed outside, and a cola sign announcing "Normaltown," this tiny space has outdoor seating front and back and makes great use of every square inch. A plastic animal marks your order for the servers. **MENU:** Excellent, large, floppy, New York-style slices or whole pies, topped

with quality stuff, including great anchovies and, should you be vegan, dal cheese; good salads; nice subs on Luna bread; cannoli. **DRINKS:** Local and mainstream draft beer, wine, half-pours of either available for half-price while you wait on a to-go order. \$

Bar Georgia

159 W. Clayton St. • 706-850-9040

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** What was formerly Georgia Bar has reopened as "the newest oldest bar in Athens." This distinguished dive offers an old-school atmosphere with a fresh coat of paint. This is where locals go for pool and power ballads. **DRINKS:** Exclusively local beers on tap. Happy hour Monday through Friday. Wednesday night is ladies night. \$

Bar South

104 E. Washington St. • 706-850-1329

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Live Music. **THE LOOK:** A bustling billiards and sports bar situated across the street from the Georgia Theater. Offering pool, shuffleboard, foosball, darts and Golden Tee Golf. Plenty of TVs for watching sporting events and a spacious patio for lounging. **DRINKS:** Seven draft beer options and the usual suspects behind the bar, including several high-end whiskeys. \$

The Bar-B-Que Shack

4320 Lexington Rd. • 706-613-6752

facebook.com/bbqshackathens

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Checks. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Thurs.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Old-school BBQ establishment with picnic tables covered in checkered tablecloths. **MENU:** BBQ chicken, pork and rib plates served with coleslaw, stew, chips and bread. Great sweet tea. 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., Watkinsville • 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:** Locally owned chain now has locations throughout the Southeast; more casual than the "Grille and Cantina" part of the name might imply. **MENU:** Health-oriented Mexican fare. Build your own burrito (or quesadilla, fajitas, tacos, nachos or salads) as you walk down the counter. Lots of vegetarian and vegan options, plus the "7 Under 7" menu that has seven options with less than seven grams of fat each. \$

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., Watkinsville • 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. & Watkinsville). Wi-Fi (Prince Ave. & Watkinsville). **HOURS:** 5 a.m.–12 a.m. (Prince Ave.) Open 6 a.m.–10 p.m., 7 Days (Watkinsville & Gaines School Rd.) \$

Bee's Knees Bakery & Gifts

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-353-3633

beeskneesbakeryandgifts.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries, Delivery. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** 9:30 a.m.–6:30 p.m., Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Order a custom cake for any occasion (including weddings) or drop by this cute bakery to see what's in store. **MENU:** The display case is always full of beautifully decorated cakes, iced cookies, cupcakes, brownies, cake pops and other sweets, like French macarons. Box lunches with sandwiches and sweets are available. \$

Beef 'O' Brady's

1860 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-850-1916

beefobradys.com

FILE UNDER: American, 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 some brews. **MENU:** Sports bar fare: burgers and sliders, sandwiches, wraps and salads, tasty wings hand-tossed in one of two dry rubs or 12 sauces, fried shrimp and fish and chips. **DRINKS:** 22 beers on tap, 44 in the bottle. 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.–Thurs. 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:** One of the best patios in Athens has sidewalk chalk for the kids (or creative grown-ups) and plenty of shade. If it's too hot, too cold or too rainy, big booths and cozy tables inside will suit your needs. **MENU:** Big City is a crowd pleaser for good reason, serving every meal you could want, lots of vegetarian options and fancier stuff at dinner, when the kitchen gets a chance to execute French standards. At breakfast and brunch, build your own biscuit, order one of the fluffy, tasty omelets or chomp on the excellent French toast. Lunch has sandwiches, burgers and salads, with a few bigger entrees and many nice touches. The bakery makes fresh breads, pastries, muffins and cakes daily, available in the case up front and behind the counter, and offers specials you can order in advance during holiday seasons. **DRINKS:** Small but good selection of bottled, canned and draft beer; wine by the glass or bottle. \$\$\$

Big Family Cafe

2467 Jefferson Rd. • 706-355-3102

thefamilycafe.com

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast and Lunch, 7 days, 7 a.m.–3 p.m. **THE LOOK:** Warm and welcoming in an informal atmosphere; great for kids. **MENU:** Scrambles, burritos, sandwiches, pancakes, oatmeal, crepes, huevos rancheros, burgers, Benedicts, grilled turkey, hot pastrami and more. You can eat breakfast or lunch at any time Big Family Cafe is open. Everything is made in house, even the things like Hollandaise sauce that most restaurants of its type get pre-mixed from a big food supplier, and it shows. The food is fresh, reliably delicious and has a healthy accent that's vaguely California but not too crunchy. Hot berry cobbler is always available for dessert. \$



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www.tkanderson.com

Bill's Bar-B-Que

10010 Fortson Store Rd., Hull • 706-549-4949

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Classic BBQ surroundings, a couple of TVs, vintage UGA memorabilia. **MENU:** Closed and then reopened recently, Bill's is known for hash (halfway between Brunswick stew and chopped pork) and chicken mull, but also has slaw dogs, hash dogs, pork, beef, burgers, hush puppies, fried catfish. Sauce is vinegary and thin. Cokes in glass bottles. \$

Blazer's Hot Wings

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

Find us on Facebook
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days (3–8 p.m. Sun.). **THE LOOK:** A quaint, little red stand that serves wings and chicken fingers to-go. Covered picnic-style seating outside. **MENU:** Boneless or traditional wings, tossed in any combination of 13 sauces (lemon pepper, honey mustard, sweet and sour, Rajin Cajun), and available in bulk if you need a lot of them. Blazer's also has hamburgers, corn dogs, fried shrimp and fried chicken salads. Onion rings, fries and fried apple pies on the side. Two other locations are in Statham and Lexington, a little farther afield. \$

Blind Pig Tavern

485 Baldwin St. • 706-548-3442

2440 W. Broad St. • 706-208-7979

2301 College Station Rd. • 706-850-4919

blindpigtavern.com
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:** The original location is traditionally the place where Georgia fans gather for signing day, but the sports bar atmosphere isn't off-putting. Two newer locations are more well-scrubbed but fun, too. **MENU:** Burgers are a big thing at Blind Pig (yes, there's a veggie option, as well as a surprising number of choices for non-meat-eaters), but there's plenty of other bar food, too: wings, sandwiches, wraps, hot dogs, fried pickles and chili cheese fries. Healthy choices appear here and there, like a salad with grilled fish (!) or the Hot Healthy Mama (fish filet over sauteed spinach with black beans). **DRINKS:** Beer on tap, more in the bottle, plus standard cocktails. \$\$

Blue Sky

128 College Ave. • 706-850-3153

blueskyathens.com
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** FULL BAR, OUTSIDE SEATING. **THE LOOK:** A secluded second-floor speakeasy-style establishment that looks out over north campus. This refined space has an elegant bar and comfy private patio. The main entrance is on College Avenue, but you can also access Blue Sky from its sister bar, Walker's Pub. This is a prime hangout for graduate students and young professionals. **DRINKS:** Blue Sky has a massive craft beer menu with 200+ beers in 27 different styles, including gluten-free beer. Also featuring an extensive scotch and whiskey selection. \$

Boar's Head Lounge

260 E. Washington St. • 706-369-3040

@BoarsHeadLounge
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** This three-level lounge offers a large upstairs deck, a beer garden where live music plays most nights of the week and a massive cellar bar complete with foosball, shuffleboard, pool, beer pong and free popcorn. There is something for everybody, which brings a mix of locals and students. **DRINKS:** Try a signature "Capri Sun" cocktail. Drink specials posted on Twitter. \$

Bourbon Street

333 E. Broad St. • 706-369-1313

@BourbonStAth
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A rowdy place for underclassmen to cut loose. In this New Orleans-themed establishment it's Mardi Gras six nights a week. **DRINKS:** Cheap beer and liquor drinks including Pat O'Brien's famous hurricanes and fishbowls. \$

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:** Brick walls and a nice bar at the entrance, plus a hidden patio in the back. **MENU:** Innovative, charcuterie-driven and fun, this is a great place to expand your palate. There are, believe it or not, things for vegetarians to eat (e.g., a carrot soup with creme fraiche, urfa pepper and candied ginger) that are just as creative as the meatier options. Omnivores will have the opportunity to eat nose to tail and choose among mussels, lamb, porchetta di testa (pig's head) and the cutest Scotch egg, wrapped in housemade sausage. Hipster breakfast (two eggs, sausage or bacon, toast and a 16 oz. Pabst Blue Ribbon) is available Sundays. Bar burger served Mondays. The bar opens at 4 p.m. and serves oysters starting right then. **DRINKS:** Intelligent cocktails that hit the right mix of tradition and creativity; great selection of whiskey; excellent wines and some fun beers. \$\$\$\$

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, tenderloin, 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 fish on Fridays. \$

Brett's Casual American Restaurant

3190 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-850-1395

brettscasualamerican.com
FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Curbside Pick-Up, Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Tucked into a strip mall, Brett's is casual and family-friendly in a way few places in Athens can match, with a great emphasis on making little ones happy. **MENU:** The kitchen makes pretty much everything from scratch, including the salad dressings, on a large menu that ranges from grilled seafood to burgers, tacos, chili dogs, steaks, big salads, nachos and artichoke dip. Kids' meals start at \$2 and are served both lunch and dinner. \$

Brixx Wood Fired Pizza

135 W. Washington St. • 706-395-1660

brixxpizza.com
FILE UNDER: Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Conveniently located in the Washington Street parking deck, garage door on patio for nice-weather days, visible wood-burning oven. **MENU:** A wide variety of pasta entrees, sandwiches, wraps and wood-fired pizzas, including gluten-free options. Lots of specialty pies, including dessert pizzas, or you can build your own. **DRINKS:** 24 local and craft beers on draft, 1/2-price bottles of wine on Sunday, cocktails. \$

Buddha Bar

431 E. Broad St. • 706-208-7017

@BuddhaAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** FULL BAR. **THE LOOK:** Asian inspired decor and underclassmen antics. A massive golden happy Buddha greets you at the entrance; eternal enlightenment sold separately. **DRINKS:** Sake bombs, champagne and shots. Oh my! \$

Buffalo's Café

196 Alps Rd. • 706-354-6655

buffaloscfe.com/athens

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Live Music, Trivia, Delivery, Wi-Fi, Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Wings and more in a family atmosphere. Trivia, line dancing and live bands weekly; large banquet rooms you can reserve. **MENU:** The wings come in 14 different flavors and range from mild to "Death Valley." Burgers, sandwiches, ribs, tacos, wraps, flatbreads and salads with a Southwestern accent make up the rest of the menu. Also: fried cheesecake. **DRINKS:** 10 draft beers, wine and cocktails that incorporate hot 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:** Order pizzas as big as 24 inches in diameter on Bulldawg Pizza's website, with up to 20 toppings, as well as wings (15 sauces), hot and cold subs, calzones, fried apps, pasta, salads, bread sticks and dessert (cheesecake, chocolate cake or cinnamon sticks). \$

Bulldawg Wings/Deli & Tropical Grocery

1037 Baxter St. • 706-546-1105

FILE UNDER: Burgers, Sandwiches and Chicken, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Halal deli housed in a small no-frills grocery store. **MENU:** Burgers like the Sexy Ho and Jerk Burger, plus wings and chicken sandwiches. Jamaican food sometimes. The grocery store also offers sodas, dried fish and shrimp, jarred curries and packaged snacks. \$

Butt Hutt Bar-B-Q

480 Macon Hwy. • 706-850-8511

butthuttathens.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Live Music, Catering, Trivia, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** As you'd expect, tuxedos are not required, but a full bar alongside good BBQ is hard to find. **MENU:** Excellent pulled pork that can stand on its own sans sauce. Ribs are on point. All the sides are tasty, too, including a great salty, creamy potato salad that incorporates bacon and a superlative chicken mull. **DRINKS:** Beer, liquor, frozen drinks. \$

The Cabin Room

321 E. Clayton St. • 706-548-5888

@CabinRoomAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outdoor Seating. **THE LOOK:** A cozy cabin-themed bar where antlers and taxidermy abound. The cabin room is sandwiched between its sister bars Flanagan's and Whiskey Bent. Offering beer pong and pool. **DRINKS:** Cheap well drinks and domestic beer during both happy hour and power hour. \$

Café on Prince

595 Prince Ave. • 706-433-1782

prestigefoodscorp.com/ourclients_cafeonprince.htm

FILE UNDER: American, Downhome. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.-Thurs. Lunch, Fri. **THE LOOK:**

Piedmont College's cafeteria is open to students and the community, when class is in session. **MENU:** Southern cooking, cafeteria-style but tasty. Three entrees (fried chicken and chopped steak and gravy over rice, plus one more), four veggies (such as fried okra and squash casserole) and a salad bar are offered daily. \$

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:** A children's wonderland, Cali 'N' Tito's has a couple of land-locked boats, tons of outdoor seating (covered and not) and ever-changing decor. **MENU:** An absolute must, Cali 'N' Tito's is a favorite in summer and winter, when outdoor heaters pop up and condensed-milk-sweetened coffee is available in a carafe. The food is Latin American with a Peruvian influence, from tacu tacu (rice and beans topped with eggs) to lomo saltado (steak, French fries, tomato, red onions), big delicious sandwiches, yuca frita, plantains two ways (sweet and savory), fish burrito and more. Lots of veggie choices. Show up early if the weather's nice, unless you want to wait. \$

Cali 'N' Tito's Eastside

1254 Cedar Shoals Dr. • 706-355-7087

lapuertadelosol.net

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Beer and Wine, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and Dinner, Tue-Sun. **THE LOOK:** Housed in a beautifully renovated building (called La Puerta del Sol) across from Cedar Shoals High School, the restaurant features coin-operated children's rides, vintage Mexican movie posters, an airplane hanging from the ceiling, a fountain in the middle and much, much more. **MENU:** The menu is almost the same as at the original Cali 'N' Tito's, but there are some differences, like chicken dishes under the heading Pollo Criollo and, of course, beer and wine. It also takes credit cards through Square. \$\$

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:** A rare independent restaurant in the Epps Bridge area, Catch 22 is big, with a large bar and a laid-back atmosphere. **MENU:** Big flavors abound: the Diabetic Coma burger (cinnabon, bacon, egg, aged cheddar), Filthy Fries (beer cheese, bacon, green onions), blackened tuna sandwich (with popcorn bun, wasabi slaw, tomato and sriracha soy) and more. Fun snacks, lots of specials, cute kids' menu, ramen nights. **DRINKS:** Serious about beer, with many on draft and even more canned (gose, witbier, many IPAs), plus regular beer dinners and tastings. Wine, too. \$\$\$

Cecilia Villaveces 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; specialty and wedding cakes require more advance notice. Creative cakes can be custom-

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designed for special occasions. Popular flavors include lemon, tres leches, Hummingbird, mocha, caramel, coconut and red velvet. \$

Centro Bar

400 E. Clayton St.

@CentroAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **THE LOOK:**

An upscale concept college spot with two bars. This place caters to Greek life students and parents. **DRINKS:** Full bar with specialty cocktails like the Classic City Tom Collins and East Clayton Lemonade. \$

Champy's Famous Fried Chicken

1120 Baxter St. • 706-850-3092

champyschicken.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:**

Full Bar, Take-Out, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Delta-style juke joint with vintage LP covers on the walls, crazy chicken-themed yard art. **MENU:** Fried chicken is the main offering, but don't miss the Delta hot tamales served with slaw and saltines. Other fried food like jalapenos, pickle spears, green tomatoes and catfish, plus frogs' legs and wings. **DRINKS:** 40s of beer, plus a full bar and local brews on tap. \$

Cheddar's Casual Cafe

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-353-0217

cheddarsgeorgia.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating.

