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GUIDE TO ATHENS

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flagpole Guide to Athens, Georgia

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Flagpole, Inc. publishes *Flagpole* magazine every Wednesday. *Flagpole* is a free newsweekly containing articles and opinion of local interest and up-to-date listings of music, art, film and events. *Flagpole* is distributed to high-traffic locations all over Athens, the UGA campus and the surrounding area.

Flagpole and the *Flagpole Guide to Athens* can also be found at flagpole.com, along with daily news updates, local food and drink coverage, a comprehensive events calendar and much more.

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BY ELINOR SARAGOUISSI FOR THE ATHENS BANNER PROJECT

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The Athens-Clarke County Unified Government
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Athens is a special place: a small town with welcoming people, a big university and many of the amenities of a big city, like vibrant music, arts, and food and drink scenes. What fuels it all is a diverse population and a progressive open-mindedness that truly makes Athens a blue dot in a sea of red, as the saying goes.

How We Got Here

Athens and the University of Georgia have been intertwined from the beginning. The state legislature chartered UGA in 1785, making ours the oldest public university in the country, despite the fact that an upstart school in North Carolina erected a building before we did. Future governor John Milledge, who bought the university's initial 633 acres from early settler Daniel Easley in 1801, named the village-to-be for the Greek cradle of philosophy. Easley, who knew a deal when one came riding up, retained the adjacent land and was happy to sell off his lots to the villagers. Although UGA was situated in the woods to keep it far away from the evil influences of taverns, the villagers quickly learned how to cater to students, and at present, this cradle of philosophy boasts around 100 bars.

The county is named for Elijah Clarke, a Revolutionary War hero who ambushed the British in a swamp down the road at the Battle of Kettle Creek. After the war, he attempted to set up his own nation—the Trans-Oconee Republic—which attacked the Creek Indians and eventually became involved in the Yazoo Land Fraud. Our namesake: right or wrong!

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.

Other than a minor skirmish, Athens saw no action during the Civil War but participated nonetheless. The Cook and Bros. armory across the river from downtown—now the Chicopee-Dudley building—manufactured rifles for the Confederacy. On a lighter note, local dentist John Gilleland devised a double-barreled cannon that failed spectacularly when tested. The chain connecting the balls snapped, knocking over a chimney and killing a cow. The cannon is now displayed outside City Hall, facing north.

Many prominent rebels—including Confederate Vice President Alexander H. Stephens, former U.S. House Speaker Howell Cobb and his brother, T.R.R. Cobb, whose writings defended slavery—had ties to Athens. Plantation slave labor funded the construction of many grand antebellum homes, such as those of the Cobb brothers. T.R.R. Cobb's home is now a house museum in the Cobbham neighborhood. A downtown Confederate monument, though, has been removed to a spot off the Loop 10 highway.

By the turn of the century, Athens had public schools, a police force and its first streetcar suburbs: Cobbham, Boulevard and Five Points. (The last remaining streetcar stop shelter can be seen at the corner of Lumpkin and Cedar streets.) In 1891, the State Normal School, a teacher's college, opened in what's now called Normaltown. Thanks to Athens' powerful then-congressman, Carl Vinson, the U.S. Navy took over the college in the 1950s, training its supply corps there. When the Navy school moved to Rhode Island in 2011, UGA acquired the property and turned it into a health sciences campus in conjunction with Augusta University. Now, UGA is in the process of building its own medical school.

In the early 20th century, Black-owned businesses were flourishing downtown on the Hot Corner at Hull and Washington streets, centered around the Morton Theatre, which was built by wealthy developer Monroe “Pink” Morton, the son of a former slave. But race relations remained tense. Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter integrated UGA in 1961, sparking near-riots. In 1964, Athens Klansmen murdered Lemuel Penn, a Black Army Reserve officer who was passing through town late at night. Marches and sit-ins were held at the popular fast-food restaurant The Varsity (which closed in 2021). Local public schools didn't fully integrate until 1970, 16 years after *Brown v. Board of Education*. This was also the time of “urban renewal,” when whole Black neighborhoods were torn down, such as Linnestown, off Baxter Street, which was razed in the early 1960s to make way for new UGA high-rise dorms. The city government has tried to make it right by setting aside \$2.5 million for housing and a Black history museum, but the university has refused to participate.

A decade later, the Model Cities program brought millions of dollars in federal money to provide much-needed infrastructure—street paving, water lines and sewerage, structural rehabilitation and a neighborhood health center—to East Athens, a predominately Black and poor area of town. Model Cities, through its

continued on p.7 ►



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citizen participation component, also empowered a generation of Black citizens who went on to elected and appointed positions within the governmental and civic life of Athens.

Downtown largely emptied out when Georgia Square Mall opened on Atlanta Highway in 1981, paving the way for Athens to become the music mecca it is today. R.E.M. was about to hit it big, and, fueled by low-interest loans from the new Athens Downtown Development Authority, entrepreneurs took advantage of the vacancies to open quirky shops and music venues that quickly became popular—some even iconic, like the 40 Watt Club, the Georgia Theatre and the late-lamented Caledonia Lounge. Ironically, now the mall is nearly empty, and is about to be redeveloped into something resembling a second downtown.

Clarke County and the City of Athens, after two previous failed attempts, merged in 1990, and the newly unified Athens-Clarke County elected Gwen O’Looney as its first female chief executive and first progressive mayor.

Today, the proliferation of luxury apartment complexes has brought rising rents and more chain businesses, increasingly catering to college students and pushing locally owned businesses out into the Five Points, Normaltown and Chase Park areas. Historically Black neighborhoods like East Athens and the Hancock Corridor that have suffered for decades from lack of investment are now ripe for gentrification.

Athens continues to grow rapidly, with apartments and fast-food restaurants popping up around the Highway 29 “Space Kroger” (so big it can be seen from space), shuttered factories being renovated into mixed-use developments along the Barber Street/Chase Street/Newton Bridge Road corridor, Baxter Street undergoing revitalization, and a film/TV studio and biotech company in the industrial Olympic Drive area.

As it was 220 years ago, the university and the city of Athens remain intertwined. UGA is by far Athens’ largest employer, its students fuel the arts and entertainment scenes, its alumni boost the economy every football Saturday, and it provides many cultural opportunities like concerts and lectures that are open to the public. Likewise, students and professors are drawn to UGA as much by Athens’ charm as by the university’s academics and sports success.

How to Get Involved

Flagpole’s City Dope column, in the weekly magazine, is a great resource for keeping up with local politics.

The ACC Commission includes 10 members, each representing a district, and the mayor (currently Kelly Girtz), who is elected countywide and presides over meetings but only votes in case of a tie. An appointed manager runs the government’s day-to-day operations. The commission meets at least three times a month: Work sessions, where staff give presentations on upcoming decisions, are at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday; agenda-setting meetings, which include further discussion as well as public input, are at 6 p.m. on the third Tuesday; voting meetings are at 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the following month. All three are at City Hall (301 College Ave.) and televised on Channel 180 on Charter cable and streamed at [youtube.com/accgov](https://www.youtube.com/accgov). Agendas and contact information for county officials are available at [accgov.com](https://www.accgov.com).

The Clarke County Board of Education, composed of nine members who elect a president from among themselves, meets in a former church at 595 Prince Ave. on the second Thursday of the month, with a 5 p.m. work session followed by a 7 p.m. voting meeting. Agendas can be accessed through CCSD’s website at [clarke.k12.ga.us](https://www.clarke.k12.ga.us).

Although Athens reliably votes about 70% Democratic, Republicans in the Georgia legislature have kindly used their mathematical skills to arrange the districts so that Athens is represented by five Republicans and just one Democrat in the state legislature. Republicans still dominate both the Georgia House and the Senate, despite the state flipping blue in 2020, sending senators Raphael Warnock and Jon Ossoff to Washington and helping to elect President Joe Biden. Warnock won a full term in 2022, but voters also overwhelmingly re-elected Republican Gov. Brian Kemp, an Athens native, as the GOP swept other statewide offices. The General Assembly meets for 40 working days a year, starting on the second Monday in January and usually ending sometime in late March (in time for the Masters golf tournament). Check [legis.ga.gov](https://www.legis.ga.gov) to contact legislators, read the text of bills and watch the action on livestream.

Athens has numerous activist groups working on labor, discrimination, LGBTQ, immigration, transportation and other issues. An incomplete list includes the Athens-Clarke County Democrats ([athensclarkedems.com](https://www.athensclarkedems.com)), Athens Anti-Discrimination Movement ([aadmovement.org](https://www.aadmovement.org)), Athens Immigrant Rights Coalition ([athensimmigrantrights.org](https://www.athensimmigrantrights.org)), the Athens PRIDE + Queer Collective

(athenspride.org), United Campus Workers of Georgia (ucwga.com), BikeAthens (bikeathens.org), Young Democrats of UGA (facebook.com/YoungDemsUGA), Young Democratic Socialists (facebook.com/AthensYDSA), College Republicans (ugarepublicans.com), Athens GOP (athensgop.com) and the Libertarian Party of Athens (facebook.com/AthensLP). Many campus group meetings are open to non-students.

UGA also hosts nearly daily lectures, exhibitions, readings and discussion groups that are open to the public; check *Flagpole’s* Calendar or calendar.uga.edu for the latest.

How to Get Around

WALK/BIKE: Downtown, North Campus and most intown neighborhoods are compact and easy to navigate on foot or bike. On campus, Bulldog Bikeshare offers e-bikes for rent. BikeAthens has a map of bike paths. (Drivers, remember to stop for pedestrians, and allow three feet between your car and bicyclists!) The North Oconee River Greenway runs from Sandy Creek Nature Center through downtown to College Station Road on the Eastside. The nearly completed Firefly Trail runs east from The Mark development down the hill from downtown toward the river, and west from downtown Winterville, with a gap remaining in the middle. A bridge over Trail Creek near Dudley Park pays homage to the historic train trestle pictured on the back cover of R.E.M.’s *Murmur* album.

DRIVE: On-street parking downtown is \$2 per hour between 8 a.m.–10 p.m. Monday–Saturday, with a two-hour time limit from 8 a.m.–6 p.m. Meters accept cards and coins. Tickets will run you \$20–\$25. Avoid the risk by parking in a deck—they’re free for the first half-hour (and all day Sunday) and \$1.50 per hour after that. Most surface lots are operated at night and on weekends by National Parking, which usually charges \$5 and can tow or boot you if you don’t pay. On campus, surface lots are permit-only, so visitors should park in a deck. See downtownathensga.org and parking.uga.edu for more.

TAKE A CAB: Athens taxis are mostly large vans shared with other passengers. Fares aren’t metered; they’re based on zones and should be posted inside the cab. Vans gather by the Arch late at night. Expect to be asked whether you’re going to the Eastside or Westside. With multiple stops to make, the ride might take a while. Uber and Lyft also operate in Athens.