HOURS: Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **MENU:** American franchise-style dining, with big portions, lots of seating and drinks big enough (and well priced enough) to specify a limit of two per guest. Lots of cheese (Wisconsin cheese bites fried and served with marinara sauce), a small health-conscious section on the menu, surf and turf, burgers, Baked Spasagna and Southern sides. **DRINKS:** Fishbowl-sized cocktails, lots of margaritas and alcoholic iced teas. \$

Chef Ming

1720 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-552-3233

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A shopping center space that feels more elegant than it should. **MENU:** Lots of standards, but all prepared with a lighter touch and less grease. Lunch specials are a great deal, priced well and coming with rice, spring roll, crab rangoon or chicken wings and your choice of hot and sour, egg drop or wonton soup, all of which are good. \$\$\$

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. Milledge Ave. • 706-850-7788

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Quick service is key at this small Chinese restaurant that focuses on to-go food. **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). Combo entrees come 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 and sour soup and an egg roll. The menu also features a Weight Watchers section of low-cal items. \$\$

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 priced by the pound. **MENU:** Choose from over 300 Chinese, American and Japanese dishes from the buffets 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. \$

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; i.e., get your food to-go. **MENU:** Americanized quick-service Chinese dishes including chop suey, lo mein, mai fun, moo shu and egg fu young make up the primary order of business here. \$

Chipotle

165 Alps Rd. • 706-548-7210

chipotle.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. \$

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:** Although the location has changed, this Southern-cooking standard has been in business nearly 20 years. Private room available to rent for large parties. **MENU:** Menu changes daily (check Facebook), 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. Often open holidays. \$

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. **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 or calamari. Healthy options are there but less popular than greasier stuff late at night. \$

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, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days, Weekend Breakfast. **THE LOOK:** Taking full advantage of its two floors and large space in downtown Watkinsville, the restaurant has white-tablecloth dining and a big bar with TVs. **MENU:**

Steaks and beer are both emphasized and a strong point but not the only option by a long shot. Other options include salmon tacos, chicken banh mi, grilled fish and fun chef-crafted burgers. Lots of specials. **DRINKS:** Big, big selection of beer and wine, well-priced and well-chosen. \$\$\$

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. \$

Ciné Barcafé

234 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-353-3343

athenscine.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Movies, Art. **THE LOOK:** Part art gallery, part arthouse theater with a bar and lounge at its heart. This repurposed industrial space is uber hip with a massive curved banquette, exposed brick walls, high ceilings and plenty of café-style seating. **DRINKS:** A full bar, including thoughtful beer, wine, and liquor selections, as well as coffee, espresso drinks, tea and sodas. Popcorn, candy and locally made baked goods, also available. \$

City Bar

220 College Ave. • 706-546-7612

@City_Bar

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Its upscale design, tall ceilings, hardwood bar, marble accents and chandeliers cater to a post-college demographic, but this bar is still friendly towards all. **DRINKS:** A full-service bar known for its flavored martinis and cocktails like the Mantini and the Key Lime Pie. \$

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:** Cute and vintage, with lots of fun things to look at. **MENU:** Diner fare updated. Burgers are what Clocked is best known for, made with 100% all-natural, humanely raised, antibiotic-free beef and with an emphasis on creative toppings: bacon jam, peanut butter, gouda, grilled mushrooms and more. Gluten-free buns are available, as are lots of vegan/veggie choices. Round it out with tater tots, a milkshake, a Shirley Temple or a vintage soda. **DRINKS:** Five varieties of Bell's, on draft. \$\$

Cloud

164 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-7771

@CloudAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **THE LOOK:** An upstairs spot with a massive color-changing bubble tank extending the length of the bar. This place caters to the college crowd with a high-energy club vibe. Offering pool and TVs for watching sporting events. **DRINKS:** Draft & bottle beer, cocktails and shots. Drink specials posted on Twitter. \$

Cook Out

1020 Jordan Dr. • 706-425-8662

1917 W. Broad St.

cookout.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches Burgers & Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **THE**

Look: Fast and economically priced NC burger chain. **Menu:** Burgers, hot dogs, BBQ sandwiches, chicken, BLTs and side orders like fries, chili, onion rings, et al. Best known for its 40 different milkshake flavors and Cheerwine floats. Broad Street location opening soon. \$

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:** This brewpub makes its own beers (you can see them in big copper tanks through the window) and serves them in a dark, quiet environment downtown. **MENU:** Pub stuff with some international accents (Filipino egg rolls with sweet chili sauce, beef skewers marinated in sweet soy and sriracha and served with curried sour cream) but also American standards (fried chicken, ribs, shrimp and grits). **DRINKS:** Housemade beers may be Belgian, English, German, Scottish or American, and the long list of options changes constantly. Guest beers, too. \$\$

Country Rock Bar

1700 Commerce Rd.

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music. **THE LOOK:** Athens' very own country & western bar, with music on the mainstage, large dance floor, multiple bars, billiard tables and TV's to watch the game. Grab your cowboy boots and hat if you want to fit in. **DRINKS:** Specialty drinks, cheap domestics and wells. \$

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:** Inside the UGA Hotel (which you may know as the Georgia Center), this cafeteria has a nice patio outside. Validated parking for up to one hour is available at the South Campus Parking Deck. **MENU:** Breakfast in the a.m., made-to-order deli sandwiches in the p.m. Southern standards from a steam table and a soup and salad bar on weekdays. Coffee, muffins and bagels are available around the corner at Georgia Java. \$

Cozy Bar

179 Jackson St.

facebook.com/cozybarathens

FILE UNDER: Bars & Clubs. **THE LOOK:** Sister bar of Cozy Yum Yum located in a narrow basement-level space. Live music and karaoke and an intimate stage. Offering gyoza and other dim sum to satisfy late night cravings. **DRINKS:** Full bar specializing in sake bombs and Thai beers. \$

Cozy Yum Yum

489 E. Clayton St. • 706-543-8898

cozyyumyum.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and Wine, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Wed.-Sat. **THE LOOK:** Pretty paper lanterns, brightly painted walls and flowers on the tables. **MENU:** 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. Also: seaweed salad, squid salad, soups, satay, bubble tea and plenty more. **DRINKS:** Sake, Southeast Asian beers, domestics. \$\$

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, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A tried and true Irish Pub that draws a good mix of locals and students. Offering pool, darts, Foosball and Golden Tee Golf. **DRINKS:** Cutter's offers a full bar with everything from Johnny Walker Blue Label to Redbull & vodka slushies on tap. \$

D.P. Dough

162 W. Clayton St.

dpdough.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Take Out, Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Dinner and Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Calzone franchise coming to the Georgia Heights apartments in October or November. **MENU:** Calzones, wings (bone-in and boneless), tots, breadsticks (savory and cinnamon sugar). Online ordering for late-night delivery. \$

Dawg Gone Good BBQ

224 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-613-9799

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch-Late Night, Thurs. & Fri., Dinner-Late Night Sat., Lunch & Dinner Sun.-Wed. **THE LOOK:** Take-out downtown, with tables inside and out to eat on-premises. **MENU:** Ribs, BBQ chicken, pulled pork sandwiches and sausage dogs, plus sides like baked potato salad, creamed spinach, yams, coleslaw, baked beans and mac and cheese. \$

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:** Classic Italian with a little ritz but family friendly. **MENU:** Each location is different, but all have New York-style pizza, calzones, pasta, salads and desserts. Slice-and-a-salad is a great lunch deal, and the menu expands at dinner, with regular specials and items like Shrimp Charmaine (shrimp sautéed with a spicy sun-dried tomato, spinach and jalapeño cream sauce over fettuccine) and pan-seared Newfoundland scallops with creamy butternut squash sauce, pancetta and fresh sage over spaghetti. Vegan, vegetarian, dairy-free and gluten-free customers are given full consideration, with a menu that indicates what meets their needs and a gluten-free pasta. The Timothy Road location has a nice patio. **DRINKS:** Long wine list, mostly Italian; half-price off all bottles under \$50 on Mondays at Timothy and East Side locations. \$\$

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:** Texas-based chain with trademark big yellow cups for drinks. **MENU:** Brisket is the specialty here, but you can also get pulled pork, honey-glazed ham, smoked sausage, pork ribs, turkey and chicken. Homestyle sides, sandwiches, giant baked potatoes, family meals and pecan pie. \$\$

di'lishi Frozen Yogurt Bar

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-208-1170

facebook.com/dilishiathens

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies. **HOURS:** Late night 7 days. **MENU:** The Athens area's latest froyo chain is in Epps



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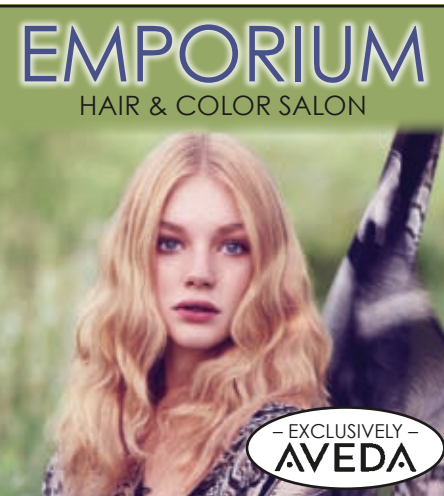
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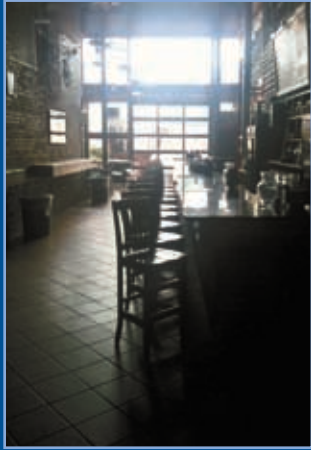


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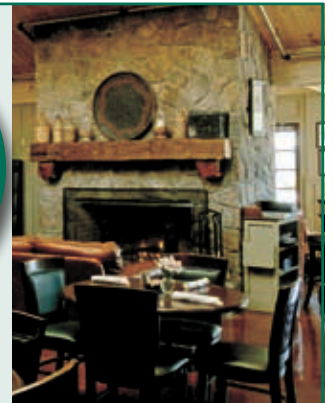


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2310 West Broad St. • 706-353-7667
www.hilltopgrille.com

Bridge Centre. The store offers 10 flavors at a time, rotating regularly, with more than 60 toppings, and the franchise focuses on environmental friendliness. \$

Dominick's Italian

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

dominicksitalian.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Family-style upscale Italian. **MENU:** Classics like eggplant parmigiana, lasagna, stuffed pork chops, chicken saltimbocca and steaks, most available in full or half servings. Tiramisu, cannoli and a kids' menu. **DRINKS:** Big wine list, limoncello, frozen drinks, beers, 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:** The North Milledge location, in a large historic home, has big, sunny rooms and a playroom for kids with lots of toys. The Botanical Garden visitor center houses a small satellite location. **MENU:** The Bot Garden location has sandwiches, wraps, coffee, baked goods and sesame noodles. The Cobbham location does hot breakfast and lunch to order, both served until 2 p.m., but stays open later on weekdays for pick-up of pre-made items. Everything is fresh and tasty. Egg dishes are particularly good, and the vegetarian options are attractive even to meat-eaters. To-go meals in the fridge and the freezer include breakfast stratas, French toast casserole, crab cakes, chicken pot pie, Indian butter chicken, French-style meat-loaf, desserts and more. Walkers, bikers and bus riders get a five-percent discount. "Tapas with Tim" happens once a month and focuses on a different cuisine each time. \$

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:** Big, beachy mural, chill atmosphere in a shopping center. **MENU:** Americanized Mexican staples: tacos, burritos, nachos, fajitas, quesadillas, big burritos, enchiladas, queso, fish tacos, fried ice cream. **DRINKS:** More than 30 tequilas, a couple of draft beers, more in the bottles. \$\$

The Double Barrel

429 E. Broad St.

facebook.com/DoubleBarrelAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** DJs, Outdoor Seating. **THE LOOK:** Southern-themed bar named after Athens' famous double-barreled cannon. **DRINKS:** Full bar with signature cocktails like The Bacon Watson and The Scarlett O'Hara. \$

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:** The grocery store has some nice grub and some decent seating, plus kids' meals for \$3 each. **MENU:** Items are created with the same kind of natural ingredients the store sells, but the prices aren't bad. Salads with organic ingredients, sushi, fresh-made sandwiches and a hot bar with lots of choices for vegetarians and vegans, plus smoothies, juice, coffee, soups and baked goods. \$\$

East West Bistro

351 E. Broad St. • 706-546-9378

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Reservations, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Some outdoor seating right on Broad, plus a nice interior with pretty views out the window and a rentable upstairs. **MENU:** Fusion-friendly upscale restaurant that includes Asian and European flavors. Lunch has lighter options: fish tacos, cashew chicken salad in a pita, fancy grilled cheese with tomato jam, chicken coconut soup, salads. Dinner adds entrees like five-spice Norwegian salmon, Korean BBQ tofu and vegetable stir fry and grilled mahi mahi with garlic caper cream sauce, mashed potatoes and asparagus. **DRINKS:** Nice bar with serious mixed drinks, a long wine list and some craft beers. \$\$\$

Eddie's Calzones

265 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-9676

eddiescalzones.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner and Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Order at the counter and grab a seat or get your stuff to-go. **MENU:** Calzones in a million different varieties (including dessert), wings, tater tots, curly fries, mozzarella sticks and pints of Ben & Jerry's ice cream. Open until 4 a.m. every day. Order online. \$

Einstein Bros. Bagels

259 E. Broad St. • 706-549-0007

einsteinbros.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Take-Out. **HOURS:** Open from 6 a.m.–11 p.m., 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** The first Athens location for the country's largest chain of bagel bakeries. **MENU:** A kazillion different kinds of bagels, from plain and everything to spinach Florentine, pumpkin, cranberry and green chile, plus not quite as many (but still a lot of) schmears. Einstein's also makes egg sandwiches and lunch sandwiches on its bagels, pizza bagels, salads, soups, bagel dogs, muffins, coffee cake, yogurt parfaits and more. \$

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:** Bright orange facade; well-lit interior. **MENU:** Americanized Mexican standards like tacos, taco salads, burritos, fajitas, nachos and quesadillas. **DRINKS:** Mexican beers, margaritas. \$

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:** A separate room within Hawthorne Drugs, with sweet decorations, tchotchkes and children's books to read. **MENU:** Order at the counter and your food will be right out. Breakfast brings biscuits, omelets and homemade muffins and scones, as well as egg plates; brunch has more options. Lunch is mostly classic sandwiches (chicken salad, pimento cheese, egg salad) but also a good Cuban and a BLT with homemade chipotle mayo on Texas toast. Salads and hot dogs (slaw, chili, etc.), too. \$

Etienne Brasserie

311 E. Broad St. • 706-850-8008

facebook.com/EtienneAthens

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. Dinner, 7

days. **THE LOOK:** White tablecloths, dark wood, polished tile and good service in this French restaurant. **MENU:** Focused on French classics, the menu may have *moules frites* (mussels and fries), Lyonnaise salad (with lardons, poached egg and frisee), *coq au vin*, bouillabaisse and cassoulet, but changes seasonally. An excellent lamb burger is a frequent special. Lunch is a great escape from downtown and a more affordable way to experience the restaurant. **DRINKS:** French wine, absinthe, cocktails based on fresh ingredients. \$\$\$

Fatz Café

4115 Lexington Rd. • 706-425-8780

fatz.com

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

Fazolli's

1791 Oconee Connector

fazolli.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Catering. **THE LOOK:** Fast-casual franchise coming to Epps Bridge Parkway area. **MENU:** Oven-baked pastas, pizza, Submarinos, salads, family meals that serve 4. \$

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:** Located on one of Athens' most beautiful streets in a superlatively renovated historic home, Hugh Acheson's flagship restaurant has a warm feeling from the moment you walk up onto the big porch, where you can eat outside. To the left is a separate bar room that's dark and cozy. The rest of the rooms are intimate, each with its own character. Service is uniformly excellent. **MENU:** Serious dining that stays up on trends and pushes the envelope without being obnoxiously hip. Some items recur frequently, like the sweet corn and vanilla soup and the watermelon and feta salad with serrano vinaigrette, but there's always something new to eat, too, based on the season. If a description like fried pork roulade with charred broccoli, pickled rhubarb, sweet strawberry jam, buttermilk and lovage makes you salivate, go ahead and make reservations. Tuesday nights bring housemade ramen at the bar, Sunday nights are for fried chicken, and an early-evening three-course prix-fixe is low-priced. Brunch is a pleasure, too, and the pastry kitchen is on point. **DRINKS:** Wine guy Steven Grubbs has been nominated for a James Beard Award repeatedly, and it shows. The list is wide-ranging, pithily described and fun. The bar mixes unpretentious but smart cocktails, with a great selection of ports, sherries, single-malts and the like. \$\$\$\$

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, Thurs.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Two levels of dining, lit by multiple chandeliers, but not formal. **THE MENU:** Five options in a number of areas (entrees, snacks, sushi, etc.) are a little bit Southern, a little bit Asian and all bar. Baked avocado, gyoza, cheeseburger, market catch from Destin and more. Brunch brings breakfast cheeseburgers and chicken and waffles. **DRINKS:** Wine, beer and signature cocktails (all in groups of five, again). \$\$\$

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 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. \$

Flicker Theatre & Bar

263 W. Washington St. • 706-546-0039

flickertheatreandbar.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Movies. **THE LOOK:** An intimate townie bar, featuring “bands, art, poetry readings, movies, stand-up comedy and pretty much anything anyone wants to showcase.” Check their online calendar for events. **DRINKS:** A serviceable mix of kitschy signature drinks and old-school cocktails. Try a “Happy Meal,” which consists of a shot of Jameson and a PBR. \$

Food for the Soul

1965 W. Broad St. • 706-546-0052

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tues.–Fri. & Sun. **THE LOOK:** Small, homey eatery with a self-service buffet. **MENU:** Soul food staples that rotate daily, like pork chops, fried chicken livers, macaroni and cheese and country-fried steak. Pair a meat and two sides for a hearty meal, or take advantage of the \$11 all-you-can-eat buffet. \$

The Foundry

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-549-7051

thefoundryathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Reservations, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** The music venue side of this big space has three levels. The eatery side is to your left when you walk in, and you can eat there until 6 p.m. if you don't have tickets on a show night. Hotel guests and show ticket holders can dine until late. **MENU:** New ownership and a new name mean a new menu. Some fun stuff like duck fat popcorn or pimento cheese served with strawberry jam. Also salads, lots of burgers, BBQ sandwich, steaks and shrimp and grits. **DRINKS:** A wide selection of wines, scotches, microbrews and craft beers. \$\$

Fox's Pizza Den

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

foxspizzaoconee.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Take-Out, Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Pizza chain out of Pennsylvania with loyalty program and cute fox mascot. **MENU:** Fox's serves the largest pizza in town, the 30-inch “Big One,” with 52 slices. Gluten-free crust is an option, as is the new salad bar. Also: sandwiches, calzones, chicken fingers, pasta, wings and cinnamon sticks. Online ordering and a private room for parties, plus deals and specials. \$

Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers

2050 Oconee Connector • 706-354-0671

freddysusa.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches Burgers & Chicken, Ice Cream and Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Kansas fast-casual chain adds to the Epps Bridge area offerings. **MENU:** 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:** Wood paneling, shack-like exterior. **MENU:** The Hull location does an all-you-can-eat buffet Wed.–Fri. lunch, with ribs, shrimp and catfish respectively on the menu. Otherwise, it's chopped pork and chicken, Brunswick stew, baked beans, chicken tenders and banana pudding. \$

Fuzzy's Taco Shop

265 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-0305

fuzzystacoshop.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Outside Seating, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. Late Night, Thurs.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Big Texas-based franchise with a vibe that's as much seafood shack as taco joint. TVs for sports. **MENU:** Breakfast burritos, huevos rancheros and migas (eggs scrambled with chorizo and pico de gallo) are served all day. Burritos, tacos and enchiladas come with fish, beef, pork, chicken or veggies. Also: quesadillas, tamales, salads, fajitas, sopapilla chips. **DRINKS:** Frozen drinks, including margaritas, and Mexican beer. \$

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 inside the Hilton Garden Inn Hotel. **MENU:** Breakfast can be cooked to order or assembled from the buffet (kids under 12 eat free). 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. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **THE LOOK:** Inspired by *The Godfather*, this narrow space is furnished with mirrored walls and a long marble bar. **DRINKS:** Beer, wine and liquor as well as Patrón, Jäger and Fireball on tap. Try their “Grape Kool-Aid” cocktail. \$

General Beauregard's

164 E. Clayton St. • 706-543-8201

facebook.com/generalbeauregards

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** An antebellum-themed bar full of pre-Civil War era decor complete with massive framed mirrors, a crystal chandelier, red velvet valences and rocking chairs. Also featuring a boxing arcade game. **DRINKS:** Try their Dixieland Tea made with bourbon, sweet tea and a wedge of lemon served in a frosty mason jar. \$

George's Lowcountry Table

2095 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-548-3359

georgeslowcountryonline.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Weekend Brunch, Live Music, Reservations, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 Days. Weekend Brunch, Catering. **THE LOOK:** When you're inside, you don't feel like you're in a shopping center, with a hushed atmosphere, white tablecloths, cloth napkins and attentive service. Old-school. **MENU:** Gulf and Carolina Coast cuisine: étouffée, shrimp and grits, sherry crab bisque, oysters (raw and cooked), peel-and-eat shrimp and more. There are also steaks, and every table gets a basket of warm, housemade cheddar biscuits. **DRINKS:** Wines from all over, a few beers and Southern-acented cocktails. \$\$\$

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 lots of options. **MENU:** A dozen choices available daily, rotating from a total 80 varieties of cupcakes: birthday surprise, cotton candy, carrot cake, Kentucky bourbon pie, etc. Some have fillings. Gluten-free options, breakfast breads, cookie sandwiches. \$

Girasoles

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

facebook.com/girasolesfusioncuisine

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Reservations, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tues.–Sat. Dinner Sun. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Fine dining in downtown Watkinsville. **MENU:** Mexican-accented fusion. Tapas, entrees and frequently changing specials: crab cakes, Cajun pasta, fish and grits, Chicken Suizo (with a cilantro jalapeño cheese sauce). Sunday brunch includes waffles, omelets cooked to order and a buffet. \$\$\$

The Globe

199 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-4721

facebook.com/globe.athens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs, Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** Classic English style pub that would make Shakespeare himself proud. An exposed brick interior, comfy couches and a big brass bar create a charming and relaxed atmosphere. The second floor is a popular destination for live music. **MENU:** Exceptional pub cuisine including fish and chips, burgers, sandwiches and the famous Globe chips which are made in-house and served warm drenched in gorgonzola cheese sauce. Sunday brunch. **DRINKS:** An eclectic selection of over 80 craft beers, 60 wines and 40 single-malt scotches. \$

Go Bar

195 Prince Ave. • 706-546-5609

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** An intimate garage-like space with a funky aesthetic. A large outdoor patio area decked out in blue lights and plentiful picnic tables offers a break from the late night dance party inside. Offering DJs, live bands, karaoke, open-mic and drag performances. **DRINKS:** No draft beers to speak of, but plenty of bottled brews, cocktails and shots. \$

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:** Chinese restaurant in a shopping center. **MENU:** Big lunch buffet daily. Tons of standard Chinese options: fried rice, chow mein, lo mein, egg foo young, sizzling rice soup, sweet and sour pork, sesame chicken. Dragon Dinners feature combinations of dishes for 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, Tues.–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. \$\$

Goodie Two Shoes

909 East Broad St., Suite 100 • 706-850-2026

goodietwoshoesathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian-Friendly. **HOURS:** 11 a.m.–2 p.m., Monday-Friday. **THE LOOK:** Occupying a space in the 909 Broad Building, this lunch place from the folks behind Mama's Boy features tables made from reclaimed wood by Sons of Sawdust and big windows. It also serves as a base for Mama's Boy's catering operations. **MENU:** The simple menu focuses mostly on sandwiches like the Trike Club (turkey, ham, house bacon, baby greens, tomatoes and Swiss on sourdough), pear and pistachio chicken salad, grilled cheese with pear and bacon, smoked salmon, a burger and grilled veggies on baguette. Salads, a few sides, sweets and drinks such as strawberry lemonade. \$

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:** '50s diner with cute toys in glass cases, but the late hours mean it can get a little crazy at night, and the attitude is a little punk rock. **MENU:** Burgers and burgers, many of which are vegetarian, plus standards like hot dogs, BLTs, chicken salad and more. Crinkle-cut fries with a side of feta dressing are an Athens standard. Breakfast (midnight to noon) is greasy and satisfying, enormous milk shakes are made to order, and you can get a fountain cherry or vanilla Coke with syrup. \$

Grindhouse Killer Burgers

1553 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-612-9327

grindhouseburgers.com

FILE UNDER: Burgers, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Two floors (downstairs for everyone, upstairs for grown-ups only) in this streamlined, modern small chain out of Atlanta. **MENU:** Burgers are small, flat and super tasty, made with beef, turkey or beans and quinoa. Build your own or pick one of the restaurant's "burger styles," like the Euro (Swiss, mushrooms) or Hillbilly (pimento cheese, jalapenos, chili). Handspun milkshakes, crinkle-cut fries, fried pimento cheese nuggets, salads, chili. **DRINKS:** Domestics, imports and craft beers, wine, boozy milkshakes. \$\$

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:** Veggie-central but not overly virtuous, The Grit is an Athens classic through and through, with tons of character and local art on the walls. **MENU:** Folks who avoid The Grit because they're afraid of health food are really missing out. The restaurant may be completely vegetarian, with tons of vegan options, but omnivores will be very happy. The Golden Bowl is the signature item, a huge serving of brown rice tossed with double-fried tofu and soy sauce and, ideally, topped with veggies and cheese. Trust us. Make your own veggie plate from the chalkboard or eat around the world (tabbouleh, stir fries, dal, pasta, etc.). Breakfast and brunch are popular, with great burritos, pancakes, omelets and more. The refrigerated dessert case has cakes galore, many of which are vegan and all of which are delicious. \$\$

The Grotto

140 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-9933

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music. **THE LOOK:** This secluded spot is a great place bring a special

someone or to unwind for a low-key evening. Comfy sofas, live music and darts complete this cozy "cave" **DRINKS:** Top shelf sipping whiskeys and fresh-fruit-driven cocktails. \$

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:** No frills. Tables in one room, a few outside and some seats at the counter. **MENU:** Tortilla and pita wraps, salads and Phillies. The signature Gyro Wrap is a grilled pita enfolding hot beef and lamb with house z-sauce and lettuce. Pair it with hot curly fries and creamy feta dressing. Veggie options, too. \$

Half Moon Pub

301 E. Clayton St. • 706-208-9711

flanagansathens.homestead.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **THE LOOK:** The low-key downstairs pub underneath its rowdier sister bar Flanagan's. The bar itself was handmade in Ireland and reassembled here in Athens. **DRINKS:** Several brews to choose from, known for its wine and whiskey selection. \$

The Hedges on Broad

346 E. Broad St. • 706-850-8500

facebook.com/HedgesOnBroad

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURING:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A huge music venue with two expansive bars. This is a rowdy place that focuses on Greek life. Live music and a 22 ft. projector screen for watching the game. **DRINKS:** Fully stocked bar, try a vapor shot which is inhalable everclear in a variety of flavors. Burns so good. \$

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, Mon.–Fri. Dinner, Tues.–Sat. Weekend Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Farm-to-table in a former gas station you wouldn't recognize as such if not for the sign. Bocce court and patio in the middle of a historic neighborhood. **MENU:** Lunch in the light-filled space is casual but refined, with soups, salads, sandwiches and quiche. The dinner menu changes more, and new chef Joel Penn is pushing its influences in different directions. Southern ingredients become more than mere tradition. Local providers are listed on a chalkboard. Brunch has wheat-free pancakes, coffee-rubbed pulled pork hash, eggs all ways and more. Vegetarians, vegans, the gluten-free and others with diet restrictions will be happy. **DRINKS:** Artisan cocktails are seasonally driven, too, plus good wines and some non-frou-frou beers. \$\$\$

Hendershot's Coffee Bar

237 Prince Ave. • 706-353-3050

hendershotscoffee.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Bars, Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Live Music, Art, Wi-Fi, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Open 7 days. Lunch, 7 days. Dinner Mon.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Big multipurpose space in The Bottleworks, with a patio and indoor seating from bar to couches to small tables. **MENU:** Coffee drinks, teas, smoothies and juices all day pair with muffins, cookies, savory scones and bagels or tasty prepacked chicken salad and zippy pimento cheese. Good burgers, hot sandwiches, "Angel Biscuits" (with pimento cheese, bacon, sriracha, BBQ, grilled zucchini) and salads for lunch and dinner. Brunch has egg plates, cottage cheese plates and biscuits. **DRINKS:** Draft and bottled/canned craft beers, wine, craft cocktails (some involving coffee). \$