TAKE A BUS: Athens Transit (athenstransit.com) buses leave in all directions from the Multimodal Center on East Broad Street, down the hill from downtown. Both Athens Transit and UGA Campus Transit (transit.uga.edu) are free and open to the public—just hop on. Both agencies have apps that allow you to find stops and track buses.

SKIP TOWN: Southeastern Stages (southeasternstages.com) intercity buses leave from 4020 Atlanta Highway, and competitor Megabus (us.megabus.com) also uses that station. Groome Transportation (groometransportation.com) will take you from one of several pick-up locations to Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta. Plans are in the works for a government-funded bus link between Athens and the Metro Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority station in Doraville as well. Athens is still searching for a commercial aviation carrier to fly into and out of our spiffy airport. Amtrak’s Crescent (amtrak.com) stops in Gainesville on its run between New Orleans and New York City. Athens may one day be a stop on a proposed high-speed rail line between Atlanta and Charlotte, but likely not for decades.

How We Stack Up

AREA: About **122 square miles**—geographically the smallest county in Georgia.

POPULATION: **132,249** (2022 Census estimate—includes UGA students)

DEMOGRAPHICS: **66%** white, **25%** Black, **11%** Hispanic of any race, **4%** Asian (2020 Census)

UGA ENROLLMENT: **40,118** (Fall 2023)

LARGEST EMPLOYERS: **UGA** (11,541), **Piedmont Athens Regional Medical Center** (3,300), **Clarke County School District** (2,350), **St. Mary’s Hospital** (2,100), **Athens-Clarke County government** (1,728), **Caterpillar** (1,600), **Pilgrim’s Pride** (1,350)



RESTAURANTS

FAVORITE NEW (OPENED BETWEEN FEB. '23-JAN. '24)

- Birdies
- FAVORITE ITALIAN
ZZ & Simone's
- FAVORITE AMERICAN
Clocked!
- FAVORITE ASIAN
Puma Yu's
- FAVORITE SUSHI
Chuck's Fish
- FAVORITE MEXICAN/LATIN AMERICAN
Cali-N-Tito's
- FAVORITE INTERNATIONAL
Mannaweenta
- FAVORITE BBQ
Dawg Gone Good BBQ
- FAVORITE BAKERY
Independent Baking Co.
- FAVORITE DOWNTOWN/SOUTHERN
The Place
- FAVORITE LOCAL COFFEE HOUSE
Jittery Joe's Coffee
- FAVORITE LOCAL PIZZA
Automatic Pizza
- FAVORITE LOCAL BURGER
Clocked!
- FAVORITE FRIES
Trappeze Pub
- FAVORITE BURRITO
Barberitos Southwestern Grille and Cantina

- FAVORITE TACO
Paloma Park
- FAVORITE STEAK
Slater's Steakhouse
- FAVORITE SEAFOOD
Seabear Oyster Bar
- FAVORITE WINGS
Paloma Park
- FAVORITE VEGETARIAN OPTIONS
Maepole
- FAVORITE SANDWICH
Martí's at Midday
- FAVORITE DESSERT
Last Resort Grill
- FAVORITE BUBBLE TEA
Bubble Cafe
- FAVORITE ICE CREAM/ FROZEN TREAT
Jeni's Ice Creams
- FAVORITE BREAKFAST
Mama's Boy
- FAVORITE LUNCH
Martí's at Midday
- FAVORITE BRUNCH
Mama's Boy
- FAVORITE SPECIAL OCCASION
The National
- FAVORITE CATERING
Martí's at Midday
- FAVORITE MEAL FOR A DEAL
Paloma Park
- FAVORITE KID-FRIENDLY LOCAL RESTAURANT
Ted's Most Best

FAVORITE OUTDOOR DINING

- Ted's Most Best
- FAVORITE TAKE OUT
Maepole
- FAVORITE CHEF
Pete Amadhanirundr at Puma Yu's
- FAVORITE UNIQUELY ATHENS RESTAURANT
Cali-N-Tito's

BARS

- FAVORITE BARTENDER
Richard Mikulka at Flicker
- FAVORITE SPECIALTY DRINKS
The Old Pal
- FAVORITE HAPPY HOUR
Paloma Park
- FAVORITE BEER SELECTION
Trappeze Pub
- FAVORITE WINE SELECTION
The Lark Winespace
- FAVORITE LOCAL BREWERY
Creature Comforts Brewery
- FAVORITE OUTDOOR BAR SPACE
Paloma Park
- FAVORITE PLACE TO PLAY GAMES
The Rook and Pawn
- FAVORITE UNIQUELY ATHENS BAR
Hidden Gem

RETAIL

- FAVORITE SEX POSITIVE BUSINESS
Sexy Suz
- FAVORITE STORE TO BUY GIFTS
Indie South
- FAVORITE STORE TO BUY HOME GOODS
Indie South
- FAVORITE LOCAL CLOTHING BOUTIQUE: FEMININE
Community
- FAVORITE LOCAL CLOTHING BOUTIQUE: MASCULINE
Kempt
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY LOCAL ART AND HANDMADE GOODS
Indie South
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY CBD/ HEMP PRODUCTS
Franny's Farmacy
- FAVORITE THRIFT/VINTAGE STORE
Mother Lode
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY WINE
The Lark Winespace
- FAVORITE PLACE TO BUY BEER
J's Bottle Shop
- FAVORITE UNIQUELY ATHENS STORE
Indie South

MUSIC

- FAVORITE RECORDING STUDIO
Chase Park Transduction
- FAVORITE PERFORMANCE VENUE
40 Watt Club
- FAVORITE INTIMATE MUSIC VENUE
Flicker Theater & Bar

PETS & KIDS

- FAVORITE VET CLINIC
Firehall 4 Animal Hospital
- FAVORITE PET GROOMER
Gameday Grooming
- FAVORITE PET BOARDING/ SITTING SERVICE
Pawtropolis
- FAVORITE PLACE TO SHOP FOR KIDS
Treehouse Kid and Craft
- FAVORITE KIDS' CLASSES: MOVEMENT
Canopy Studio
- FAVORITE KIDS' CLASSES: CREATIVE
Treehouse Kid and Craft
- FAVORITE SUMMER CAMP
Canopy Studio

SERVICES

- FAVORITE ECO-FRIENDLY SERVICES
Awesome Possum
- FAVORITE ECO-FRIENDLY PRACTICES
Maepole

- FAVORITE HOTEL
Hotel Indigo
- FAVORITE PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO
Thrasher Photo and Design
- FAVORITE FLORIST
Flowerland
- FAVORITE HAIR SALON
Washington Square Studio
- FAVORITE STYLIST
John-Presley Orvin at Wild Moon Studio
- FAVORITE ALTERNATIVE HEALTH TREATMENT
Thrive Integrative Medicine
- FAVORITE MASSAGE THERAPIST
Krystal Elliott at Living Balance
- FAVORITE TATTOO STUDIO
Pink Goblin
- FAVORITE SCREEN PRINTER
Satisfactory Screenprinting & Design
- FAVORITE SPA
Urban Sanctuary
- FAVORITE FITNESS INSTRUCTOR
Collyn Sackett at Pure Barre Athens
- FAVORITE PLACE TO GET FIT
M3 Yoga
- FAVORITE ADULT CLASSES: MOVEMENT
M3 Yoga
- FAVORITE ADULT CLASSES: CREATIVE
Good Dirt

- FAVORITE CAR REPAIR SHOP
Five Star Automotive
- FAVORITE CAR DEALERSHIP
Heyward Allen Toyota
- FAVORITE PLUMBER
Carson Plumbing
- FAVORITE ELECTRICIAN
Blue Moon Electric
- FAVORITE HVAC
Stanfield Air Systems
- FAVORITE LAWYER/LAW PRACTICE
Blasingame, Burch, Garrard, Ashley PC
- FAVORITE BANK
Synovus Bank
- FAVORITE REALTOR
Cord Sibilsky
- FAVORITE COMMUNITY INVOLVED BUSINESS
Hendershot's Coffee Bar

STUFF AROUND TOWN

- FAVORITE PLACE TO SEE LOCAL ART
Lyndon House Arts Center
- FAVORITE NON-PROFIT
Nuçi's Space
- FAVORITE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE
Books for Keeps
- FAVORITE EVENT
AthFest Music and Arts Festival



North Georgia Folk Festival

Athens' many annual events include festivals, parades, fundraisers, sporting events, craft markets and cultural celebrations among other things. Here are some long-standing favorites to look forward to each year. Check *Flagpole's* weekly calendar in print and at flagpole.com for a comprehensive community events roundup.

Athens Film Festival | **Aug. 15-17, 2024** | Inaugural community-focused festival with 80 films screened at four venues, workshops and networking parties. athensfilm.com

Groovy Nights | **September 2024** | Get your groove on with Project Safe for a '70s vs. '80s lip sync battle at the VFW. project-safe.org

UGA Home Football Games 2024 | Dawg fans fill the stadium and overflow to occupy every nearby space with a TV and a tap. **Sept. 7** Tennessee Tech • **Oct. 5** Auburn • **Oct. 12** Mississippi State • **Nov. 2** Florida • **Nov. 16** Tennessee • **Nov. 23** UMass • **Nov. 29** Georgia Tech. georgiadogs.com

LatinxFest | **Sept. 14, 2024** | Celebrate with the local Latinx community during National Hispanic Heritage Month with music, food and more. latinxfestath.com

Pride Fest | **Sept. 14, 2024** | Welcoming and inclusive to all, this LGBTQIA+ community celebration with live music also highlights local resources and activities. athenspride.org

North Georgia Folk Festival | **Sept. 28, 2024** | Enjoy a day of folk music and local artisans and crafters at sprawling Sandy Creek Park. athensfolk.org

Boo-le-Bark on the Boulevard | **Oct. 20, 2024** | Rain or shine, show off your pup's best Halloween attire. barkonboulevard.com

PorchFest | **Oct. 20, 2024** | The Athens music scene kicks up on front porches all over Athens' walkable intown neighborhoods for a tuneful afternoon/evening ramble. historicalathens.com

Wild Rumpus Parade and Spectacle | **Oct. 26, 2024** | Show off your best costume by joining in the parade march or cheering on the side. Kids events, music and more. wildrumpus.org

AthHalf | **Nov. 2-3, 2024** | AthFest Educates' half-marathon and 5K highlights live music along its meandering course through Athens and the UGA campus. athhalf.com

Downtown Parade of Lights | **Dec. 5, 2024** | Floats, marching bands and Santa Claus make their way through downtown and wind up at City Hall for a tree-lighting ceremony. athensclarkecounty.com

Indie South Fair | **Dec. 14-15, 2024** | This large outdoor market of handcrafted and functional art has several other events throughout the year. theindiesouth.com

MLK Day Parade and Music Fest | **Jan. 20, 2025** | The festival and the parade through downtown are sponsored by the Athens Anti-discrimination Movement and include music, speeches and vendors. aadmovement.org

Dancing with the Athens Stars | **March 2025** | Local celebrities work hard with their paired dancers for Project Safe at the Classic Center. project-safe.org