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Hi-Lo Lounge 🍷

1354 Prince Ave. • 706-850-8561

hiloathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Vegetarian Friendly, Live Music, Trivia. **HOURS:** Dinner & Late Night, Tues.–Sun. Lunch, Fri. & Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** A spacious Normaltown neighborhood bar with a lot to offer. A bevy of games available and host to frequent trivia and karaoke nights. Kid-friendly in the early evening, transitioning to grown-ups only after bedtime. **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! Sunday brunch features dishes such as a pierogi scramble, tempeh hash and the Guten Morgen (an open-faced reuben topped with a sunny side up egg). **DRINKS:** Full bar with eight draft beers and a well curated selection of bottles and cans. Try signature cocktails like the Clementine and the Organist. \$

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:** Huge Chinese/Japanese buffet of over 300 items. **MENU:** Hibachi station cooks your veggies and proteins to order, including clams, lobster, crab legs and mussels. Buffet tables with tons of Chinese dishes, sushi, American food, fruit, salad and desserts are spread across the room. \$\$

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 soft lighting, reclaimed wood walls 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 Rosemary Beret (rosemary infused vodka, grapefruit and blackberry liqueur) or the Cucumber Caipiroska (cytron vodka, fresh cucumber and seltzer). \$

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, Tues.–Sun. Dinner, Mon. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Big Craftsman-style building with warm atmosphere, fireplaces, a big Jack Davis mural and a large patio. **MENU:** A step up from chains that go for the same kind of feeling, Hilltop Grille serves American comfort cuisine: artichoke dip, fried green tomatoes, crab cakes, Key lime pie, steaks, wedge salad, fried pork chop. \$10.50 business lunch specials. **DRINKS:** Wine, cocktails. \$\$\$

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:** Old-fashioned drugstore with soda fountain counter. **MENU:** Scoops of Edy's ice cream in a cup or cone for just \$1. Malts, shakes and floats, too. Sit on the hill outside for the best experience. \$

home.made 🍷

1072 Baxter St. • 706-206-9216

homemade-catering.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tue.–Fri. **MENU:** Mimi Maumus has created a lovely refuge on Baxter Street that offers lunch four days a week and a monthly supper club in addition to her catering business. The food has a Southern accent, but is seasonal, fresh and sophisticated. The lunch menu changes daily but might include such items as a kale and quinoa salad with beets, carrots, celery and onions or the Cornbread Cuban sandwich (fried ham with cheddar, pickled jalapenos and sunshine relish). You can also buy casseroles, sides, snacks and take-away meals. \$\$

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. and Sat. **THE LOOK:** Country BBQ since 1984; vintage soda bottles for decoration. **MENU:** It's short: chopped pork, ribs, chicken, hamburgers and chili dogs, plus chicken mull, slaw and Brunswick stew. Slices of pecan or chocolate pie for dessert. New event venue for weddings, etc. \$

Ideal Bagel

815 W. Broad St. • 706-353-0005

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bakeries, Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Vegetarian Friendly, Take Out. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Classic deli stylings in this Luna offshoot. **MENU:** Breakfast and lunch sandwiches, some on bagels and some on bread. The scrambled egg and ketchup sandwich on white toast sounds strange but is charming. The Tupelo features peanut butter, banana and bacon on a bagel. House-smoked fish is great. Deli meats are sliced in full view from the stuff in the big refrigerated case. To-go orders are ready in a flash. \$

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:** Breakfast and Lunch, 7 days (Normaltown), Tues.–Fri. when UGA is in session (Museum). **THE LOOK:** Adorably decorated space in Normaltown with a big donut sign up in the sky. Satellite location at the Georgia Museum of Art on the UGA campus. **MENU:** Build your own biscuit (or sandwich, croissant or bagel) at breakfast or go lighter with a cuffin (coffee + your choice of muffin). Lunch is simple, with soups, salads and sandwiches (BLT with avocado, spicy pulled pork, roasted veggies on sunflower multigrain bread). Donuts are the big thing, with a gazillion varieties that change out regularly. You can get them as well as other baked goods, some of which are gluten-free or vegan, in the case. 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:** Perfect bread and viennoiserie in a small, focused operation

that has a few stools by the window. **MENU:** Independent Baking Company could hold its own anywhere in the country. The entire operation is visible behind the counter, with cheerful bakers hand-shaping baguettes and bag upon bag of flour. Everything is delicious, from the multigrain that includes millet, quinoa, flax and sunflower seeds, to the incredibly refined danish made with seasonal fruit and savory elements. If you buy yourself only one croissant, you will regret it as soon as the first one is inhaled. Counter Culture coffee is served, and every detail is impeccable. \$

Inoko Express

2061 Experiment Station Rd., Watkinsville • 706-769-7088
3190 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-425-8828

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Sun.–Fri. Dinner Sat. **THE LOOK:** Quick counter service ideal for meals to go. **MENU:** Steak, chicken, shrimp, salmon, tofu and “Ultimate Vegetarian” 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, Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Sun.–Fri. Dinner, Sat. **THE LOOK:** Hibachi cooked in front of you as entertainment with your meal. **MENU:** Combinations of ribeye steak, filet mignon, chicken, shrimp, scallops and lobster cooked on the grill, served with rice and veggies and paired with onion soup, salad and a shrimp appetizer. Discounts for college students and senior citizens. Smaller portions during lunch. Good selection of sushi on hand, too. \$\$\$

Inoko Sushi Express

2301 College Station Rd. • 706-546-5662

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Thurs.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Fast sushi in a casual environment. **MENU:** No bells and whistles, but the sushi is good and very well priced. Choose among nigiri, maki and specialty rolls, then accessorize with katsu, edamame, seaweed salad, etc. Teriyaki and tempura if you don't do sushi. \$

Insomnia Cookies

228 E. Clayton St. • 877-632-6654

insomniacookies.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Noon–3 a.m., 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Take-out and delivery of hot cookies from this polished franchise. **MENU:** Cookies like double chocolate mint, snickerdoodle and s'mores, as well as brownies, can be customized with candy and nut toppings or ice cream. Cookie cakes and milk, too. \$

Iron Factory

255 W. Washington St. • 706-395-6877

ironfactoryinc.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Full Bar, Live Music. **HOURS:** Dinner and late-night 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Each table in the big space has its own grill in the middle and its own hood for venting; big patio outside and private karaoke rooms. **MENU:** The only Korean BBQ in Athens features servers who come to your table, introduce the concept and then actually cook your dinner in front of you, which doesn't mean shrimp are flipped through the air. Pick what you want grilled (pork belly, steak, chicken, shrimp, prawns, fish of the day, mushrooms or mixed veggies, all of which come with salad, rice and side vegetables) and they'll lay it out in front of you, then instruct you on how to construct bites of paper-thin radish or lettuce, grilled stuff, kimchi, garlic and sauces. Lots of appetizers, too.

DRINKS: Korean soju and wine, plus sweet cocktails in addition to regular beer and wine. \$\$

J & J Flea Market

11661 Hwy. 441 N. • 706-613-2410
jandjfleamarket.com

FILE UNDER: American, Mexican. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Cash Only. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Sat.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Georgia's biggest flea market has several large buildings with regular eateries and a ton of tables outside selling fresh, well-priced produce. **MENU:** Biscuits and burgers at the Flea Bite Cafe, boiled peanuts and pizza and, best of all, Taqueria Mi Tierra, serving up authentic Mexican food. \$

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:** Cheerful space with booths, tables and a long, low counter. **MENU:** Well-scrubbed Atlanta-based breakfast chain that makes lots of egg dishes, pancakes, skilletts and potatoes, plus big, big cups of coffee. Some lunchy stuff, too: soups, salads, sandwiches, quesadillas, burgers. Lots of healthy options. \$

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, a big 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. Take on the all-you-can-eat salad bar for unlimited veggies. Free soft-serve ice cream. \$

Jennings Mill Drug Company

1360 Caduceus Way, Building 400 Suite 105, Watkinsville
• 706-621-5996
jenningsmilldrugcompany.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Take Out. **HOURS:** Breakfast and Lunch Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Soda fountain in an independent drugstore. **MENU:** Bagels for breakfast. Lunch expands to offer classic sandwiches (pimento cheese, chicken salad, grilled cheese) and less traditional stuff (southwestern chicken wrap, spinach salad with egg, bacon and poppyseed dressing). Also: chili dogs, slaw dogs, good soups, PB&J, froyo and milkshakes. \$

Jerzee's Sports Bar

420 E. Clayton St. • 443-579-5566
facebook.com/jerzeessport

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 a multitude of TVs for catching a game or watching music videos. **MENU:** All-American staples like burgers, wings and fries. Sunday brunch. **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. \$

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
425 Barber St. • 706-227-2161
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:** Serving coffee roasted right here in town, each location of this local franchise is different, but all are welcoming and orange-accented. **MENU:** Wide range of specialty roasts that benefit different causes. Lots of hot and cold drinks and premium teas. Locally baked goodies like bagels, giant brownies, parfaits, scones and muffins. Sandwiches and calzones at some locations. Hang out at the inviting Roaster Tasting Room on Barber Street and watch roaster Charlie Mustard turn beans into coffee. \$

Johnny's New York Style Pizza

1040 Gaines School Rd. • 706-354-1515
johnnyspizza.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:** Franchise that doesn't feel like it. **MENU:** Lots of specialty pies, slices and 20 different hot-baked subs. You can get fancier with Italian dinners like lasagna, baked ziti and chicken Parmigiana. Also: garlic knots, insalata caprese, salads, calzones/stromboli. Plus gluten-free options. \$



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Journey Juice

1428 Prince Ave. • 706-850-0707

journeyjuice.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly.
HOURS: 7 a.m.–7 p.m., Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. Sat. Noon–5 p.m. Sun. **THE LOOK:** Swing by this juicing operation for a quick liquid meal. 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 that are also delicious. \$

Just Pho...and More

1063 Baxter St. • 706-850-1420

facebook.com/justphoandmore

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tues.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Family-run Vietnamese eatery with sit-down service and local art gracing the walls. **MENU:** Pho, both the traditional beef-based noodle soup and a veggie version, is ideal healing food when you're feeling under the weather, but don't skip the com (rice with grilled meat), bun (vermicelli over lettuce and bean sprouts with nuoc cham sauce) or banh mi sandwiches (specialty meats, pâté and pickled veggies on French bread). Bubble tea, fruit smoothies, fancy pastries in the case. \$

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:** Local franchised sandwich shop (KAY-ba, not KEY-ba). **MENU:** Specializes in the kebab, Germany's signature sandwich via the Middle East. Thin specialty 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. Make any sandwich into a salad. \$

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:** Lumpkin Street is bigger, with a covered patio. The Epps Bridge offshoot is kind of hidden away. **MENU:** Kelly's has been in business for 15 years in Athens and serves authentic Jamaican food in a meat-and-two format that includes very sweet tea and cornbread in the price. Move down the line and point to what you want. Entrees may include jerk chicken, oxtail, BBQ ribs, salmon or a rotating selection of fish. Sides are veggie-friendly: spicy cabbage, spicy squash, rice and peas, fried plantains, macaroni and cheese. **DRINKS:** Bottled beer. \$\$

Kiki's Bake Shop

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

kikisbakeshop.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Take-Out. **HOURS:** 7 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 7 a.m.–4 p.m. Sat. **MENU:** 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 in-house. Specialty cakes and pies orderable in advance. \$\$

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. **MENU:** Homemade soups, salads and deli sandwiches. Chicken salad, egg salad, ham salad and pimento cheese are all homemade daily. Nice selection of veggie options. Fresh-squeezed apple and carrot juice. \$

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.–Thurs. 5:30 a.m.–11 p.m., Fri.–Sat. \$

Kumquat Mae Bakery Café

1155 Mitchell Bridge Rd. • 706-850-1442

kumquatmaebakery.com

FILE UNDER: American, Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Live Music, Outdoor Seating, Catering, Art, Gluten-Free Options. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner Tues.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Warm and pleasant cafe with lots of different areas for seating. **MENU:** Breakfast until 4 p.m., with egg dishes, hash, pancakes and tofu scramble. Lunch and dinner feature sandwiches, burgers (beef and vegetarian "nut burger"), chips and dips, salads and blue plate specials that change daily (fish on Friday, fried chicken, pork chop, etc.). Baked goods in the case all day. All dietary restrictions accommodated with cheer. **DRINKS:** Regular beers, good beers, well-crafted cocktails, specials for teachers, military and police \$

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:** Hidden space up a steep staircase with a great view of UGA's North Campus. **MENU:** Actual traditional Italian rather than Americanized red sauce, La Dolce Vita does even its simple dishes well but really shines if you trust its kitchen and order something interesting. You'll find real ragu, handmade gnocchi (that sometimes incorporate beets), carpaccio (not just beef; occasionally octopus), whole branzino poached in white wine, seafood risotto and veal marsala. Cannoli, tiramisu and gelato finish off your meal. **DRINKS:** Italian wine, of course. \$\$\$

La Estrella

400 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-353-8557

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, Wed.–Mon. **THE LOOK:** No frills but plenty of warmth. Murals decorate the walls, textiles are sandwiched under the plastic table toppers and the windows are painted. **MENU:** Breakfast starts a little late but is a nice option (the menu includes a Mickey Mouse pancake that is delicious). The menu has all the standards if you are not adventurous, but there are wonderful seafood specialties to be found (mojarra frita, caldo de siete mares), and its al pastor is excellent. **DRINKS:** Margaritas plus beer and wine. \$\$

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 restaurant with colorful decor and a large covered outdoor patio. **MENU:**

Popular Americanized Mexican fare: burritos, enchiladas, fajitas, taquitos, nachos, tacos and quesadillas. Special entrees and combo plates. **DRINKS:** Margaritas, Mexican beers, domestics and house wines. \$\$

La Rosita

840 Hull Rd. • 706-543-5453

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Taqueria and terteria housed inside a gas station. **MENU:** Traditional Mexican and Latin fare with an emphasis on seafood dishes, plus tortas, soft tacos, pupusas and more. \$\$

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:** Sandwich franchise focusing on subs. **MENU:** Hot or cold subs, NY deli sandwiches, Italian hoagies, Philly cheesesteaks and salads. Also hot dogs that can be topped with sauerkraut, chili, onions, relish, cheese, slaw and/or pickles. \$

Last Resort Grill

184 W. Clayton St. • 706-549-0810

lastresortgrill.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 days. Lunch Mon.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Several different spaces feature exposed brick walls. You're greeted by an enticing and popular dessert case. **MENU:** The cuisine is South by Southwest, with lots of black beans, corn, avocado and peppers alongside fried green tomatoes, peaches, black-eyed peas and bacon. Pescatarians will be especially happy, but anyone can find something to eat. Brunch has a line out the door for breakfast enchiladas, stuffed French toast and crab benedict. **DRINKS:** American vodkas, gins and vermouths, as well as Armagnac, ice wine, Madeira, sherry and lots of wines by the bottle. \$\$\$

Lighthouse Seafood

50 Gaines School Rd. • 706-850-1702

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Small seafood store in a shopping center. Festooned with lighthouses. **MENU:** Fresh seafood from the case can be purchased to take home or steamed while you wait and served in a Styrofoam container with garlic butter. No frills, but the food is tasty and fast. Crab legs, low country boil, tilapia, shrimp, salmon. Fish by the pound may include mullet, red snapper, whole catfish, Nile perch and more. \$