Fluke Mini-Comics and Zine Festival | **March 2025** | Comic and zine creators (lots of them) get together annually to share and sell their stuff at the 40 Watt Club. flukeathens.com

Boybutante Ball | **April 2025** | A glamorous tradition at the 40 Watt features drag queens and kings raising funds for the Boybutante AIDS Foundation. boybutante.org

International Street Festival | **Apr. 5, 2025** | Student and community groups present a day of music, art, food and more to showcase cultures from around the world. isl.uga.edu

Athens Beer Fest | **Apr. 6, 2025** | Enthusiasts sample craft beer from Athens and around the region at this event carrying on the legacy of the original Classic City Brew Fest. classiccenter.com/Athens-Beer-Fest

G-Day Game | **Apr. 12, 2025** | UGA's free spring scrimmage provides fans a first look at next year's football team. georgiadogs.com

Twilight Criterium | **Apr. 25-26, 2025** | This world-class bicycle race draws thousands downtown and includes lots of associated activities. athenstwilight.com

Winterville Marigold Festival | **May 2025** | Music, food, arts and a day of fun for all ages in a quirky, cool pocket of Clarke County. marigoldfestival.com

Indie South Fair | **May 4-5, 2025** | This large outdoor market of handcrafted and functional art has several other events throughout the year. theindiesouth.com

Hot Corner Celebration and Soul Food Festival | **June 2025** | Music, food and fellowship at Hull and Washington streets downtown, celebrating local Black culture and commerce. hotcornerathens.weebly.com

Pride Parade | **June 2025** | Taking place in the streets of downtown Athens, this celebration will return with floats, music, vendors and food. athenspride.org/parade

AthFest Music and Arts Festival | **June 20-22, 2025** | Local and regional bands play the free outdoor stages located in downtown Athens. There's also an artist market, kids activities, food and drink and more. athfest.com

Star-Spangled Classic | **June 28, 2025** | Celebrate American independence with a fireworks display launched from a location to be announced. accgov.com

Art Around Town



Athens has a handful of interesting galleries, and even more eye-catching artwork can be found around town, adding bursts of color and character to the walls of coffee houses, restaurants, bars and shops. Check *Flagpole's* Art Around Town for a weekly list of current exhibitions. Organizations like the Athens Cultural Affairs Commission and Athens Area Arts Council continue to fund public art projects, while many working artists frequently show off their studios during open houses and seasonal sales. Visit accgov.com/publicart for a map of public art works. For info on receptions and events, check *Flagpole's* event calendar in print and at flagpole.com.

ACE/FRANCISCO Gallery

675 Pulaski St., Suite 1500 • acefranciscogallery.com

Located inside of the historic Leathers Building, this new gallery was established in May 2022 by Jason and Beth Hall Thrasher. The gallery looks forward to an exhibition featuring Jason's photography of the Murmur Trestle in the fall of 2024. Exhibitions are accompanied by a limited edition of numbered and signed prints, the sales of which support the gallery as well as student arts organizations in the Southeast.

The Athenaeum

287 W. Broad St. • athenaeum.uga.edu

Much like the scholarly sanctuaries of ancient Greece, the Athenaeum of UGA's Lamar Dodd School of Art is dedicated to creative engagement and education. Established in 2021, the Athenaeum is a downtown contemporary art space focused on internationally and nationally acclaimed artists and cross-disciplinary conversation.

Athens Institute for Contemporary Art (ATHICA)

675 Pulaski St., Ste. 1200 • 706-850-7770 • athica.org

ATHICA balances Athens-centric exhibitions with those of professional contemporary artists from across the globe. A community hub for over 20 years, the all-volunteer organization successfully purchased its building in 2021. In addition to traditional opening receptions, exhibitions are often accompanied by educational workshops, performances and panel discussions with visiting artists. Artist-in-ATHICA residencies spotlight artists working in a variety of disciplines.

ATHICA@Ciné Gallery

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

More than just an indie movie theater, Ciné is also a venue for visual art. The exhibit space runs down the main entrance and is curated through a partnership with ATHICA. Art can be viewed during the same hours as the theater, but you don't have to buy movie tickets to check it out or enjoy opening receptions.

Aurum Studios

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

With multiple in-house jewelers, Aurum specializes in custom jewelry. The shop also offers pottery, painting, woodworking and metalwork, the majority of which was made by local artists. Aurum reopened under new ownership in 2022, and occasionally hosts rotating displays of artwork.

The Bogue Gallery

2025 Baxter St. • 706-613-3650 • athenslibrary.org

Nestled on the second floor of the Athens-Clarke County Library, the Bogue Gallery is a comfortable reading room with rotating exhibitions celebrating established local artists.

The Classic Center

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

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, while even more changes biannually through exhibitions in the Classic Galleries. Expected to open in late summer of 2024, the new Classic Center Arena will incorporate multiple public artworks into its design.

The Dodd Galleries

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

UGA's renowned art school neighbors the Georgia Museum of Art. In addition to the popular BFA exit shows, which showcase the works of graduating students near the end of each semester, galleries host exhibitions by students, faculty members and visiting artists that rotate year-round. Regular events include receptions and lectures by artists and art historians.

Flicker Theatre and Bar

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

In addition to a jam-packed calendar of concerts, film screenings and trivia nights, Flicker showcases a different local artist along its iconic orange wall every month.

Georgia Museum of Art

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

Georgia's official art museum, located on UGA's East Campus, houses a large permanent collection of paintings, prints, decorative arts, sculpture and more. This season's diverse lineup includes "Saint Petersburg as Franz Liszt Saw It," Micah Cash's "Waffle House Vistas" and "Joel Sternfeld: When It Changed," among others. Admission is free, as are almost all of its many events: gallery tours, lectures, films, workshops and family activities.

Hotel Indigo Athens

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0430 • indigoathens.com

Located outdoors and viewable 24/7, GlassCube@Hotel Indigo is a literal glass cube housing creative installations. The hotel also features a handful of artists such as Mark Steinmetz, Brittany Lauback, Alex Murawski and Rebecca Kreisler in its permanent collection.

Indie South

470 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-850-0644 • theindiesouth.com

After establishing itself as one of the largest handmade markets in the

Southeast, Indie South opened a brick-and-mortar boutique full of artisan, handcrafted and vintage goods, rare plants, crystals, tarot decks and more. The space, which also houses its own screen printing studio, stocks several popular artists including David Hale and Chris Hubbard. In between huge biannual craft fairs, Indie South hosts creative classes and frequent pop-up markets.

The K.A. Artist Shop

127 N. Jackson St. • 706-850-1224 • kaartist.com

Celebrating its 10th anniversary in the fall of 2024, the K.A. Artist Shop is a one-stop shop offering art supplies, creative gifts, photography and printing services, camps and classes for all ages. Framed local artwork decorates the store, with an even wider selection available online. Occasional group exhibitions are typically hung in eclectic salon-style arrangements.

Lyndon House Arts Center

211 Hoyt St. • 706-613-3623 • accgov.com/lyndonhouse

Run by Athens-Clarke County, the arts center displays professional exhibitions in large, sunny galleries upstairs and down, while the Ware-Lyndon House museum offers a glimpse into Athens' past through period decor and artifacts. In addition to offering classes instructed by professional artists, summer camps and the occasional festival, the center serves as meeting grounds for local craft groups. This year's programming spotlights artists including Amiri Farris, Jack Burk, Claire Clements, Leonard Piha and Jamele Wright Sr.

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Public Art Projects to Check Out

Art Shelters Serving transit riders while also injecting creativity into the built environment, many of Athens-Clarke County Transit's bus shelters double as public art. The program produced 11 art shelters between two phases in 2005 and 2011 as a partnership between ACC Transit and the Athens Area Arts Council called "You, Me and the Bus." Under the guidance of the Athens Cultural Affairs Commission, ACC Transit added a new round of 13 art shelters and an additional 20 artist-designed laser cut shelters in 2020. Look out for Joni Younkins-Herzog's giant pillbug on Lexington Road and Richard Herzog's larger-than-life ginkgo leaves on North Avenue.

Athens Creative Directory Organized by the Athens-Clarke County Economic Development Department and CREATE Athens (a division of Envision Athens), the Athens Creative Directory serves as a hub for finding and interacting with creatives working in a variety of disciplines. Visit athenscreatives.directory to search through profiles.

Cobham Triangle Park Occupying the slice of land nestled between Prince Avenue, Cobb and Harris streets, the Cobham Triangle Park is a neighborhood gathering spot accentuated by public art. Highlights include an entranceway designed by St. Udio, a mosaic sitting wall called "Flow" by Krysia Ara, a towering sculpture called "Spirit of Inspiration" by Harold Rittenberry, the "Venus Flower of Love" sculpture by Steve Sweetser and granite sculptures by Stan Mullins for games of chess and ping pong.

Fire Up the Hydrants A project of the Athens-Clarke County Public Utilities Department, Fire Up the Hydrants transformed 20 ordinary hydrants into functional, life-saving works of art. Spread across downtown, the hydrants were cleverly hand-painted by local artists, including Tonya Allen, David Lunde, Lilli Sams, Ellen Walker and Jennifer Zwirn.

Frequency Debuted in December of 2022, Maryland-based artist Eric Leskin's "Frequency" is a 14-piece installation of three-dimensional blue "squiggles" inspired by soundwaves that run along Clayton Street from Thomas to Lumpkin streets. A trained architect and planner, Leskin's work encourages viewers to consider how the forms interact with objects along the path.

Hope Located downtown on the exterior walls of Epiphany Athens and The Rook & Pawn, David Hale's mural, "Hope," depicts barn swallows—a symbol of rebirth and hope—flying across a prismatic, rainbow-colored sky. "Hope"

celebrated the 25th anniversary of the AthFest Music and Arts Festival, and replaced "BirdSong," Hale's mural of 20 species of native songbirds that was commissioned by AthFest Educates to commemorate the festival's 20th anniversary. Additional murals by David Hale can be found at Bear Hollow Zoo, Athens Humane Society and Barnett Shoals Elementary School.

Hot Corner: An Athens Legacy Located at the corner of Lumpkin and Washington streets, "Hot Corner: An Athens Legacy" is dedicated to the rich history of Hot Corner, a hub of African-American entrepreneurship. Organized by the Athens Cultural Affairs Commission with support from a National Endowment for the Arts grant, the mural was created by Miami-based muralist Elio Mercado and local artist Broderick Flanigan.

Project Ginkgo Beautifying 20 concrete bases of light poles with intricate mosaics, Krysia Ara's Project Ginkgo adds glittering charm and color into the downtown landscape. Funded by the Athens Downtown Development Authority, each design is unique and can be found outside of Flicker Theatre & Bar, The World Famous, Morton Theatre, Epiphany, Creature Comforts, Musician's Warehouse, Ciné, Chamber of Commerce, Post Office, Last Resort, Ted's Most Best, Wuxtry Athens and others. Ara also created the "Heron Sighting" mosaic mural at Dudley Park, as well as large-scale mosaic sculptures at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia and Harris Shoals Park.