Lindsey's Culinary Market

1238 Prince Ave. • 706-353-0558

lindseysculinarymarket.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** 9 a.m.–5 p.m., Mon.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** Quaint café in Normaltown run by chef Lindsey Payne. **MENU:** Best known for its frozen casseroles you can take home or bring to an ailing friend or new parents, Lindsey's also does biscuits and grits for breakfast and homemade soups, sandwiches and salads for lunch. Pimentoless cheese and chicken salad are highlights. \$\$

Little City Diner

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

littlecitydiner.com

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast and Lunch, Mon.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Pretty little sunny

restaurant in the middle of Winterville. **MENU:** The younger sibling of Athens' Big City Bread, Little City Diner does great food without the wait. The menu is fairly Southern, but fresh and made with quality ingredients. Breakfast includes country ham biscuits, garden omelet, hotcakes, Red Mule grits and sawmill gravy. Lunch highlights a blue plate special for a hot meal but also has soup, salads and sandwiches such as grilled cheese with basil and tomato, fried egg and Swiss and chicken salad with pecans, apples and grapes. \$

Little Italy

125 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-7100

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** No-frills NY-style pizzeria. Order at the counter and your food's out fast, midday or late night. **MENU:** Choose your own toppings and order by the slice or by the pie. Massive subs, antipasti, salads, stromboli and calzones, too. Everything, including pitchers of beer, is priced for the penny-pincher. \$

Little Kings Shuffle Club

223 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-369-3144

facebook.com/lkshuffclub

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Trivia, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** A favorite hangout of the local crowd. Little Kings has floor-to-ceiling windows, exposed brick walls and lots of local charm. Offering live music, DJs, dancing, trivia and drag performances. The adjacent beer garden is home to a landlocked boat, cornhole and plenty of seating. **DRINKS:** A wide variety of bottled beers, plus two Terrapins 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). Wines, too. Snacks at the bar include complimentary gummy bears and cheese balls. \$

Live Wire

227 W. Dougherty St. • 706-543-8283

facebook.com/LiveWireAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A spacious, newly remodeled music venue with a state-of-the-art sound and lighting system. The large split-level patio, complete with picnic tables and a second stage—plus the occasional food truck—gives show attendees and happy-hour enthusiasts alike a space to unwind. **DRINKS:** A good assortment of craft and local brews and cocktails, as well as budget-friendly options. \$

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:** Local chain gone statewide has a focus on sports. **MENU:** Deli sandwiches, burgers with lots of toppings (the El Dorado features onion rings, bacon and a fried egg), salads, grilled cheese and chili combo, wings and more make up the menu, which has a large number of vegetarian options. **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. \$\$



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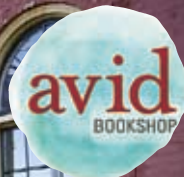


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Longhorn Steakhouse

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

facebook.com/losreyesmexrest

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Outside Seating, Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** It might be in a gas station, but you wouldn't know it from the inside; new covered patio. **MENU:** A large menu of authentic Mexican fare. You can get a burrito and be totally happy, but it's better to opt for tacos (filled with cilantro, onions and fish, al pastor, barbacoa or lengua), a big torta, entrees with sides or, if you can't choose, the molcajete with a bit of everything. **DRINKS:** Margaritas and beer. \$

LRG Provisions

1653 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-2020

lrprovisions.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Catering, Full Bar, Reservations. **HOURS:** Dinner, Tues.–Thurs. **THE LOOK:** Clean space with brick walls, iron accents. **MENU:** This pop-up operation related to Last Resort Grill does dinner three nights a week, plus Friday and Saturday UGA home games, tailgate boxed lunches and a Sunday supper series once a month. The menu is a little more Southern than Last Resort's, but many dishes are also related to the sister restaurant. Corn fritters with smoky remoulade are a great starter. Big plates come with wedge salad and bread. Tuesday nights are meat-and-three-themed, with lots of Southern sides. \$

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:** Somewhat hidden restaurant in a big stone cottage nestled in the heart of Five Points with a great covered patio. **MENU:** By this point, Lumpkin Café is one of the oldest restaurants in Athens, open for three decades. Its lunch menu is unsurprisingly lunchy, with salads (Oriental, tossed with chow mein noodles, chicken or steak and Thai peanut dressing; tarragon chicken), sandwiches (veggie melt, marinated steak) and crepes (ratatouille, spinach or one of each). The regular menu doesn't change, but the soups do. Keep an eye out for themed days and anniversary specials. \$

Lumpkin Street Station

175 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-395-6790

facebook.com/lumpkinstreetstation

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Live Music. **THE LOOK:** An industrial club feel, with an exposed brick wall and no-nonsense attitude. This venue is open to all genres and has live music nearly every night of the week. **DRINKS:** A full bar featuring 40+ bourbons, with rotating local craft brews on draft and cheap domestics. Grab a Jack and Coke and rock out. \$

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:** Hotel Indigo's restaurant serves dinner, breakfast and drinks, with a nice patio featuring a firepit and a weekly Canine Cocktail Hour to which you can bring your dog. **MENU:** Breakfast starts at 6:30 a.m. every day and is divided into "hot and hearty" and "quick and easy," with lots of locally sourced items (pastries from Ike & Jane, local bagels). Dinner can begin with snacks like fancy popcorn or black-eyed pea hummus and expand to pork chop with mushroom cream sauce and sweet potato-cauliflower mash. **DRINKS:** Nice cocktails that might include house-infused peach bourbon, High West vodka or blackberries. Local draft beer, wine. \$\$

Magnolias

312 E. Broad St. • 706-543-0797

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Spacious two-story bar with classic Southern charm. Free-to-play pool tables upstairs. Sports games projected on multiple large screens. A favorite student hangout. **DRINKS:** The usual array of brews behind the bar, plus daily deals on domestics and wells. \$

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:** Chow mein, stir fry, fried rice, lo mein, egg foo young, Mongolian chicken, Szechuan beef and Hunan shrimp, all ready for take-out or eat-in. Weight Watchers section in menu. \$\$

Mama Bird's Granola and Kitchen

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

mamabirdssharedkitchen.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi, Take-Out. **HOURS:** 7:30 a.m.–5:30

p.m. Tues.–Sat. (shorter hours in summer). **THE LOOK:** This small grocery in the 909 Broad building sells locally grown produce, makes sandwiches and biscuits, offers cooking classes and rents out its commercial kitchen to other vendors. **MENU:** Local produce, cheese, meat, bread, jellies and eggs as well as 1000 Faces coffee and baked goods. House-made granola flavors include Apple Bliss, Cran Bananza, Vanilla Chai and Ginger Coconut. Check the Facebook page for updated hours, class schedule and specials. Free parking in the garage. \$

Mama Sid's Pizza

2240 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-549-6100

mamasidspizza.net

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 from the menu for salads, subs, pasta, hot wings, calzones and more. \$

Mama's Boy

197 Oak St. • 706-548-6249

mamasboyathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Reservations, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Thurs. Brunch Fri.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Modern Southern with a pretty patio by the Greenway. Busy busy on the weekends. **MENU:** You can get breakfast all day (pulled pork and potato hash, pork taco plate, salmon-cake Benedict, Mill Town Breakfast Plate, scramblers, biscuits and gravy, Georgia peach French Toast and "Chocolate Cake for Breakfast") and lunch (fried chicken plate, pimento cheese-topped burger, fried green tomato sandwich, salads) in the second half of the day. Pancake Tuesdays. Strawberry lemonade. Very accommodating to those with special dietary needs. \$\$

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 uniquely Athens watering hole. The interior is a masterpiece of mismatched furniture, kitschy lighting and old-school charm. The Manhattan Café is off the beaten path for most college students and caters to the hip local crowd. **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



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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 to tide you over. \$

Mannaweenta

1055 Gaines School Rd. • 706-850-8422

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **THE LOOK:** Popular Ethiopian spot from the West Broad Farmers Market will open a regular location next to the Eastside Omni. **MENU:** Lots of beef dishes, but also lots of veggies, cooked until super tender, then scooped up with chewy, pancake-like injera bread. \$

Marker 7 Coastal Grill

1195 Milledge Ave. • 706-850-3451

marker7coastalgrill.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tues.–Sun. Dinner, Mon. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Taking up one of Five Points' five points, Marker 7 is in a beautifully renovated historic house with lots of outdoor seating. **MENU:** The coasts in question are the Georgia and the Gulf, with shrimp and fish from the former and oysters from the latter. Pimento cheese incorporates smoked salmon (it works). Lightly fried options, peel and eat shrimp, baskets, grilled or blackened entrees and sides that include standards like coleslaw and hush puppies. The dinner menu features coastal favorites such as crab cakes and grits with remoulade sauce. You can play cornhole on the lawn. Park at the fire station if you need to; they have an agreement. **DRINKS:** Beachy cocktails, beer and wine. \$\$

Marti's at Midday

1280 Prince Ave. • 706-543-3541

martisatmidday.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, Mon.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** Sunny rooms in a pretty white house in Normaltown. **MENU:** Southern-style lunch and take-home entrees and casseroles are what Marti's is known for, although it also does breakfast weekdays with homemade muffins and more. Each sandwich has a person's name, from the Mercer (egg salad with lettuce and tomato) to the Andrea (portobello mushroom stuffed with boursin), which exemplifies the personalized feel of the place. Pimento cheese, big salads, soups, nibbles, sweets and combinations of the above. Signature items like the tarragon chicken salad and curry chicken salad are available by the pound, and frozen casseroles like old-fashioned chicken with rice are great to have on hand. \$\$

Max

243 W. Washington St. • 706-254-3392

facebook.com/themaxcanada

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A massive space with mass appeal. Enjoy the large beer garden and an impressive list of activities: pool tables, arcade games, pinball machines, a photo booth, Super Chexx hockey game, air hockey and darts. Offering live music and DJs. **DRINKS:** Three full bars with great selection of bottle and can beer and always a few locals on draft. Stop by during "Beer o'Clock" for cheap drinks. \$

Mayflower Restaurant

171 E. Broad St. • 706-548-1692

mayflowerrestaurant.weebly.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Cash (or Bulldog Bucks) Only, Delivery. **HOURS:** Breakfast, 7 Days. Lunch, Sun.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** Family-run Southern diner operating since 1948. **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

facebook.com/mells.place.7

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Cash Only, Live 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. You have probably driven past it on your way into town, stop in next time and become an honorary regular. **DRINKS:** A full bar with the usual domestic beer selection and generous pours on classic mixed drinks. \$

Mellow Mushroom

320 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-0892

mellowmushroom.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Outside Seating, Trivia, Take-Out. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner & Late Night, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Light and airy space filled with mushroom sculptures and psychedelic decorations everywhere. TVs for sports. **MENU:** This Atlanta-based chain founded in 1974 has been in Athens a long time, too. Pizza comes in large slices with a puffy crust seasoned with parmesan. Lots of toppings and specialty pies, plus pretzels made with the same dough, salads, subs, calzones and munchies. **DRINKS:** More than 40 beers on tap, including regional, craft and high-gravity brews; bottled/canned beers, too, as well wine and liquor. \$\$

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, Noon–10 or 11 p.m. **THE LOOK:** Bright pink and bright green, plus anthropomorphized froyo mascot. **MENU:** Self-serve and pay-by-weight frozen yogurt. Specific flavors rotate, but there are always 14 flavors to choose among (e.g., Cake Batter, Dulce de Leche, Peachy Keen). Top with fresh fruit, nuts, cereal, candy and syrups. Options can accommodate food allergies, sensitivities and diets. \$

Mirko Pasta

2 S. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-310-1233

mirkopasta.com

FILE UNDER: Italian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Athens-based casual dining franchise. **MENU:** Step up to the counter and pick a fresh pasta and a sauce (you can ramp it up with a protein: chicken, sausage, meatballs, shrimp) or choose a seasonal entree (like Pollo Marsala and Lasagna Verde). Add on a salad, some antipasti and dessert. White bean hummus comes complimentary with bread. \$\$

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 National

232 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-549-3450

thenationalrestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi, Full Bar. **HOURS:**



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Lunch, Mon.–Sat. Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Pretty bar to the left, one nice open room for dining to the right, with big windows and blue-and-white oilcloth on the tables. Not intimidatingly fancy but good for date night. **MENU:** Chef Peter Dale's Spanish-Mediterranean menu makes everyone happy, lunch and dinner. The "power lunch" features an ever-changing array of healthy, colorful veggie items that might include Moroccan-spiced carrot salad with feta and mint or sweet potato salad with dijon. It's the best way to feel virtuous and treat your tastebuds at the same time. Dinner has some tapas (anchovies, olives, patatas bravas), pizzettes (flatbreads) and wonderful large plates (the chicken with za'atar is especially good). Dessert is serious business. **DRINKS:** Wine by the glass selection is bigger and more interesting than most places, due to the Enomatic wine system. Finely crafted cocktails change seasonally. Beer, too. The bar has its own scene and hosts the occasional late-night dance party. \$\$\$

Niece's Soul Food Cafe

50 Gaines School Rd., Suite 2 • 706-850-6696

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Take-Out, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch Wed.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Tucked inside the African-Asian-Jamaican Market behind Trippi's Cork and Bottle; a few tables for eat-in. **MENU:** Made-from-scratch soul food that changes daily. You might find smothered chicken, candied yams, greens, fried pork chops, oxtails and lima beans. Dessert is always homemade. \$

9d's Bar

400 Clayton St.

facebook.com/9dsbar

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** DJs/Live Music. **THE LOOK:** Transport yourself to the mid '90s. This bar pays homage to the golden age of slap bracelets, roller blades and N'sync. A favorite late night dance party spot with '90s jams on the stereo to sate your nostalgia. **DRINKS:** Full bar, no drafts, but plenty of cheap domestics, tall boys and house shots to help you get your feet to moving and 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:** Creole and Cajun fine dining on two levels in downtown Athens. **MENU:** The name stands for "New Orleans 'N Athens," and the menu reflects the first part of that phrase, with lots of oysters (raw and cooked), crawfish cakes, red beans and rice, jambalaya, eggplant pirogue and etouffee. There are also steaks and lots of other seafood entrees. Lunch has sandwiches that come with coleslaw and your choice of fries or Zapp's potato chips. Brunch offers beignets, pain perdu Bananas Foster, crab cakes Benedict and more. **DRINKS:** NOLA cocktails like Sazeracs, milk punch and hurricanes, plus a good selection of beer and wine. \$\$\$

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 bar itself is warm and inviting, with hanging lamps made from recycled Hendrick's gin bottles. Outside, you'll find a heated area in the winter and a dog-friendly, shaded patio in the summer. Enjoy a bowl of housemade boiled peanuts alongside your drink. **DRINKS:** Top-shelf liquors and cleverly crafted cocktails such as Mermaid Tears (made with Tito's vodka, cucumber, orange, lime, mint and ginger beer). A good list of beer and wine, too. \$

Nowhere Bar

240 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-546-4742

facebook.com/nowherebarathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music. **THE LOOK:** No Where Bar is a melting pot where locals and students alike come to play pool, fling darts and listen to music. Live bands play most nights. **DRINKS:** Eight beers on draft with all of the usual suspects behind the bar. O-bombs are a crowd favorite, made with Bacardi, orange juice and Red Bull. \$

The Office Lounge

2455 Jefferson Rd. • 706-546-0840

facebook.com/officeathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outdoor Seating, Live Music, Karaoke. **THE LOOK:** A massive bar space in the Homewood Village shopping center geared toward the older local crowd. Play pool, shuffleboard, darts and keno. **DRINKS:** Full bar, offering inexpensive wells and domestics. Try an ice-cold Red Snapper made with Crown Royal and cranberry. Bartenders here claim to pour the strongest drinks in Athens. \$

The Old Pal

1320 Prince Ave. • 706-850-4340

theoldpal.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** With emerald green walls, a cozy fireplace and a beautiful tin ceiling The Old Pal has a high class feel. This Normaltown bar is a favorite of locals and service industry folks. **DRINKS:** Perhaps the most sophisticated cocktail menu using fresh ingredients and housemade bitters and flavorings, they even print the recipes on the menu. Also offering an extensive craft beer selection on tap and in bottles and cans. \$

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: A huge nightclub far-flung from downtown, it's a place for "grown folks parties." There is always music flooding the joint, whether it be a DJ, live band or jazz performance. **DRINKS:** A fully stocked bar with plenty of drink specials to keep the night going. Try their signature Omega Bomb. \$

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 that sport a big Georgia G. **DRINKS:** No draft system or specialty cocktails, but plenty of cheap domestics, wells, shooters and margaritas. \$

100 Proof

364 E. Broad St. • 706-850-8500

@100ProofAthens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A college bar specializing in frozen drinks. A

rooftop patio with a full service tiki bar with tall palm trees and a great view of downtown and campus. **DRINKS:** A dozen frozen drink machines offer brain-freezing beverages. 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

outback.com

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

Outtakes

1793 Oconee Connector • 706-355-9122

196 Alps Rd. • 706-546-1011

georgiatheatrecompany.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine (Watkinsville), Full Bar (Athens). **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A full-service restaurant in the University 16 Cinemas and in the newly renovated Beechwood Stadium Cinemas 10. **MENU:** Hamburgers, chicken sandwiches, pizzas and salads, plus Georgia Street Tacos with tilapia. Visitors can view movies in a dine-in theater with servers (one at University 16, five at Beechwood) or pick up meals ahead of time to bring into the other theatres. **DRINKS:** Mostly domestics on drafts, imports and domestics in the bottle, wine; full bar with cocktails in Athens. \$

Ovation 12

1570 Lexington Rd. • 706-354-0584

carnike.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Full-service dine-in experience in newly renovated Carnike Cinemas location. All 12 theaters have call buttons to order food/drink, plus bar/dining area in the lobby. **MENU:** Burgers, wraps, salads, sandwiches. **DRINKS:** Mostly domestics on drafts, imports and domestics in the bottle, wine and full bar. \$

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 (Sundays excepted). **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. 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, slaw, meaty beans, loaves of Bunny Bread, pickles and iced tea—sweet or not. Worth the trip. \$

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:** Long, narrow downtown space is quiet at lunch, then turns into a busy bar at night. Big TVs for sports. **MENU:** More than two dozen crepes, both savory and sweet, plus sandwiches, salads, dips and some bar snacks available after 11 p.m. **DRINKS:** Over 150 beers, including 28 on tap ("Around the World Beer Club" rewards completers with their own photo on the wall), wines, cocktails. \$

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 ornate decor located in an Eastside shopping center. **MENU:** Mandarin Chinese cuisine with the usual lo mein, chow mein, fried rice and egg foo young, plus a handful of Korean items. Lunch buffet. The special orange menu has a long list of more unusual offerings, including both Szechuan and northern Chinese specialties (cumin lamb, pork with yellow chives, organ meats, dumplings), but what you want may not be available on any given day. \$\$

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. **MENU:** Wide range of Chinese cuisine: all the standards and more on the huge menu. Lots of vegetarian options. 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. \$\$

Peppino's

950 Whitehall Rd. • 706-613-1616

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Tues.–Sun. **THE LOOK:** Family-friendly pizza parlor with quick order-at-the-counter service and big TVs. Same folks as Little Italy. **MENU:** The standard NY-style staples: huge slices of thin-

and thick-crust pizza (or get a whole pie), calzones, giant subs (Italian sausage, eggplant parmigiana), stromboli, pasta and a salad bar. **DRINKS:** Pitchers of beer, wine. \$

Piccolo's Italian Steak House

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

piccolositaliansteakhouse.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Catering, Beer and Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Refined yet comfortable Italian dining. **MENU:** Hand-rolled and -cut fresh pasta made in-house, plus steaks and other proteins cooked on a wood-fired grill, classic Italian entrees like chicken Marsala and veal piccata, sandwiches on ciabatta and a bread pudding of the day. Sunday brunch has a slight Southern accent, with country-fried steak alongside frittatas. \$\$\$

The Pine

1235 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-208-0059

thepineathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outdoor Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tue.–Sat. Dinner and Late-Night Tues.–Sun. Weekend Brunch. **THE LOOK:** New South eats fueled by a visible wood-fired oven behind the long bar. **MENU:** Jarad Blanton is cooking up muscular, flavorful dishes that make use of the oven, like flatbread with pork al pastor, pineapple, charred Vidalia onion, guajillo chile and cilantro. The Korean BBQ sandwich is a wonderful mess, and the quinoa salad with seasonal veggies, queso fresco and pecan vinaigrette is healthy but not overbearingly so. Brunch highlights biscuits. **DRINKS:** Five Points Bottle's owners are involved, which means a great list of beer and wine and some cocktails that might include two kinds of fancy gin, among other ingredients. \$\$\$

Pita Pit

123 N. Jackson St. • 706-552-0051

pitapit.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** 10:30 a.m.–Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Assembly-line-style café tucked away on Jackson Street downtown. **MENU:** Build your own pita-wrapped sandwich full of meat and/or veggies, or pick a breakfast wrap. Anything can be ordered in a bowl if you don't do carbs. Order in advance through its app for quick pick-up. Smoothies too. \$

Pizza Hut

496 Baxter St. • 706-353-0888

pizzahut.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **HOURS:** Lunch & dinner, 7 days. \$

The Place

229 Broad St. • 706-850-2988

theplaceathens.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Two stories renovated beautifully in a historic downtown space, with a great bar upstairs. **MENU:** Southern food that incorporates meat-and-three standards, but updates them and makes them with lighter, healthier ingredients (but no less charm). Of course you know there's fried chicken and there are fried pork chops also, but the vegetables show off their natural flavors. The Southern bruschetta (pimento cheese on toast points with tomato and bacon) is a tasty stand-out. Daily specials and milk and cookies for dessert, too. **DRINKS:** 11 draft beers, all craft, wine, Southern-accented cocktails. \$\$



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Planet Smoothie

196 Alps Rd. • 706-316-3090
 1993 Barnett Shoals Rd. • 706-353-8181
 planetsmoothie.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 atmosphere, unassuming space. **MENU:** Country cooking with a buffet that changes its offerings daily. Expect fried chicken, steak and gravy, BBQ pork, meatloaf, turnip greens, mashed potatoes, yams and southern desserts. Goat makes an appearance on the menu sometimes. \$\$

Porkhouse BBQ

699 Baxter St. • 770-365-9092
 porkhousebbq.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Take Out, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Tiny BBQ place next to Jimbo's convenience store has a few booths for eat-in. **MENU:** Great deals on BBQ sandwiches, especially for nearby UGA students. Also cooks up ribs, chicken, tasty brisket, wings and sides, including potato salad, slaw, corn nuggets and fried okra. Dill pickles in jars on the counter. \$

Porterhouse Grill

459 E. Broad St. • 706-369-0990
 porterhouseathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Outside Seating, Live Music. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Dinner, Mon.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Locally owned steakhouse is dark and quiet but very approachable, especially at lunch, which has some great deals. **MENU:** Lunch has lots that isn't steak: fish tacos, grilled salmon BLT, turkey club, crab avocado salad. Dinner is fancier, with hanger steak, filets, New York strip, prime rib au jus and the namesake cut alongside surf and turf, an array of seafood options, traditional a la carte sides and a classic wedge salad. Brunch is all-you-can-eat Southern, made-to-order omelets and pancakes, special entrees and a carving station. **DRINKS:** Four beers on tap, long wine list, full bar. \$\$\$

Pouch Savory World of Pies

151 E. Broad St. • 706-395-6696
 pouchpies.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-Out, Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner and Late-Night, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Community tables, long bar, highboy tables and regular seating in a long space cutely updated. **MENU:** The word "savory" is in there to make sure you know the individually sized pies here are mostly not desserts, but the menu encompasses much more than chicken pot pie. The theme is globe-trotting, and you can eat your way through South Africa (tenderloin beef in a black pepper and red wine sauce), Russia (salmon, mushroom, rice, dill, egg, lemon), Georgia (peach BBQ pork), the Mediterranean (ricotta, feta, peas), Portugal (chicken, chorizo, piri-piri sauce) and more. Good sides, some larger entrees, sweet pies and soup and salad. **DRINKS:** Draft beer, some cocktails, wine. \$

Preserve

1660 W. Broad St. • 706-363-3783
 facebook.com/preserve.athens

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-Out, Outside Seating, Beer and Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch, Wed.–Sat. and Mon. Dinner, Wed.–Mon. Sunday

Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Teeny-tiny space makes great use of every square inch, with a well-curated selection of cookbooks and tchotchkes on display. **MENU:** The name points to the fact that pickles, jams and other preserved foods are a big part of the offerings in this charming Canadian restaurant run by punk rockers who really know how to cook. The changing menu is best followed on Instagram, but it has featured Georgia rainbow trout with pearl couscous "risotto," a wonderful lamb burger, an excellent bolognese, beet salad with queso fresco and mint, a grilled cheese sandwich with pickles and a marvelous purple coleslaw. Brunch has pancakes and stuffed French toast. Desserts are an unexpected delight. \$\$

The Pub at Gameday

251 W. Clayton St. • 706-353-2831
 facebook.com/thepubatgameday

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **THE LOOK:** A spacious bar with custom woodworking and a large outdoor seating area. Offering darts, board games and Wii and TVs for watching sporting events. Monthly comedy nights. **DRINKS:** A large selection of scotch, bourbon and over 150 beers, including many craft, high-gravity and seasonal options. \$

Pulaski Heights BBQ

675 Pulaski St. • 706-583-9600
 pulaskiheightsbbq.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Hiding down Pulaski Street next to the railroad tracks in the Leathers building, this BBQ place has great views from upstairs and a family-friendly patio with sidewalk chalk. **MENU:** Chef-interpreted BBQ, which sounds pretentious but isn't. Meat-eaters will be very happy with the well-sourced animal proteins (pulled pork, ribs, chicken, brisket, burnt ends), but pescatarians and vegetarians will find plenty to eat, too. Ramen, meatless Mondays and other specials are well publicized. Housemade pickles, vinegar-lime slaw, smoked potato salad, tacos and a family dinner for take-out that feeds four for \$32. \$\$

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:** Country cooking in a strip mall in Watkinsville. **MENU:** Traditional Southern cuisine with a rotating menu written on a whiteboard. Choose among pork chops, chicken, fish and more, grilled or fried, plus fried chicken livers and a host of vegetable sides (e.g., rutabagas, cabbage, carrot and raisin salad, turnip greens, hash brown casserole). Homemade desserts. \$\$

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. • 706-354-7289
 facebook.com/therailathens

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Live Music. **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 including burgers, wings, sandwiches, nachos and fries. **DRINKS:** Fifteen beers on draft and a fully stocked bar. \$

Raising Cane's

795 Baxter St. • 706-548-2008

raisingcanes.com

FILE UNDER: Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Fast-food chicken with a drive-thru emphasis, although you can eat in. **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, plus "Cane's Sauce." \$

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-Sun. **THE LOOK:** Mostly outdoor space (some of which is covered), with a stage for music. **MENU:** Rashe Malcolm honed her skills catering. Her restaurant does Jamaican food in a chill environment, from jerk chicken to ribs, plantains, veggies, salmon, salads, oxtail and more. It's all well priced, and Friday fish specials come with wonderful peppers. Hours are fluid, so check the Facebook before you plan a trip. \$\$

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

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Buffet, Catering. **HOURS:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Inside the Holiday Inn and serving hotel guests and the public alike. **MENU:** Stuffed French toast, waffles, biscuit sandwiches and omelets in the morning. For lunch, take a trip to the buffet or order salads, burgers and sandwiches a la carte. Evening entrees include a New York strip steak, sun-dried tomato ravioli and balsamic glazed pork chops. \$\$

The Roadhouse

137 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-2324

facebook.com/roadhousedive

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** As one of the oldest dives downtown, little has changed since day one. Posters of popular musicians decorate the heart-of-pine walls. 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. The bar boasts that it's been "serving hangovers since 1991." \$

The Rooftop

215 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-7670

georgiatheatre.com/rooftop.html

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Live Music. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.-Sat., 11 a.m.-11 p.m. **THE LOOK:** Hiding up on top of the historic Georgia Theatre, this awesome little restaurant accessed by an elevator on the side of the building has fantastic views and a secret breeze. There are umbrellas but no substantial cover if it's pouring outside. DJs and bands are booked regularly. **MENU:** The Rooftop is much simpler in its ambitions: think smart bar food. Open during shows and not, it makes fried chicken skins with buttermilk dressing or house hot sauce, nice burgers with grass-fed beer, a veggie banh mi, pork or tofu tacos and a few other things ready in a jiffy. **DRINKS:** Full bar, draft and canned/bottled beer. \$

The Rook and Pawn

294 W. Washington St. • 706-543-5040

therookandpawn.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A boardgame café. This place is overflowing with games—board games, card games, dice games—all the games!! The Rook and Pawn has a neighborhood feel and is family friendly; kids under the age of 13 play for free. A more "adults only" vibe takes over in the late evenings. **FOOD:** A menu of paninis offers options such as the Monte Cristo, caprese, bacon and date, and apple and brie. For a lighter snack, grab a cheese plate or a bowl of assorted candies, nuts or olives and pickles. **DRINKS:** Rotating beers, wines and spirits. Coffee, tea and smoothies, too. \$

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:** Itty-bitty neighborhood English pub with a nice covered patio out front and an emphasis on "footie." **MENU:** The tiny kitchen turns out delicious English food (not an oxymoron!): bangers and mash (sausages and perfect mashed potatoes with cabbage), a lamb burger on special, lamb vindaloo curry, housemade potato chips with blue cheese and bacon and shepherd's pie on Tuesdays, plus a couple of really good desserts. **DRINKS:** UK beers in particular, dry ciders, craft brews, wine and whiskey. \$\$