Rainbow Forest Visible from Martin Luther King Parkway on the North Oconee River Greenway, "Rainbow Forest" is a public art installation by Los Angeles-based designer Andrew Kovacs, who worked alongside local artist assistants Eli Saragoussi and Patrick Sprague. Supported by the Athens Cultural Affairs Commission and unveiled in August 2021, the outdoor installation consists of a grid of 36 brightly colored columns.

Sculptures and Murals Athens' most recognizable sculptures are a series of giant bulldogs painted in colorful designs. To check out more sculptures, visit Steve Sweetser's kinetic "Tree of Oneta" near the historic Southern Mill complex, Rick Herzog's "Trail Blossom" at Dudley Park or "Origins," a work by David Hale, David Harrison and Peter McCarron located at the Athens-Clarke County Extension Office. Popular murals include Taylor Shaw's ATHENS Mural near Classic City Cycling and those of David Jenkins at Last Resort Grill, Anthony Wislar at Creature Comforts Brewery, Jamie Calkin at Flowerland and Michael Ross on Hawthorne Avenue.



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► continued from p.11

Madison-Morgan Cultural Center

434 S. Main St., Madison • 706-342-4743 • mmcc-arts.org

The nonprofit is outside of Athens in a beautifully restored 1895 Romanesque Revival building. Programming ranges from visual art exhibitions to performing arts, and annual events include an antiques show, chamber music festival and tour of homes. In addition to rotating exhibitions, permanent exhibitions include a 1895 schoolroom, a gallery of original furnishings from the Arts and Crafts Period, a museum of Madison and Monroe counties, and a series of portraits by George Andrews aka "The Dot Man."

Oconee Cultural Arts Foundation (OCAF)

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

Centered in a renovated turn-of-the-century schoolhouse, OCAF is a nonprofit that promotes performing, visual and literary arts through a range of exhibitions and classes for all ages. Longstanding annual events include "Southworks," a national juried art exhibition; "Perspectives," the Georgia pottery invitational; a members exhibition and a holiday market. Smaller exhibitions are hosted in a converted classroom adjacent to the main gallery.

Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum

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

Located at the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, the Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum opened in 2021 to showcase the personal collection of Deen Day Sanders. The state-of-the-art facility blends conservation, botanicals, art and history.



Lyndon House Arts Center

ACC LEISURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT

tiny ATH gallery

174 Cleveland Ave. • tinyathgallery@gmail.com • tinyathgallery.com

Athens' smallest physical gallery space packs a punch with high-quality pop-up exhibitions that rotate each month. Limited-capacity receptions and pop-up events are typically held on Thursdays. Upcoming artists include Kelsey Wishik, Jason Matherly, Adam Void, Joseph Leone and Noah Lagle.

UGA Special Collections Libraries

300 S. Hull St. • 706-542-7123 • libs.uga.edu/scl

The second floor of the building hosts thematic exhibits spread across three main galleries: the Walter J. Brown Media Archives and Peabody Awards Gallery, Hargrett Rare Book and Manuscript Library Gallery, and Richard B. Russell Library Gallery. Historical pieces include photographs, manuscripts, maps and memorabilia.

Winterville Cultural Center Gallery

371 N. Church St., Winterville • 706-389-9844 • wintervilleccgallery.com

Located on the second floor of the WCC, this new gallery opened in June of 2024 with three spacious rooms full of natural lighting to host concurrent exhibitions. Upcoming events include the first annual juried exhibit, an invitational show spotlighting the Wonders of Watercolor artist group, and a group show of small works.

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Activities for Kids



Sandy Creek Park Playground

Go Play Outside

Biking, kicking around or just playing—whatever you prefer—Athens-Clarke County parks have you covered. Some are large with expanses of playing fields while others are small “pocket parks” that are a fun diversion from the nearby neighborhood. Note that parks close a few hours each week for regular maintenance; find a full list with amenities at accgov.com/playgrounds.

Need some quality play time? Check out the large structures at Southeast Clarke Park’s World of Wonder playground (325 Whit Davis Road). For a smaller space or more imaginative play, hit up Reese and Pope Park (375 Reese St.) or Boulevard Woods (298 Barber St.). As of summer 2024, a new all ages and abilities playground has opened at Sandy Creek Park (400 Bob Holman Road; \$2 per person for ages 4-64) near the beach area featuring a turf carpet mat, misting station, perimeter fence, equipment access for wheelchairs, a non-verbal communication board and more.

Looking for a space to get closer with nature? Explore Bear Hollow Zoo at Memorial Park (293 Gran Ellen Drive), then continue the walk out Birchmore Trail through the surrounding woods. Sandy Creek Nature Center (205 Old Commerce Road or via the Greenway) is also a great spot to play in the nature-escape play area or explore the trails. There are also trails at Southeast Clarke Park connecting the Lexington Road side with the Whit Davis side. For a paved path that connects with a playground (great for learning a new bike), check out Bishop Park (700 Sunset Drive).

Want to get wet? In addition to the seasonally open splash pads and county pools, you can bring your waders to Ben Burton Park (615 Mitchell Bridge Road) and enjoy the creek that leads to the Middle Oconee River (you can also launch your kayak nearby). Or, hit up the beach and lake at Sandy Creek Park.

Want to speed it up? Clarke County has the Greenway network of trails for walking, biking or skating (accgov.com/greenway) that connect to all sorts of parks as well as the Firefly Trail. Park at Dudley Park and explore the new Firefly Trail Bridge or pack some snacks and head to Sandy Creek Nature Center or even Winterville. For more off-road excitement, head to Walker Park (200 Trail Creek St.) for a pump track (built for cycling with a circuit of rollers and banked turns)

and trails maintained by the local chapter of the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association (full list: sorbaathens.org/trails). Southeast Clarke Park also has a popular skate and BMX park.

Beyond county parks, the State Botanical Garden of Georgia has a can’t-miss play area, the Alice H. Richards Children’s Garden (2450 S. Milledge Ave.). There are also extensive trails at the Bot Garden and the nearby Oconee Forest Park (110 Lake Herrick Drive), adjacent to the UGA intramural fields. You can even bring your fishing poles or non-motorized boats for Lake Herrick.

Head Indoors

If it’s raining, too hot, or you just need a change of scenery, find several options among Athens’ community venues.

Looking to get creative? Check out the latest art exhibits at the Lyndon House Arts Center (211 Hoyt St.) throughout the year; check accgov.com/lyndonhouse for details on classes and events that are geared toward kids and teens. The Georgia Museum of Art (90 Carlton St.) is also a prime place for getting creative, whether it’s viewing the latest exhibits or watching the water work its way through the patio garden; visit georgiamuseum.org for kid-friendly events, such as Family Day on the third Saturday of each month.

For a deeper dive into nature—in an air-conditioned space—check out Sandy Creek Nature Center. Inside the facility, kids can explore STEM topics such as electricity, our food, planets and pollinators. Bear Hollow Zoo at Memorial Park is another great option for exploring animal habitats.

For fun ways to learn, look to the Athens-Clarke County Library (2025 Baxter St.). In addition to regular storytimes (for infants and older kids), the local branch of the Athens Regional Library System offers chess, book clubs, special interest clubs and visiting speakers for kids of all ages (including teens). For a full schedule, visit athenslibrary.org/events. Kids can also feel welcome at the Historic Athens Welcome Center (280 E. Dougherty St.) and the Ware-Lyndon House adjacent to the Lyndon House Arts Center. Both are open for self-guided tours during business hours, and the Welcome Center offers kid-friendly scavenger hunts and online tours of other notable buildings on its Facebook page.

Parks & Recreation



State Botanical Garden of Georgia

Athens has many public parks, some of which are connected by the North Oconee River Greenway, which features several scenic miles of walking and biking paths. Amenities vary, and key features are listed in each description. Picnic shelters must be rented ahead of time at most parks. Athens' only public golf course is the UGA Golf Course, at 2600 Riverbend Road; Lane Creek Golf Club is in nearby Bishop. Athens-Clarke County government also has a "Park Finder" app to help match users with locations that fit their amenity selections. For a complete list of county parks and recreation areas, please visit accgov.com/parks.

Athens-Clarke County

Ben Burton Park

615 Mitchell Bridge Road • 706-613-3620

Hours: sunrise-sunset

This 32-acre in-town wildlife preserve features a hardwood forest, trails, restrooms, outdoor grills and a picnic shelter. A boat launch and shoals provide easy access to the Middle Oconee River.

Bishop Park

705 Sunset Drive • 706-613-3589

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

This large Normaltown park is equipped with fields and courts for a variety of sports and a paved walking path. Programs include tennis, pickleball, gymnastics and more. There are restrooms, a playground and picnic shelters. Home to the Athens Farmers Market year-round from 8 a.m. to noon. Please note the Bishop Park pool is closed for renovations.

Boulevard Woods Park

298 Barber St. • 706-613-3620

Hours: sunrise-sunset

This cute pocket park in the Boulevard neighborhood has a paved walking loop, a hiking trail, a small playground and an amphitheater.

Dudley Park

100 Dudley Park Road • 706-613-3620

Hours: sunrise-sunset

This 32-acre park is near downtown by the river and features open fields, restrooms, picnic areas, an amphitheater and connections to the Firefly Trail and the North Oconee River Greenway.

Firefly Trail

Multiple entrances: East Broad Street, Dudley Park, Poplar Street, Inglewood Avenue, Old Winterville Road • 706-613-3801 • fireflytrail.com

Hours: sunrise-sunset

This 39-mile rail trail project begins in downtown Athens and extends three miles towards Winterville where an additional 1.6-mile trail section is often called the "Model Mile." The entire walking and biking trail is set to extend to Union Point along the historic Georgia Railroad corridor and the recently completed Firefly Bridge Over Trail Creek. For a complete list of trails and points of interest, please visit accgov.com/firefly.

Greenway and Riverside Parks

706-613-3620

Hours: sunrise-sunset

These linear parks have over eight miles of concrete for non-motorized use. Connections include Dudley Park, Firefly Trail, Sandy Creek Nature Center and Sandy Creek Park. For a complete list of

trails and points of interest, please visit accgov.com/greenway.

Heard Park

400 McKinley Drive • 706-613-3593

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

Previously named the East Athens Community Center, this facility serves everyone from kids to teens with activities such as a branch of the public library, a gymnasium, outdoor tennis courts, an outdoor pool and a Teen Tech Lab.

Holland Youth Sports Complex

250 Vincent Drive • 706-613-3991 (before 4 p.m.); 706-613-3604 (after 4 p.m.)

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

The 62-acre sports complex is home to Athens United soccer, Downtown Falcons football and Athens Little League baseball and softball action. The facility also includes amenities such as a playground, restrooms and a snack bar.

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.