Ru San's

196 Alps Rd. • 706-552-0488

rusans.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Reservations, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Big, loud sushi bar with a heated outdoor patio. **MENU:** Big menu with lots of specialty rolls and many sashimi and sushi combinations, all well priced. Lots of options if you don't do sushi, too, like noodles, rice dishes, tempura, grilled fish and more. **DRINKS:** Premium cold sakes and cocktails with Japanese ingredients. Beer and wine, too, including four 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, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi, Beer and Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tues.-Thurs. Lunch & Dinner, Fri. & Sat. **THE LOOK:** German-style coffee haus occupying a small cottage in Lexington. **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 and dinner feature sandwiches as well as authentic German bratwurst and currywurst both cooked outdoors in the fresh air on the stone grill. \$

Sakura Steak House

3557 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-227-0001

sakuraathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Don't let the shopping center location fool you; this Japanese restaurant has a lovely interior, with sushi bar, regular bar and hibachi tables. **MENU:**



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Sandbar

220 College Ave. • 404-919-9552

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** DJs, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** A beachy scene decorated with palm trees, surf boards 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:** A few drafts and fair number of bottled beers, too. Known for their frozen tropical drinks and 32 oz. "Blackout Buckets." \$

Saucehouse Barbeque

830 W. Broad St. • 706-363-3351

saucehouse.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Beer, Catering, Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Opening by fall of 2015, Saucehouse occupies a veritable BBQ compound on Broad, with a wooden water tower bearing its name. **MENU:** Chicken, pork, brisket, ribs, sides like mac and cheese, slaw and baked beans. Emphasis on many different kinds of BBQ sauce. \$

The Savannah Room

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-542-6341

georgiacenter.uga.edu/uga-hotel/dining/dining-rooms/savannah-room

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Fri. Dinner, Mon.–Sat. (closed for dinner in the summer). **THE LOOK:** Country club-style dining in the UGA Hotel, with attentive servers and nice surroundings. It's not formal, but don't wear flip-flops. **MENU:** Southern-accented food includes standards like Celestial Chicken (breaded chicken tenders over rice pilaf with a special sauce) and strawberry ice cream pie, but also steak, grilled fish, shrimp and grits and good vegetarian choices. There's always a sustainable option locally grown by the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. Parking is validated for up to two hours in the South Campus Deck. \$\$

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:** Hidden away in a Jefferson shopping center, this restaurant is simple but cute and occasionally pulls tables outside for al fresco dining. **MENU:** "Locally sourced produce" is mere lip service at a lot of restaurants but not here. Athens native and chef Josh Aaron mixes up his menu frequently, and you can believe whatever it says. Burgers, a grouper sandwich, a meatloaf sandwich, chicken piccata made with a bird from Springer Mountain Farm, Taco Tuesdays and more undersell in their descriptions and overdeliver in their presentation. Even heartier options are healthful and fresh. **DRINKS:** There is good craft beer on tap, in the bottle or can and for take-home in growlers. You can also get a flight of three 5-ounce pours if you're feeling indecisive. \$\$

Schlotsky's Deli

1490 Baxter St. • 706-543-2518

schlotzkys.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Catering, Outside Seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Long-time Athens location

of this national chain has a nice covered patio and plenty of seating. **MENU:** Oven-toasted sandwiches on freshly baked bread, vaguely muffaletta-style. The "Original" is the standard, but there are lots of other options, as well as soups, personal pizzas, salads and a Cinnabon inside the restaurant. \$

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. Sauce is hot and thin. \$\$

Seabear Oyster Bar

297 Prince Ave. • 706-850-4367

seabearoysterbar.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Daily 3 p.m.–midnight. **THE LOOK:** Beautifully appointed oyster bar in the Bottleworks with a long bar, small tables against the wall and a bit of atmospheric outdoor seating. **MENU:** If you want to eat yourself silly on oysters but don't have an unlimited budget, take note of the daily happy hours, from 3–6 p.m. and 10 p.m.–midnight, which have great deals. The oysters change daily and they are brought to our fair city from places familiar and not: e.g., Blue Point, CT; Raspberry Point, PEI; Wild Seaside, VA. The rest of the menu is mostly small plates: Parker House rolls with raw sugar, salt and brown butter; a fantastic grilled cheese; a salad of horseradish-marinated green beans with leeks, creme fraiche and smoked trout roe; mini lobster roll. Monday is vegetarian ramen night. **DRINKS:** Beer, wine, absinthe, sake, serious cocktails (with glassware to match), ever-changing punch and stellar frozen Negronis. \$\$\$

Sr. Sol

2455 W. Broad St. • 706-850-7112

175 Tallassee Rd. • 706-546-1570

facebook.com/SrSolRestaurants

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Delivery, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** The original location on Tallassee has limited seating but a few tables outside (and is attached to a gas station). The newer Broad Street location is better for big groups, and the menu isn't any different. **MENU:** Plenty for the kids and folks who don't venture beyond the Speedy Gonzalez arena of Mexican food, but there's also horchata to drink, real Mexican-style tacos (corn with onions, cilantro, lime and fatty meats) and an awesome hamburguesa topped with ham and pineapple. **DRINKS:** Margaritas served frozen or on the rocks come in many flavors. Beer, too. \$\$

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:** Loud, slick and with private karaoke rooms upstairs that are a big attraction. **MENU:** Long menu of sushi and sashimi options: nigiri, hand rolls, veggie options, house rolls and special rolls. But that's not all by a long shot. There's also fried softshell crab, dumplings, land proteins (steak, chicken), lobster, noodles and desserts. It's a place for a party, and there are lots of options to expand your meal and share with the table. **DRINKS:** Hot and cold sake, saketinis, wine, mostly domestic beer but a few Japanese brews. \$\$\$

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 tin ceiling, taxidermy and a mountain-landscape mural spanning the wall. A spacious covered outdoor patio with a corner location for a breath of fresh air. **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 until 8 p.m. 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Small independent coffee shop in the heart of Normaltown with a covered screen porch. **MENU:** Pastries and treats from local bakeries plus lattes, cappuccinos and espresso drinks brewed with Jittery Joe's and 1000 Faces coffee. Some Latin-inspired options and specialty drinks (Vietnamese iced coffee in the summer). Many loose tea options as well. \$

Siri Thai Cuisine

367 Prince Ave. • 706-548-7667

1040 Gaines School Rd. • 706-850-3500

sirithaiathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Catering, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Wed.–Mon. **THE LOOK:** Two locations (one in The Bottleworks and one on the Eastside in the Ansonborough development), both with photos of Thailand on the walls and a slightly upscale atmosphere. **MENU:** Large menu, with tons of vegetarian options and many dishes that can be built around chicken, shrimp, pork, beef, seafood, tofu or vegetables. Noodles, rice entrees, soups, hot pot, salads, curries and a big Thai dessert selection. Spice level can be serious, so watch out. Lunch specials. **DRINKS:** A couple of Thai beers among the domestics, sakes and a section of organic wines round out the selection. \$\$

Sister Louisa's Church

254 W. Clayton St. • 706-850-3668

sisterlouisaschurch.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** The Church is decked out in lewdly re-purposed religious nicknacks and church paraphernalia. Come on in, precious, and play ping pong in the Boom Boom room. With club music and dancing, this bar is not for the faint of heart. **DRINKS:** Fully stocked bar, known for their sangria which is sacrilegiously delicious. \$

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. • 706-395-6125

southkitchenbar.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full Bar. **HOURS:** Dinner, Mon.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. Late Night, Thu.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Beautiful historic space that isn't fussy. Vintage tile and stained glass. **MENU:** New South cuisine

from a polished team. The deviled eggs incorporate Masala curry. The tater tots are made with duck jus and can come with blackberry thyme dip. Try a small plate like fried pickles or a large plate like fish and grits. Brunch includes a green tomato burger, grilled cheese on challah, plates and egg scramblers, plus special cocktails. **DRINKS:** Draft beers in full or half pours, good wines by the glass (and bottle) and regularly changing craft cocktails with housemade ingredients. \$\$

Southern Standard

166 E. Clayton St. • 706-395-6001

facebook.com/ssathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outdoor seating. **THE LOOK:** An upscale southern themed concept for students. **DRINKS:** Full bar with whiskey-driven cocktails and craft beer. Cheap wells and domestics. \$

Speakeasy

269 E. Broad St. • 706-546-5556

speakeasyathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tue.–Sat. Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Thu.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Cozy second-story space with nice views of UGA's historic North Campus. **MENU:** A new team in the kitchen, many of whom previously worked for Hugh Acheson and/or Whitney Otawka, has dramatically reinvigorated this longtime Athens restaurant. The menu changes seasonally and focuses seriously on local providers. There's a slight Latin influence on the dishes that coexists with a Southern emphasis, but the main thing to expect is refinement. Small plates may include duck confit sliders, while large plates can include paella or pan-seared red snapper. Desserts alone are worth a trip up the steep staircase. Parking in either the College Avenue or Washington Street deck is validated. **DRINKS:** Seasonal craft cocktails, flights, good beers (and PBR), good wines. \$\$\$

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:** Large beach-themed restaurant on the edge of downtown with a big patio and a banquet room for private parties. **MENU:** There are a few steaks and grilled chicken dishes should you not be into fish (as well as a vegan grilled veggie plate), but seafood is the name of the game here: whole snapper, snow crab legs, lobster pasta, seared scallops, Apalachicola oysters (raw, grilled or steamed), calamari, fried frogs' legs. Brunch adds omelets and some big sandwiches. Key lime pie and other delicious desserts. **DRINKS:** A nice array of liquors, plus wine, kirs to add flavor to white or sparkling wine, martinis, beachy drinks, draft and bottled beer. \$\$\$

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, skillet, 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. \$

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:** There are plenty of brews and shots to choose from. Try specialty drinks like the Ms. Jackson and the Stoner. \$

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:** Family-run classic operation that's been in business for over 50 years. Look for the big billboard to find it way out Atlanta Highway. **MENU:** Southern comfort food done perfectly. Big buttermilk biscuit sandwiches (filled with choice of eggs, cheese, sausage, smoked link, steak, chicken, bacon or ham), pancakes, grits and hashbrowns in the morning. Meat 'n' three lunches off a steam table may include fried chicken, ribs, catfish, pork chops, mashed potatoes and gravy, creamed corn and greens. Excellent desserts made in town. \$

The Sultan

1074 Baxter St. • 706-850-7725

thesultanathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, 7 days. Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Great big shady patio and a welcoming atmosphere in this restaurant that also sells some Middle Eastern dry goods by the register. **MENU:** Lunch specials include Lebanese-style flatbreads topped with cheese, tomato or za'atar. Lots of vegetarian and vegan options (big salads, stuffed grape leaves, hummus, tabbouleh, baba ghanouj, falafel) good enough to please even meatatarians, plus shwarma and kebabs of grilled beef, chicken and lamb. \$\$

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 Eastside's only standalone neighborhood bar, offering pool, darts, keno, and karaoke. **DRINKS:** Inexpensive well shots and cocktails make it easy to get buzzed on a budget. Standard selection of domestics and imports. \$

Sweetie Pie by Savie

150 E. Whitehall Rd. • 706-850-9255

sweetiepiebysavie.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, Take Out. **HOURS:** 7:30 a.m.–3 p.m., Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Historic grocery renovated into cute bakery. **MENU:** Savie Arnold does European, American and Asian sweets, including fancy custom cakes, taro croissants, cupcakes, mini pies, bar cookies and anything you can imagine with fondant. Espresso and drip coffee in the a.m. \$



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The Table

1075 Baxter St., B102 • 706-395-6599

mkt.com/thetableathens

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly.

FEATURES: Outside Seating, Take Out, Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Sweet hidden gem on Baxter with a full wall chalkboard, modern interior and flow-ers. **MENU:** Asian-accented quick bistro with an emphasis on fresh flavors and beautiful presentation. The black bean and jicama wrap on naan with apple, cilantro and yogurt aioli is both good for you and super tasty. Lots of veggies and seafood. Gluten-free and dairy-free options. \$

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:** The original location on Milledge is also the most spartan but has its own charm. Downtown is big and open, with sports on TV. Eastside is in a strip mall but clean and neat. **MENU:** Tacos, yes, but also burritos (with meat, chicken, tofu, beans), giant Mega Nachos, veggie chili in the cooler months and wonderfully simple quesadillas (with onions and jalapenos). Don't expect a plate. This is simple, fast, addictive food. Specialty items like a slow-cooked pork taco or a fried chicken burrito are available at some locations but not all. **DRINKS:** Frozen margaritas down- town; beer at the other two. \$

Taqueria Del Sol

334 Prince Ave. • 706-353-3890

taqueriadelsol.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full Bar, Catering, Out- side Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon.–Sat. Dinner, Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Atlanta-based chef-crafted taqueria has mostly outdoor covered seating in a wonderfully renovated gas station. **MENU:** The restaurant has franchised, but this loca- tion is still run by the original owners, with an eye toward consistency and quality. The menu is small, but everything is good, and a few fun specials change weekly. Pork, bris- ket, fried chicken, carnitas, fish and veggie tacos are small and intensely flavored. Guacamole is made fresh. Everything runs like a top. **DRINKS:** High-end tequilas, bottled beers. \$

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 a Mexican grocery store. **MENU:** Authentically prepared Mexican cuisine includ- ing menudo, carnitas, chorizo tacos, tortas, al pastor and a few freshly made salsas. Great baked goods, too. \$

Taqueria La Parrilla

1431 Capital Ave., Watkinsville • 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 (Wat- kinsville), Delivery, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Family-friendly Mexican restau- rant with festive decor. **MENU:** Lots of friendly standards, well executed, like big burritos to which you can add cheese dip, tons of vegetarian options, taco salads, fajitas and combo after combo. There are also Jarritos, a low-cal menu, Mexi- can tacos, sopes and tortas. Something for everyone and great for big groups. **DRINKS:** Margaritas, Mexican beers, regular bottled stuff, pitchers. \$\$

Taqueria Tsunami

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-353-0040

taqueriatsunami.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Mexican and South American, Veg- etarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Take Out, Beer and Wine. **HOURS:** Lunch and Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** High ceilings and a modern look, with a patio and a small bar.

MENU: Asian/Latin fusion tacos: bulgogi and shitake; teri- yaki chicken with pineapple pico de gallo; tofu with sesame- soy vinaigrette; more. Apps, bowls and salads, 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:** Tablecloths, tapestries and stat- ues. Yes, there's a buffet during lunch. **MENU:** Big menu of Indian standards, from samosas and pakoras to poori, chat, tandoori (chicken, lamb, salmon, shrimp, steak) and many vegetarian options. There's goat if you want it and combina- tion dinners if you want to try a bunch of things. Lassis, chai and Indian tea to drink. Grab a pinch of the spices by the door on your way out to freshen your breath and happily conclude your meal. **DRINKS:** Wine and beer. \$\$\$

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 Din- ner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Two-level corner space in The Bottle- works. **MENU:** Mediterranean quick-service franchise out of Birmingham does healthful grilled food, including gyros, entree-size salads and "feasts" (grilled veggies or protein, salad, side). Soups, baklava, daily specials, family take- home meals, hummus and spicy pimento cheese, too. \$\$

Team Biscuits and Burgers

745 Danielsville Rd. • 706-543-8326

teambandb.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Catering, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Breakfast & Lunch, M.–Sat. Dinner, Thurs.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Red and black, pro-Bulldawg. **THE MENU:** Breakfast biscuits are pre- pared with your choice of sausage, bacon, bologna, steak, chicken, country ham, tenderloin, smoke-link or salmon. Beef, chicken, salmon and shrimp burgers. Some healthier options, too. Wings available in large quantities. \$

Ted's Most Best

254 W. Washington St. • 706-543-1523

tedsmostbest.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEA- TURES:** Beer & Wine, Outside Seating, Live Music, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Indoors is lovely, but when the weather's good Ted's has one of the best patios around, with a bocce court that has been converted into a giant sandbox. **MENU:** Individually sized thin-crust pizzas are light as a feather. Build your own or pick from toppings. The Big Island, for example, features tomato sauce, mozzarella, capicola, jalapeños and thinly sliced pineapple fanned out like so many flowers. Sandwiches, calzones, pastas and a great beet salad, too. Desserts in the refrigerated case. **DRINKS:** Five taps, \$1 PBR at happy hour, good beer in cans and bottles, a few wines by the glass. \$\$

Ten Pins Tavern

2451 Jefferson Rd. • 706-546-8090

tenpins tavern.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Live Music.