Athens' only downtown park is accessible to anyone looking to get active, both indoors and out, with activities like tennis, pickleball, pétanque, an outdoor pool and more. The facility also features a gymnasium, a public library branch and a Teen Tech Lab.

Memorial Park

293 Gran Ellen Drive • 706-613-3580

Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

This popular 72-acre park in the heart of Five Points is home to Bear Hollow Zoo (open 9 a.m.-5 p.m.), trails, a playground and a public pool, as well as Athens Creative Theatre and The Birchmore Trail,

a 1.25-mile trail through the Five Points neighborhood. Please note some amenities may be unavailable while the park undergoes renovations.

Reese & Pope Park
375 Reese St. • 706-613-3801
Hours: sunrise-sunset

This is a small neighborhood park with basketball courts, a picnic shelter and a playground.

Rocksprings Community Center & Park
291 Henderson Ext. • 706-613-3602
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

This multipurpose park has something for everyone, including a community center, pirate-ship playground, pool and splash pad.

Sandy Creek Nature Center
205 Old Commerce Road • 706-613-3615
Hours: Tue-Sat, 8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

See snakes and other live critters up close. This facility has 225 acres of woodlands and wetlands, with over four miles of trails (including an ADA interpretive trail) plus an exhibit hall, planetarium and gift shop. Discover a 19th Century log house and the ruins of a century-old brick factory. The Nature Playscape invites visitors to explore and be as adventurous in nature as possible. Please note that dogs, bikes, skates, skateboards and scooters are not allowed in the playscape.

Sandy Creek Park
400 Bob Holman Road • 706-613-3631
Hours: Tue-Sun., 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

The county's largest park (782 acres total) surrounds picturesque Lake Chapman featuring a beach, dog parks (one public and five private), a playground and trails. Enjoy disc golf, picnicking, boating and fishing. Admission is \$2/person (ages 4-64) and \$1 extra for disc golf. The park is open mostly from sunrise to sunset but changes depending on the time of the year.

Satterfield Park
2950 Cherokee Road • 706-613-3991
Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

A community park with a playground, athletic fields for baseball/softball, courts for tennis/pickleball and a picnic area. Satterfield is also home to the East Athens Little League.

SORBA Mountain Bike Loop and Skill Park
100 Newton Bridge Road • sorbaathens.org
Hours: sunrise-sunset

A non-ACC government-owned course on the property of General Time Athens, built by MTB Atlanta and maintained by SORBA Athens volunteers. The space features a wooden skills course (tee-r-to-totter, small rollers, etc.) and a ¼-of-a-mile trail loop with small rock features that can be bypassed. Open to all skill levels. Helmets are required, and motorized vehicles are not permitted.

Southeast Clarke Park
4440 Lexington Road • 706-613-3991
Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

Home to World of Wonder, this 135-acre park is home to the largest play area in the park system and features two playgrounds, Wiggle Field Dog Park and tennis/pickleball courts. Also the Skate Park of Athens, with a series of concrete ramps, bowls and rails.

Tennis Center
4460 Lexington Road • 706-613-3991
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sat, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sun, 1-6 p.m.

This center offers year-round usage for open play, leagues, instructional programs, clinics and tournaments. The facility includes 12 lighted, hard-surface courts with viewing and staging areas. There's also a covered pavilion, restrooms and office and meeting facilities. The center is staffed seven days a week according to hours of operation, but courts open daily at 8 a.m. (Hours may be affected by the weather.)

Walker Park
200 Trail Creek St. • 706-613-3991
Hours: 8 a.m.-sunset

A sprawling, 113-acre park just minutes from downtown, featuring a fitness zone, an ADA-accessible playground, a popular splash pad for kids, soccer fields and mountain bike trails, like the new pump track courtesy of SORBA Athens.

UGA Parks

Legion Pool
830 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-542-8235 • tate.uga.edu/legion-pool
Hours: late May through July, 11:30 a.m.-7 p.m.; beginning of August, 3-7 p.m.

A historic pool with lap lanes, a snack bar and a bathhouse, Legion is enjoyed each summer by the university community and those who join the Friends of Campus Life.

Oconee Forest Park
College Station Road at Alumni Drive • 706-542-4287 • warnell.uga.edu/oconee-forest-park
Hours: dawn-dusk

This 60-acre park with hiking/bike trails and a dog park sits behind the UGA intramural fields, preserving a 100-year-old forest and its wildlife around Lake Herrick.

State Botanical Garden of Georgia
2450 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-542-1244 • botgarden.uga.edu
Hours: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.

Admire beautiful and diverse gardens and explore nature trails, but no dogs. The grounds include a visitors center with a conservatory and café and the Porcelain and Decorative Arts Museum (with an elevator from the parking area down to the visitors center). The Alice H. Richards Children's Garden is a hands-on, kid-centric wonderland. Some garden facilities, such as the Day Chapel, are available for rental.

Oconee County

Bogart Sports Complex
200 S. Burson Ave., Bogart • 706-769-3965
Hours: 5 a.m.-11 p.m.

This 33-acre park behind the Bogart Library has lighted ballfields, multipurpose fields, a picnic pavilion, a playground and a half-mile paved walking trail.

Harris Shoals Park
Harris Shoals Drive, Watkinsville • 706-769-5161
Hours: 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

This small, dog-friendly park has picnic tables, walking trails, horseshoes, shoals and a baseball

field. There are also three pavilions available to rent for gatherings and events.

Heritage Park
2543 Macon Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-769-3965
Hours: 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

The 364-acre park bordering the Apalachee River boasts miles of hiking, biking and horse-riding trails as well as an open-air arena that hosts special events.

Herman C. Michael Park
1051 Elder Road, Bishop • 706-769-3965
Hours: Mon-Fri, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

This 37-acre park has lighted courts, a multipurpose field, a gymnasium, a playground, a free disc golf course and a 1.25-mile paved walking trail.

Oconee Veterans Park
3500A Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville • 706-769-3965
Hours: 5 a.m.-11 p.m.

This 197-acre park contains walking trails, a dog park, tennis courts and multipurpose fields outside and a community center with a gym and track inside.

Playground of Possibilities & ESP Miracle League Ballfield
191 VFW Drive, Watkinsville, GA 30677 • 706-769-5161
Hours: sunrise-sunset

The Playground of Possibilities is filled with a variety of equipment that people of all abilities and ages can enjoy, including a zipline and a merry-go-round that is flush to the ground. The PoP is located next to Extra Special People's Miracle League Ball Field, which is located next to City Hall and makes baseball available to kids of all abilities.

City of Winterville

Pittard Park and Pavilion
Parkview and Church streets • 706-742-8600 • cityofwinterville.com/parks-and-recreation
Hours: sunrise-sunset

This park has three pavilions for rent, playgrounds, open fields, disc golf and metal art by Beverly Babb. It also hosts the Winterville Marigold Festival every spring.

State of Georgia

Fort Yargo State Park
210 S. Broad St., Winder • 770-867-3489 • gastateparks.org/fortyargo
Hours: 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

The park surrounds a lake for swimming, fishing and boating. It features a 1792 log fort and campsites, including yurts and cabins. The Living History Society hosts educational programs and events. Five-dollar parking and annual passes are available for purchase.

Watson Mill Bridge State Park
650 Watson Mill Road, Comer • 706-783-5349 • gastateparks.org/watsonmillbridge
Hours: 7 a.m.-10 p.m.

This picturesque park a short drive from Athens contains the longest covered bridge in the state, as well as log cabins, campsites, horse-riding trails and a river perfect for wading. Five-dollar parking and annual passes are available for purchase.

Athens Music

Blacknerdninja

10 Things to Know About Athens Music

1. It's (Not) Only Rock and Roll

Athens is known for its contributions to the rock and roll canon—our lil' town birthed R.E.M., The B-52s, Pylon, Widespread Panic, Neutral Milk Hotel, of Montreal and Drive-By Truckers, among others—but there's a lot more going on locally. Hip hop continues to boom, and the Latinx scene is hot, too. Roots music, including country and Americana, can be found just about everywhere, as can experimental and genre-defying acts.

2. Music Venues Range in Size and Focus

Athens is home to a remarkably high number of music venues, given its population size. The best bets for catching major touring acts have always been the 40 Watt Club and Georgia Theatre, while Flicker Theatre & Bar, Hendershot's, Nowhere Bar, Southern Brewing Company and The World Famous are dependable choices for catching local bands any night of the week.

3. Festivals Happen Year-Round

In fall, the North Georgia Folk Festival livens Sandy Creek Park, Historic Athens PorchFest takes over neighborhoods and the Wild Rumpus Parade & Spectacle is a Halloween-time hoot. Spring stays busy between the Winterville Marigold Festival, International Street Festival and Normaltown Music Festival. The hip hop- and gospel-centric Hot Corner Celebration, Athens Surf Stomp and Forest Heights Blueberry Festival all take place in early summer, followed by Athens' flagship event, the AthFest Music and Arts Festival.

4. It's Kid-Friendly

As more Athenians start families, there's been an increased focus on kid-centric music and music education. The leader of the pack is Nuçi's Space, a resource center that offers health services to musicians, plus rehearsal rooms and Camp Amped, where local youth learn to start their own bands. We Rock Athens operates a similar program for female and nonbinary kiddos, while Full Moon Studio serves nearby Watkinsville with summer camps and biannual "rockcitals."

5. There's an Athens Music Walk of Fame

The Athens Music Walk of Fame debuted in 2020 to honor the movers and shakers who helped place our town on the map as a musical destination, and new inductees are added every year. The walk recognizes honorees with bronze plaques that are embedded along a route that passes notable music venues. An interactive mobile app offers additional sights and sounds associated with each honoree.

6. Tune In to Turn On

You can hear local music all over the airwaves, starting with WUOG 90.5 FM, UGA's student-run station that broadcasts "Live in the Lobby" performances every Tuesday and Thursday. 2022 marked WUOG's 50th anniversary. University-chartered NPR affiliate WUGA 91.7 and 94.5 FM air "Sound of Athens" and "New South Showcase" segments of live concert recordings.

7. See Athens on the Screen

The 1987 documentary *Athens, GA: Inside/Out* is essential viewing for any aspiring local music buff for its interviews and live footage from the mid-'80s scene. Released in 2021, *Athens/Inside-Out 2: Red Turns Into Blue* follows up over 30 years later. For another glimpse into today's cultural landscape, check out local filmmaker James Preston's pair of documentaries *Athens Rising: The Sicyon Project* and *Athens Rising 2: Transmittance* (both free at athensrising.com), which compile vignettes of DIY house shows, festivals, performance art, comedy, restaurants and other interesting local organizations and independent businesses.

8. It's a Recording Destination

Behind the tremendous number of albums churned out by up-and-coming artists each year are the recording studios in and around Athens that perfect and preserve their work. Chase Park Transduction, The Glow Recording Studio, Pigten Studios, Full Moon Studio and several others stay busy year-round. Tweed Recording Audio Production School, a world-class facility located downtown, aims to train the next generation of audio professionals.