HOURS: Dinner & Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A bowling

alley, bar, restaurant and lounge all rolled into one. **MENU:** All-American fare like pizza, cheeseburgers, bratwurst, hot dogs and buffalo wings. Fried okra, tater tots, hand-cut fries and pickle chips on the side. **DRINKS:** A full bar has every- thing from well drinks to top-shelf liquors. Mostly domestic beers. \$

Teriyaki 101

1805 Epps Bridge Pkwy, Suite 103 • 706-353-0823

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Counter service, a couple of TVs, looks like a franchise but isn't. **MENU:** Assemble a teriyaki bowl or wrap (essentially a Korean burrito) with beef, shrimp, chicken or pork, your choice of veggies and a sauce (spicy Korean, yum yum, wasabi mayo, teriyaki). Shrimp is cooked to order as is fried fish. Wings, chicken tenders and fried rice, too. \$

Thai Spoon

149 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-9222

thaispoonathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Take-Out, Delivery, Reservations. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Mon.–Sat. Dinner Sun. **THE LOOK:** Cozy and ornate, with lots of small tables throughout the space. **MENU:** It's hard to stay away from the lunch special, which features a number of choices for entree (mostly curries), a spring roll, mushroom soup, a drink and rice, but there are other options. The big menu runs from fresh Thai salads to satay, calamari with tamarind sauce, lots of seafood and vegetarian (and vegan) options. Kids menu, too, with Thai scrambled eggs. **DRINKS:** Beer and wine are available, or try a Thai ice tea or Thai iced coffee. \$\$

Tin Drum Asiacafé

196 Alps Rd. • 706-543-8979

tindrumcafe.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Cater- ing, Take-Out, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Clean, simple space in Beechwood shopping center. Order at the counter. **MENU:** Pan-Asian quick ser- vice has noodle and rice bowls (Thai, Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, Indian), tacos, salads, soups and some snacks (spring rolls, potstickers). 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:** Brightly colored building near the loop on Chase Street, with regularly changing window paintings geared to holidays. **MENU:** The large menu rewards exploration at this restaurant that includes some Central American special- ties alongside authentic Mexican food. For example, two pupusas (flat corn cakes stuffed with cheese and loroco, a green/vine from the region, then griddled and served with hot sauce and a fermented cabbage slaw) will cost you \$4 and make your belly very happy. If you don't know what something is, you should probably order it. Breakfast starts at 9 a.m. and features eggs, beans and pork products. Tortas are massive but surprisingly light to lift. **DRINKS:** Margaritas, beer. \$\$

Topper's International Showbar

100 N. Jackson St. • 706-613-0504

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Exotic Dancing. **THE LOOK:** Downtown Athens' only late-night spot with exotic dancers onstage. With sports on the flat-screen TVs and multiple pool tables in the back. Male revues and

ladies' nights are held often. **DRINKS:** Plenty of inexpensive champagne for those in a celebratory mood and domestic beers, plus house shots and cocktails to give big spenders lots of options. \$

Transmetropolitan (Downtown)

145 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-8773

transmetonline.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art. **HOURS:** Lunch, Mon-Sat. Dinner, 7 Days. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Pizza with table service. Big bar upstairs plus rooms for private parties. **MENU:** Large thin-crust slices that aren't as floppy as classic New York-style 'za and have a puffer crust at the edge. Lots of toppings and specialty pies, including the famed Hungry Sasquatch (pepperoni, Italian sausage, meatballs, ham, bacon, mushrooms, onions, black olives, green peppers, extra mozzarella). Also: pastas, salads, panini and delicious oven-roasted potatoes with plenty of garlic. Omelets and scramblers for brunch. **DRINKS:** Draft beer, craft beer in bottles/cans, wine, build-your-own-Bloody-Mary bar on Sunday. \$

Transmetropolitan (Westside)

1550 Oglethorpe Ave. • 706-621-6081

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Full Bar, Live Music. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tues.-Sat. Dinner, Tues.-Sun. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Different ownership from the downtown location, a rooftop patio and lots of pretty details like subway tile. **MENU:** The pizza is fairly similar to the original downtown location, but there are also flatbreads (Carne Asada, Formaggio, Tuscan), Taco Tuesdays, different pastas and hummus. Brunch brings some fun specials. \$

Trappeze Pub

269 W. Washington St. • 706-543-8997

trappezepub.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 spacious rooms with high ceilings, big booths (great for families) and plenty of character. **MENU:** You can stick to snacks (housemade popcorn, cheese plates, rosemary-garlic fries with raspberry ketchup, garlic aioli or blue cheese dip) or you can have fun exploring the menu for a real meal. The kitchen is fond of pork (Asian pork taco, pulled pork sliders with sweet chili sauce, Jack's Cider slow-roasted pork ribs, the Double Pig sandwich, which has braised pork and spiced bacon), but there are great options for vegetarians and vegans, and it's all executed with a great sense of fun. Lunch specials are a good deal. **DRINKS:** Serious beer, with more than 200 well-described (in a menu the size of a book) options in the bottle and 30 on tap, in every category you can imagine, plus wine and nice cocktails from Highwire Lounge (under the same ownership and accessible through a door). \$\$

Trappenhaus

114 College Ave. • 706-355-3060

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Live Music. **THE LOOK:** This two-story bar used to be a downtown bank before cotton crashed, with the remaining vault door being a dead give away. This outpost for students and locals is a serious drinker's paradise. Make sure to check out the famous "fur room" upstairs. **DRINKS:** European craft beer is the focus here, with 20 on draft and even more in bottles. Try the Konig Ludwig. Also serving 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, Live Music. **HOURS:** Open 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** A cozy historic house with two levels and lots of cozy rooms. Quiet room for studying. **MENU:** High-quality, classic coffee drinks prepared with a manual pour over, Chemex or personal French press, plus nice teas, smoothies, coffee-free blender (chocolate, vanilla, chai), Italian sodas and more. Pastries, gelato, Cecilia cake and other snacks. \$

Uptown Art Uncorked

3061 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-208-7337

uptownart.com/athens

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Beer & Wine, Reservations. **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:** A long sushi bar plus small-top tables lit by twinkling star lights. **MENU:** Lunch combos such as two rolls, soup and salad for \$9.95. There are loads of specialty rolls on the menu, but really you should turn your attention to the nigiri if that's your thing. Udon and ramen are great if you want something heartier, and there's tonkatsu, teriyaki, fried rice and kids' specials that come with a scoop of ice cream. **DRINKS:** Hot and cold sake, Japanese (and American) beers, wine, sake bombs and martinis. \$\$

The Varsity

1000 W. Broad St. • 706-548-6325

thevarsity.com


FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-Thru, Catering, Outside Seating, Take Out. **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, and game days lead to a big influx. **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, Tues.-Sun. **THE LOOK:** A small patio space marks the entrance of this Bottleworks restaurant done up in blue and white (like the Argentinean flag). **MENU:** Argentinean cuisine is beefy and not spicy, but Viva has made many of its dishes vegetarian. For example, the pastel de papa, a shepherd's pie that usually consists of ground beef topped with mashed potatoes and cheese sauce, comes in a veggies-only version. Empanadas are a popular option, with many fillings, and if you do eat beef, know that it will be perfectly cooked and often served with delicious chimichurri sauce. Cupcakes in regular and mini sizes, each with a soft filling in the middle, are a highlight in a big range of flavors. **DRINKS:** Beer and wine. \$\$



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Walker's Coffee & Pub

128 College Ave. • 706-543-1433

facebook.com/walkerspub

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Bars, Sandwiches Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating, Art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open 7 days. **THE LOOK:** Big space turns from a coffeehouse into a bar at night. Lots of seating options. **MENU:** The a.m. brings locally roasted coffees, pastries, bagels, breakfast burritos and drunken waffles (Guinness and chocolate chips). Afternoon means sandwiches, quesadillas and nice compact burgers. **DRINKS:** Six beers on draft and over 70 in bottles, including many microbrews. \$

Weaver D's Fine Foods

1016 E. Broad St. • 706-353-7797

weaverds.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, Outside Seating, Delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner (11 a.m.–6 p.m.), Tues.–Sat. **THE LOOK:** Look for the bright-green cinderblock building and the sign that reads "Automatic for the People." Yes, that's where R.E.M. got the album title. Don't expect a touristy atmosphere. It hasn't changed much in a quarter-century. **MENU:** Weaver D's was honored as an "America's Classic" by the James Beard Foundation a few years ago, and it deserves every bit of its honored reputation. Be snappy with your order when you walk up to the cash register, or you'll be met with an expectant "Communication?" from Dexter Weaver himself. Then step to the side after paying and the folks behind the window will dish up your eats. Go for the classics: fried chicken, luscious squash casserole, macaroni and cheese, green beans, collards, excellent sweet tea. Don't try to be healthy. You'll regret it. \$

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:** A massive party bar, where dancing on the tables is "not discouraged." This rowdy bar is sister to Half Moon Pub and Flanagan's. **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, Downhome and BBQ, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Live Music, BYOB, Delivery, Take-Out, Art, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, Tues.–Sat. Dinner, Thurs.–Sat. Sunday Brunch. **THE LOOK:** Tucked away in a historic building in a historic neighborhood, White Tiger has seating inside and out, lots of toys and crayons for kids and an awesome stained-glass window of its namesake. **MENU:** There's an equal love on display for meats and veggies here. Both are responsibly sourced and prepared with love, whether in the Happy Top cheeseburger (simple and perfect, with grilled onions, field greens and mayo) or a big egg-and-veggie scramble at Sunday brunch. Both smoked pork BBQ and tofu-q are good stuff. Dinner varies widely and might bring fish tacos, paella or a fancy French feast. BYOB. \$\$

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 Sat. and Sun. in season. **MENU:** Curry 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, Delivery, Outside Seating, Trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. **THE LOOK:** A brightly colored franchise eatery with an assembly-line method to making orders. **MENU:** Made-to-order burritos, tacos, nachos, quesadillas and salads with your choice of meats, tofu (the sinaloa is delicious), beans, rice and veggies. 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

wingsterathens.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:** Wings and chicken tenders, wraps (including one with french fries, cool ranch, cheese and bacon), sandwiches and some Asian options (sesame chicken, tonkatsu, teriyaki). \$

Wing Zone

142 W. Clayton St.

wingzone.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Take Out. **THE LOOK:** National wings franchise to open in the West Washington Street deck. **MENU:** Wings in lots of flavors (including cinnamon maple and cool ranch), chicken tenders, chicken sandwiches, buffalo shrimp, salads (with chicken or shrimp), apps and fried dessert bites. \$

Wok Star

225 Cherokee Rd., Winterville • 706-742-2555

wintervillewokstar.blogspot.com

FILE UNDER: American, Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, Wed.–Mon. Breakfast Mon. & Wed.–Fri. **THE LOOK:** American standards plus real Chinese food, hidden in a Winterville shopping center. **MENU:** Country-style breakfast plus burgers, sandwiches and more familiar Chinese dishes such as moo goo gai pan, lo mein, spicy garlic eggplant and sesame shrimp. Curiosity is rewarded, though, with hot pot, boiled fish, interesting soups, cumin lamb and more. Ask and ye shall receive. \$\$

Wonderbar

240 E. Washington St.

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** "Eat. Drink. Game." says it all. Let your nerd flag fly in the hippest possible way. This unique bar offers amusements for avid gamers and beginners alike with eight arcade style games, console tournaments, tabletop games and giant jenga. The kitchen is open till 2 a.m. serving small bites and snacks. **DRINKS:** Featuring a full bar and kitschy drinks like Yoohoo mudslides and Sour Patch Kids shots. \$

Woodford

120 E. Washington St. • 404-271-8440

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside Seating. **THE LOOK:** Woodford has a hip, upscale feel with Edison lightbulbs, digital murals, a cool backlit bar and a nice indoor/outdoor seating area. This place caters to the older college crowd. **DRINKS:** Focusing on craft and draft beer and specialty cocktails. \$

The World Famous

351 N. Hull St. • 706-543-4002

facebook.com/theworldfamousathens

FILE UNDER: American, Bars, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Live Music/DJs, Art, Full Bar. **HOURS:** Lunch, Dinner and Late Night, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** It's a bar and a teeny music venue, but it's bright, cute and a restaurant in its own right, with funky art and fresh flowers. **MENU:** Smart bar food usually features accessories like housemade hot sauce. Pork steamed buns, poutine, tofu lettuce wraps (no, really!) and a stellar version of chicken and waffles that is neither too sweet nor too soggy will all leave you in need of some napkins but thoroughly happy. Home games for Georgia bring early hours and tasty breakfast specials like marvelous burritos. **DRINKS:** Cute and creative cocktails, well-priced beer (including lots of canned craft brews), wine, housemade nonalcoholic sodas. \$

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. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 days. Late Night, Thurs.–Sat. (Downtown) **THE LOOK:** Locally based franchise lets you customize a personalized pizza baked in a brick oven right in front of you. **MENU:** Lots of topping, sauce and cheese choices, as well as several doughs. Pick a specialty pie or build your own. Vegan and gluten-free pizzas are available. Panini, bread bowl salads and gelato, too. Beer and wine available. \$\$

Yummy Pho

167 E. Broad St. • 706-354-6006

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Covered patio with a fountain in front. Small tables inside. **MENU:** Quick-service Vietnamese: pho (noodle soup with veggies, protein and herbs), banh mi sandwiches, goi cuon (spring rolls) and bun (vermicelli with fresh veggies and nuoc cham). Abundant vegetarian and vegan options. Vietnamese coffee with sweetened condensed milk and bubble tea. \$

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:** Country cue joint with awesome signage, un-fancy environs. **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. Burgers, chicken sandwiches, fries, tots and slaw, too. Brightly colored slices of soda cake by the register. \$

Zoe's Kitchen

145 Alps Rd. • 706-850-3400

zoeskitchen.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian-Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Drive-Thru, Take Out. **HOURS:** Lunch & Dinner, 7 Days. **THE LOOK:** Health-conscious Mediterranean-inspired franchise. **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. \$



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