9. There's Culture on Campus

Though its sheer size and a lack of effective town-gown communication can make the university seem intimidating to newcomers, its cultural programming is open to the public and worth taking advantage of. The Performing Arts Center brings in acclaimed classical and world-music artists, with the 2024–25 season including Molly Tuttle & Golden Highway, Aída Cuevas, Samara Joy, Silkroad Ensemble with Rhiannon Giddens, Anda Union and more.

10. Flagpole Has You Covered

Trust us when we say that *Flagpole* is your No. 1 source for all things Athens music, from the weekly print edition and comprehensive events calendar to our online premieres, photo galleries and beyond. Covering local music was our founding mission, and it remains an integral part of who we are at *Flagpole* and what we do.

Music Venues

Athentic Brewing Co.

108 Park Ave. • 706-850-6252 • authenticbrewing.com

The patio of this Normaltown neighborhood brewer is a perfect spot for catching a singer-songwriter, country act or indie band.

Bolo Bolo

160 Winston Dr., #2 • instagram.com/bolo.bolo.ath

Launched in 2022, this space hosts creative and genre-defying acts in an intimate setting with a DIY and house show-like energy.

Buvez

585 Barber St. • 706-850-0172 • facebook.com/buvezathens

Located in the Boulevard neighborhood, this tucked away café frequently hosts local indie, pop, punk and electronic acts.

Ciné

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

While films are playing up on the big screens, live bands can often be found performing across the foyer in The Lab. Recently renovated for better acoustics, the space often illuminates musicians with projection art.

Creature Comforts Brewing Co.

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

Live music in the courtyard is a staple at the Athens Farmers Market every Wednesday.

The Classic Center

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

The theater, Grand Hall, 440 Foundry Pavilion and arena host big-ticket touring acts.

Flicker Theatre & Bar

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

Hear a smartly booked selection of indie, experimental, metal, punk and more in the spiffed-up side room.

The Foundry

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-549-7020 • graduatehotels.com

Graduate Athens' restaurant and event venue hosts trivia, private events and the occasional concert.

40 Watt Club

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

The world-renowned 40 Watt has been an Athens institution since 1978. Touring artists and locals share its hallowed stage.

Georgia Theatre

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

Owned by Live Nation and booked by Zero Mile, this is the downtown spot for trendy touring acts. The rooftop bar also features live music and DJs during warmer months.

Hendershot's

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

A welcoming java joint and pub known for evening shows, open mic nights and more.

Little Kings Shuffle Club

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

This historic space with a great patio occasionally hosts salsa nights, punk shows and dance parties.

Live Wire

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

A state-of-the-art space with a plant-filled courtyard that hosts weddings and other special events, but also books live music concerts.

rehearsals and events, this collective community center hosts shows, solstice celebrations and open jams.

Red Line Athens

1958 Winterville Rd. • instagram.com/redline_athens

One of Athens' few remaining DIY venues left primarily hosting outdoor punk, hardcore and metal shows.

Rialto Club

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0430 • indigoathens.live

Located on the ground level of Hotel Indigo, this upscale space hosts wedding receptions, meetings and concerts.

The Root

1235 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-395-6278 • therootathens.com

Located below The Pine, this Five Points neighborhood basement bar also hosts live music.

Southern Brewing Company

231 Collins Industrial Blvd. • 706-548-7183 • sobrewco.com

With its large outdoor stage, Southern Brewing hosts concerts ranging from indie, pop, Americana, singer-songwriters and everything in between.

Terrapin Beer Co.

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

In addition to its large outdoor area, Terrapin has a separately ticketed indoor space with state-of-the-art sound and lighting to showcase country, folk, jam, rock and more.

UGA Performing Arts Center

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

Classical performances from students and faculty, plus celebrated symphonies, performers from around the world and much more.

VFW Post 2872

835 Sunset Dr. • 706-543-5940 • facebook.com/vfwpost2872

This space near Bishop Park hosts a variety of events, including live music from country and rock bands, karaoke and Rabbit Box Storytelling.

work.shop

160 Winston Dr. #9 • 706-247-4513 • workshopathens.com

This community-oriented space hosts occasional shows and late-night raves in addition to a variety of classes and improv, comedy, dance and other performances.

The World Famous

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

A tiny room with a ton of character, featuring hip hop, indie, dance music and beyond.



EMILY ECKERT

Marigold Auditorium

373 N. Church St., Winterville • 706-742-0823 • marigoldauditorium.com

Built in 1953, the auditorium recently reopened after extensive restorations and renovations as a state-of-the-art performance venue hosting musical groups and theatrical productions.

Morton Theatre

195 W. Washington St. • 706-613-3770 • mortontheatre.com

Built in 1910, the historic building carries on Hot Corner's legacy with gospel and soul.

Nowhere Bar

240 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-546-4742 • nowherebarlive.com

Frequent local talent with a focus on blues, funk and rock.

Paloma Park

235 W. Washington St. • 706-850-7356 • palomapark.com

The restaurant's large outdoor beer garden hosts bands that play live in front of the jumbotron during warmer months.

Rabbit Hole Studios

1001 Winterville Rd. • 762-499-4182 • rabbitholestudios.org

In addition to offering space for recording,

Entertainment



Boobutante

In addition to music and art, Athens is home to a variety of creative performance-based communities with regular monthly and seasonal events. There are opportunities for the curious to participate or entertainment seekers to simply watch. Check *Flagpole's* weekly calendar in print and at flagpole.com for an updated roundup of specific event information.

Catch Some Laughs

Comedy offerings in Athens continue to grow with an expanding local scene that puts on weekly shows featuring regional artists and the occasional nationally-touring comedian passing through The Classic Center (classiccenter.com), 40 Watt Club (40watt.com) or Georgia Theatre (georgiatheatre.com).

Flying Squid Comedy is an improv-based troupe that offers classes and regular public events. Every Wednesday Gorgeous George's Improv League performs at Buvez. On the first Thursday of every month, the group performs an ASSSSCAT, an improv show based on true stories told by a monologist, at Hendershot's. There is also a rotating schedule of events on Fridays through the fall and spring at work.shop. Find a full list of events and details at flyingsquidcomedy.com.

New on the scene is The Upstairs Bar and Comedy Club, in the upstairs space above Gyro Wrap. Stand-up comedy shows take place every Monday and Friday, with specialty shows Queer Comedy on the first Monday of the month and Funny Femmes on the third Monday. For specific show details, visit instagram.com/theup_stairsbar.

Athens Comedy hosts featured shows and weekly events, like the recurring Off the Clock Comedy held upstairs at The Globe on Sunday evenings. It also maintains a calendar of other shows and open mics happening in the comedy community at athenscomedy.com. One of the longest running comedy open mics in Athens is OpenToad Comedy at Flicker Theatre and Bar every second Tuesday.

On the third Wednesday of every month, Noell Appling hosts a lineup of comics from Athens and Atlanta at Hendershot's.

Be Fierce and Fabulous

Drag shows pop up around Athens year-round at various venues and breweries; however, there are also plenty of consistent and reliable staples on the calendar. Boybutante AIDS Foundation hosts two of the biggest drag events of the year at the 40 Watt Club. The Boybutante Ball each spring and Halloween-themed Boobutante each fall raise money for the nonprofit. The organization also hosts Drag Bingo nights throughout the year. More info can be found at boybutante.org.

The Athens Showgirl Cabaret performs twice a month at Hendershot's. Drag for All is held most first Saturdays, with some movement accounting for holidays and out-of-town shows, welcoming all ages for an open drag night with sign-ups. Fabulous Fridays is held the last Friday of every month with a lineup of entertainment suitable for ages 18 and up. Keep up with the Cabaret's events at athensshowgirlcabaret.com. The Kourtesans regularly perform at Sister Louisa's Church downtown. This troupe hosts a variety of themed shows and drag competitions featuring performers from Athens and Atlanta. Keep up with their events at facebook.com/kourtesans.

Set the Stage

Theater stages across Athens stay busy between the University of Georgia's theater program, active local troupes and touring productions. The Classic Center hosts a Broadway Entertainment Series drawing non-local productions

throughout the year.

UGA Theatre (ugatheatre.com) announces a full schedule of student productions every fall and spring season held at the Fine Arts Building on the UGA campus. Its official theater club is the Thalian-Blackfriars (ugatheatre.com/thalians), the second-oldest collegiate drama club in the U.S., that produces student performances. The college's student-run musical theater group Next Act (uganextact.weebly.com) also performs one full-length musical each year and several cabarets held at Hendershot's. The community theater Town & Gown Players (townandgownplayers.org) produce plays year-round from classic dramas and musicals to more experimental theater productions at its location. Athens Creative Theatre (accgov.com/act) also performs a diverse variety of plays that are either held at Morton Theatre or Quinn Hall at Memorial Park.

Just outside of Athens in Watkinsville the Oconee Youth Playhouse (oconee-youthplayhouse.com) features casts drawn from the youth of Athens, Oconee and surrounding counties performing plays suitable for an all-ages audience. In neighboring Winterville the recently restored and renovated Marigold Auditorium also hosts theatrical productions. A little further out in neighboring Monroe is the On Stage Playhouse Walton (onstagewalton.org), and Elberton is home to The Elbert Theatre (elberttheatre.org).

Calls for upcoming production auditions are listed in *Flagpole's* Bulletin Board in print and online.

Express Yourself

Interested in dance and movement-based performances? The Studio Athens (thestudioath.com) offers classes for all ages but also is the home of dance companies Boulevard Burlesque Company, The Modern Pin-Ups, Speakeasy, Athena Rhythm, Normaltown Tap Company, Athens Swing Central and Classic City Bellydance. The Studio presents group shows and themed events for the individual troupes. Dancefx (dancefx.org) also offers classes and is home to the varied-genre performance companies Concert Dance Company, Contact Dance Company, Revolution Salsa Company, Sweet Dreams, The Vixens, Classic City Tap Collective and The Bombshells. Canopy Studio (canopystudio.org) offers classes and workshops in flying dance trapeze, silks, lyra, pole and more. Showcases are open to the public and diverse in styles of aerial performance, sometimes incorporating narrative, art or music.



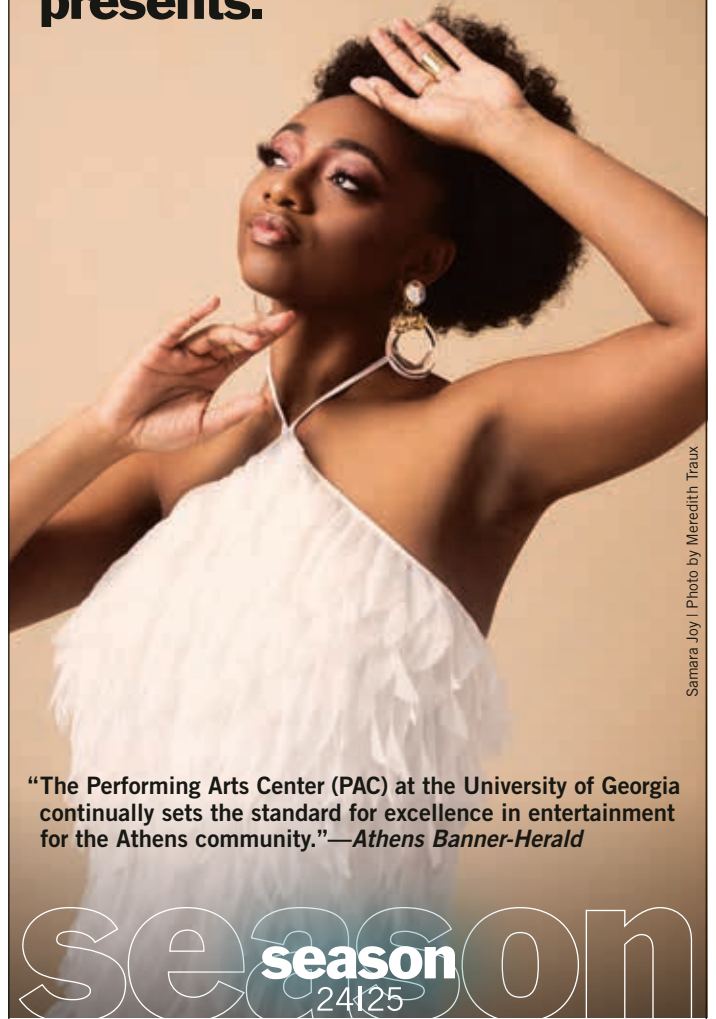
SHANNAH MONTGOMERY

Canopy Studio

Poetry and storytelling more your speed? Athens Word of Mouth (facebook.com/athenswordofmouth) is the city's longest-running poetry open mic, taking place the first Wednesday of every month at The Globe. Come prepared to sign-up and read a piece, or enjoy the night's featured poet. Athens-Clarke County started a Poet Laureate program (accgov.com/9713/Poet-Laureate) in 2020, and the current Poet Laureate, Mikhayla Robinson Smith, hosts special pop-up workshops, readings and events. Rabbit Box (rabbitbox.org) is a monthly event held at the VFW Post 2872 where people from the community tell stories from their lives based on a theme. Organizers put out calls for themes ahead of time to help people interested workshop their stories.

The long-running Small Box Series (facebook.com/smallboxathens) features a little bit of it all. Creatives bring their art to a 4'x4' stage, sharing theatrical performances, dances, writing, music and more.

UGA presents.



Samara Joy | Photo by Meredith Traux

"The Performing Arts Center (PAC) at the University of Georgia continually sets the standard for excellence in entertainment for the Athens community."—*Athens Banner-Herald*

season
24/25

Experience the best.

UGA Presents brings dozens of international touring artists and ensembles to Athens throughout the school year. The series showcases classical music, jazz, Americana, ballet, contemporary circus, and more.

This season features jazz vocal phenomenon Samara Joy, opera diva Renée Fleming, mandolinist Sam Bush, Rhiannon Giddens and the Silkroad Ensemble, and the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra playing movie music by John Williams.

Enjoy quality without the drive to Atlanta.

Single tickets start at \$25 with promo code PAC25 | UGA students \$10.



Box office: (706) 542-4400
pac.uga.edu

Scan for info and tickets



Breweries, Distilleries & Wineries



Oak House Distillery

The Athens area is home to nine local breweries, a winery and two distilleries offering finely-crafted cocktails, high-quality spirits and a huge variety of microbrews and other offerings. You can sample their work on site in their tasting rooms or purchase bottles, cans or crowlers (aluminum growlers) to go. Native brews are available in bars and restaurants across town, and there's also the Athens Beer Fest, on Apr. 6, 2025, which brings beer lovers into Athens from all over.

1818 Brewing

71 State St., Commerce • 678-725-2184 • 1818brewing.com

Located in a historic building that once housed a sewing factory, 1818 is Commerce's newest brewery. This local landmark has a large outdoor patio where you can relax, listen to live music or play some corn-hole. Indoors, it has a variety of offerings including hard seltzers in a variety of flavors. Its American blonde ale and Angry Vulture IPA are some of its best brews, but there is also an English porter and Irish red ale, as well as pilsners and a hefeweizen. The food menu is catered by nearby restaurants like Bryson's BBQ and Baddie's Burgers on a rotating schedule. 1818 is open Thursday through Sunday.

Akademia Brewing Company

150 Crane Dr. • 678-726-2288 • akademiabc.com

Situated on Atlanta Highway, Akademia stands out among Athens' local breweries by offering a full food menu six days a week, including brunch.

It has ample indoor and outdoor patio seating as well as rentable event spaces for large gatherings. Akademia hosts a variety of events, including a monthly Classic City Car Show and weekly happenings like Trivia Tuesday, Wing Wednesday and Poker Thursdays. The extensive beer selection includes a wide range of options from traditional Mexican lagers to rich pastry stouts, authentic German-style beers and fan-favorite IPAs.

Athentic Brewing Company

108 Park Ave. • 706-206-2074 • authenticbrewing.com

Located in the historic Boulevard neighborhood, Authentic regularly hosts live music on its spacious patio and indoor stage along with other events like the Normaltown Music Festival, drag shows and trivia nights. Depending on availability, you'll be able to pick from a variety of brews, including Escape Button, a tropical IPA; Floodgate, a Japanese rice lager; and Upright Hermit, a dry stout. Authentic was the first brewery in Athens to create a line of hard seltzers, and it regularly offers a variety of seltzer slushies.

Boutier Winery

4506 Hudson River Church Road, Danielsville • 706-789-0059 • boutierwinery.com

The landscaped grounds and interior of Boutier Winery also operate as an event space and inn. There are nearly 32 acres planted in Vinifera and French American grape varietals from which the

winery crafts some of its offerings, which include Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Viognier, Syrah, Corot Noir and Cynthiana. Enjoy a wine tasting or one of its many events, including line dancing lessons, ladies night and a variety of live music.

Creature Comforts Brewing Company

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

If you're a beer connoisseur in Athens, you already know that Creature Comforts has a convenient downtown location, a spacious patio and some of the most popular beers in town. Offerings include its ever-popular Tropicalia IPA, Classic City Lager and Bigger Dreams hazy IPA, as well as a large selection of limited releases. The brewery is celebrating its 10th anniversary in 2024, and it regularly hosts food trucks, along with art and live music. The Athens Farmers Market is on site every Wednesday from March through November. Creature Comforts has a family-friendly atmosphere and is home to the official craft beer and official taproom of the Georgia Bulldogs.

Normaltown Brewing Company

425 Barber St. • 706-850-8996 • facebook.com/normaltownbrewingco

Normaltown Brewing has moved out of the Chase Street Warehouses into the old Jittery Joe's location on Barber Street. The move allows visitors the

chance to enjoy a much larger space complete with food trucks, games and live music while still offering a high-quality, continuously rotating selection of craft beers. Usually, you'll find one of its SunTan sours on tap, along with a mix of IPAs, ales and stouts. Elder Masters, a 9% ABV west coast IPA, has become a crowd favorite along with Summon the Fog, a hazy New England style IPA. Normaltown offers the majority of its beers on tap at the brewery, and you can purchase 32 oz crowlers to go.

Oak House Distillery

1015 Macon Hwy. · 706-850-5474 · oakhousedistillery.com

Located on Macon Highway in a historic house built in 1864, Oak House Distillery specializes in high-end cocktails made with small-batch spirits. It's a little hard to find, but definitely worth the trip for artisan spirit connoisseurs and anyone looking for a relaxing and intimate venue. Its gin has won awards both internationally and right here in Georgia. The most popular gin cocktail remains "The Best G&T You've Ever Had," which lives up to its name. The distillery also makes Jamaican-style, barrel-aged rum and has recently added organic vodka to the menu as well. There's plenty of space inside the tasting rooms or outside on its 2.5 acre lot shaded by huge oak trees. Get a tour of the production facility any Sunday, then stay for the live music out on the patio.

Soldier of the Sea Distillery

22 E. South Ave., Comer · 706-783-2523 · soswhiskey.com

Founded in 2022 by a marine veteran, Soldier of the Sea uses locally-sourced honey and grain to produce small batch whiskey and bourbon. It also

offers rum made from regional sugarcane. At the distillery's pub, The Hive, you can sample the spirits and try a handcrafted cocktail with fresh simples and syrups made in house. Music and events are ongoing, so check out the website for dates and happenings. Comer may seem distant to some, but it's only 17 miles from downtown Athens and is a quick trip along GA-72.

Southern Brewing Company

231 Collins Industrial Blvd. · 706-548-7183 · sobrewco.com

Nestled on five acres of cleared land, Southern Brewing Company has a large outdoor stage and an expansive backyard perfect for large events. Catch live concerts, drive-in movie screenings, trivia, karaoke and more while enjoying Southern Brewing's huge selection of brews. Its beer portfolio spans an array of styles including lagers, wheat ales, sours, traditional Irish Red and Oktoberfest options, pilsners, porters and stouts. Some noteworthy picks are tried and true favorites like Hobnail IPA, Red and Black fruited sour and Moon Eyes Imperial Stout, which is served up in different varieties like cookies and cream or peanut butter throughout the year.

South Main Brewing

1725 Electric Ave., Watkinsville · 706-705-6067 · southmainbrewing.com

Located in Wire Park near downtown Watkinsville, South Main Brewing is known for its wide selection of beverages from IPAs, lagers and stouts to sours, seltzers and local craft sodas from New Creation. You can enjoy them in the taproom or take a six-pack or 25 oz crowler to go. South Main is

next door to diverse dining spots like Mama's Boy, Gekko Kitchen, Lalo's and Southern Prospect. South Main is a kid- and pet-friendly brewery, and it hosts weekly events including cornhole, bocce, darts, trivia, music bingo and live music Fridays.

Strange Duck Brewing

26 Old Allen Road, Commerce · 706-201-5094 · strangeduckbrewing.com

Strange Duck Brewing is a family-friendly experience offering the unusual combination of craft beer and mini-golf. Just 16 miles from downtown Athens, Strange Duck is off the beaten path but offers a full 18-hole mini golf course, an electric scooter track, live music, a large outdoor stage and delicious craft beer. It has a wide range of brews from pastry sours to IPAs, coffee stouts, traditional lagers and brown ales. The Belgian Dubbel is a highlight, and it also offers a hard seltzer and even a pickle beer.

Terrapin Beer Company

265 Newton Bridge Road · 706-549-3377 · terrapinbeer.com

In a warehouse on Newton Bridge Road with an indoor tasting room and a huge lawn, Athens' OG brewery hosts live music regularly and lots of annual events, weather permitting. Sample old favorites like the sessionable Recreation Ale, Hopsecutioner IPA, Wake-n-Bake coffee oatmeal stout or their newest beer Coastal Daydream, a west coast-style IPA with citrus, pine and floral notes. It also has seasonal offerings like its Watermelon Gose sour and Oktoberfest lager, most of which are available in cans to take home with you.

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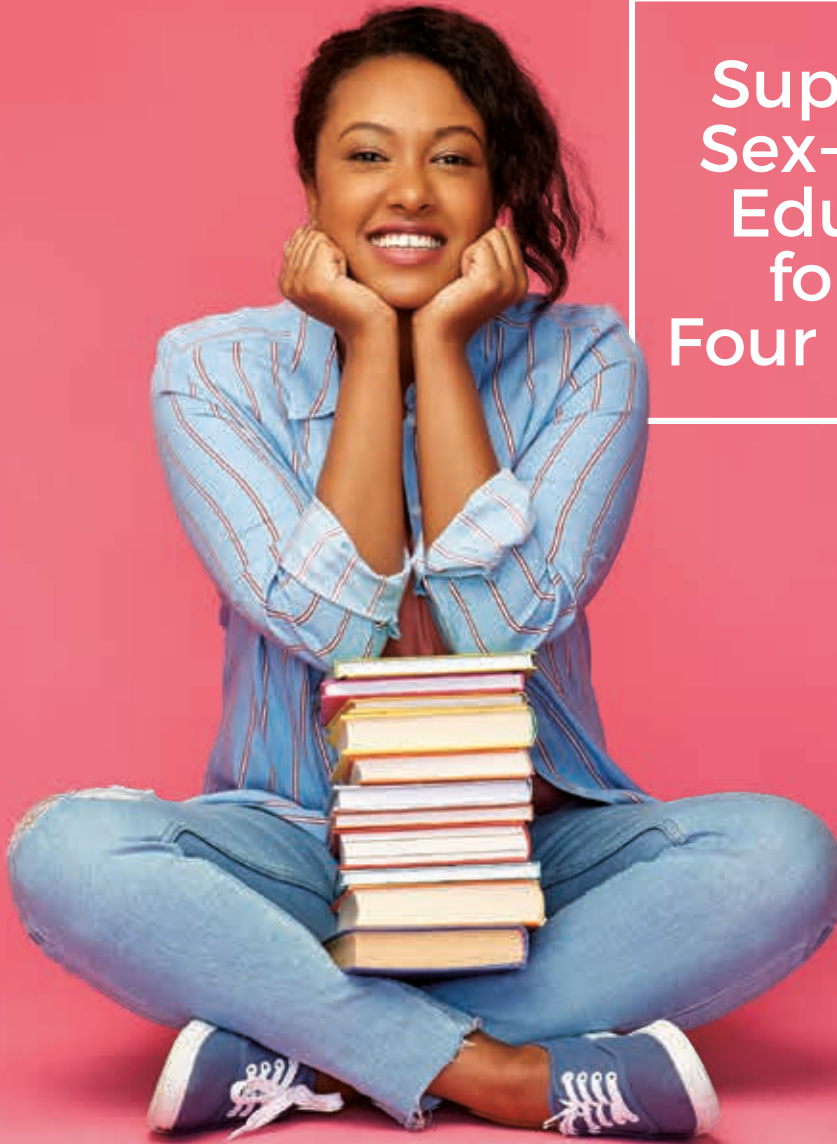
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Restaurants & Bar Listings



Foxglove Plantbar

1000 Faces Coffee

510 N. Thomas St. • 706-534-8860
1000facescoffee.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses. **FEATURES:** Counter service, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Fancy but simple coffee roasted on-site and ideally prepared as pour-over; hipster vibes with lots of plants. Also: tea, other drinks, bags of coffee, coffee accessories and light snacks. Coffees on offer change out frequently. \$

The 11th Pin

555 Macon Hwy. • 706-548-1028
11thpinathens.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, catering, counter service, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Standard bowling alley food inside Showtime Bowl: chicken fingers, fries, pretzels, wings, pizza. Beers by the bucket include local and craft brews, or you can do hard seltzers in bulk. \$

1785 Bar & Grill

420 E. Clayton St. • 443-579-5566
1785athens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs. • Big college bar with pool tables that gets its name from the year UGA was chartered. Also serves food (fried apps,

burgers, flatbreads, wings in a lot of flavors, wraps, tacos), which means it's open Sundays. Margarita towers, pitchers of domestics. Poker Mondays, Taco Tuesdays, Wing Wednesdays. \$

9d's Bar Plus

400 Clayton St. • 706-461-0268
facebook.com/9dsbar

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs/live music. • College kids sweat it out on the dance floor to (mostly) '90s jams. Buy a tallboy, shot or mixed drink for dancing fuel. Also: Zima to go with the theme. \$

@local. Coffeehouse & Lounge

198 College Ave.
localonchurch.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses. **FEATURES:** Counter service, live music, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Seven days. • '90s vibes in everything except the actual coffee on offer, which comes customizable with a wide variety of syrups, etc. Need some pineapple cold foam on your latte? They gotcha. Also: mocktails, cereal bar, a few snacks and lots of local music. \$\$

Add Drug Store

1695 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-2239
add-drugstore.com/lunch-counter

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. **FEATURES:** Counter service. • Opened in 1961, this soda fountain and lunch counter inside a Five Points pharmacy hasn't changed much since then. Grab a stool and watch the cooks make your fries and bitty burgers. Real cherry and vanilla sodas, plus malts, milkshakes and floats. One of the few real bargains left. \$

Agua Linda Mexican Restaurant & Cantina

2080 Timothy Road • 706-543-0154
1376 Prince Ave. • 706-543-5711
agualindarestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Breakfast. Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • A mix of Americanized Mexican and more authentic stuff in a family atmosphere. Normaltown location has a gorgeous rooftop bar with a mural and nice views, plus breakfast Thursday through Saturday now starting at 7:30 a.m. \$\$

Ahi Hibachi & Poke

489 E. Clayton St. • 706-543-8898
ahihibachi.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Pay attention to the second half of the name and get the poke bowl, available at a reasonable price with loads of topping choices (raw and cooked). Vegetarian options, hibachi, fried rice, noodles and basic soups and salads. \$\$

Akademia Brewing Co.

150 Crane Dr., Bogart • 678-726-2288
akademiabc.com

FILE UNDER: American, Breweries. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and brunch, open seven days. • A wide variety of house-brewed beers that is always changing (more than two dozen on tap at any given time), plus a full restaurant, not just bar snacks. Beer features in many dishes, and there are vegan and vegetarian options. Also: flatbreads, burgers, salads, biscuits + beer at brunch. Cocktails, wine, shots and cider, too. \$\$\$

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

Allgood Lounge

256 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-0166

allgoodlounge.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Opens earlier than most bars. • Two floors plus a rooftop tiki bar, pool and lots of TVs. Hundreds of drink options, 20 rotating beers, 55 whiskeys, 18 tequilas and over 200 bottled beers (including some nonalcoholic choices). \$

Alumni Cookie Dough

480 N. Thomas St. • 762-400-2634

alumnicookedough.com

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream, Something Different. • Cookie dough specially formulated to be safe to eat raw, available in many flavors. Jittery Joe's coffee, milkshakes (with cookie dough), ice cream sundaes and toppings. Some vegan, gluten-free and keto choices. You can also take its product home and bake it if you want some crunch, or find it for sale around town. \$

American Deli

2139 W. Broad St. • 706-395-6615

3700 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-543-3009

1055 Gaines School Road • 706-714-1212

1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy • 706-540-7707

americandeli.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. \$

Amici

233 E. Clayton St. • 706-353-0000

8851 Macon Hwy. • 706-850-1027

amici-cafe.com

FILE UNDER: Pizza, Bars. **FEATURES:** Trivia, catering, outside seating, take-out, delivery, full bar, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Two options are nearby for this small chain: downtown Athens and on Macon Highway in the Falls of Oconee shopping center. Pizza with a wide variety of toppings, renowned wings, sandwiches, pasta, salads and soup. Good craft brews. \$\$

Andy's Frozen Custard

2180 W. Broad St. • 762-356-4330

eatandys.com

FILE UNDER: Frozen Treats. **FEATURES:** Take-out, drive-thru, counter service. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

Angie's Place

10336 Hull Colbert Road, Hull • 706-546-6141

Find Us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Downhome. **FEATURES:** Take-out. **HOURS:** Breakfast. • Big biscuits with lots of classic fillings, omelettes and breakfast plates in an old-school atmosphere just north of downtown Athens. \$

Another Broken Egg Cafe

2375 W. Broad St. • 706-850-1593

anotherbrokeneegg.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Vegetarian friendly, full bar, catering. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch, seven days. \$\$

ARTini's Art Lounge

337 Prince Ave. • 706-353-8530

artinisartlounge.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Art classes, parking. • Local in-town paint-and-sip with beer and wine, plus nonalcoholic beverages if you need to concentrate on your sunset masterpiece. Open studio time if you don't want a structured class. To-go kits for private parties in your own space. \$

Athens Bagel Co.

268 N. Jackson St. • 706-543-5001

athensbagel.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Excellent bagels boiled and baked in-house in a wide variety of flavors. Major renovations have been taking eons, but the owners swear it'll be open again at some point. \$

Athens Cooks

100 Prince Ave., Ste. 103 • 706-623-3313

athenscooks.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Catering, beer and wine. • Fancy cooking store retails plenty of goods for cheffing, baking and making cocktails, but also does classes and serves refined breakfast and lunch created by its Five and Ten alum chef. Charcuterie boards to go, housemade granola, coffee from 1000 Faces with housemade syrups, beautiful soups and well-presented, tasty sandwiches. \$\$

ATHENS COOKS

Athens Pizza

2095 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-705-5294

pizzaathens.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. • Locally owned pizza place with a wide variety of toppings, plus pasta (baked ziti, lasagna), subs, wings, calzones, salads and meatballs à la carte. Lots of desserts, including baklava in a case on the counter. \$\$

Athens Wok

493 E. Clayton St. • 706-850-2695

athenswokga.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Informal place focusing on quick-sauteed Thai, Chinese, Korean and Japanese dishes. The Thai curries are a high-light, but everything is fast and tasty. \$

Athentic Brewing Company

108 Park Ave. • 706-206-2074

athenticbrewing.com

FILE UNDER: Breweries. **FEATURES:** Beer, live music, comedy, trivia. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Small brewery with lots of offerings in the historic Boulevard neighborhood. Sixteen different taps, changing often, with sours, pilsners, wheat beers, ales, stouts, build-your-own hard seltzer and more, plus a big patio that hosts events and food pop-ups (including by Homero Elizalde, yum!). \$

Automatic Pizza

1397 Prince Ave. • 706-850-2037

autopizzaathens.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, counter service, delivery, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Big slices of New York-style pizza made in pans brushed with garlic oil, plus delish but not giant subs, salads and cannoli all with quality ingredients. Vegan-friendly + gluten-free options. \$\$

B&B Theatres

1570 Lexington Road • 762-216-5051

bbtheatres.com/athens-12/theatre-info

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. • Burgers, chicken, flat-

bread, hot dogs, funnel cake fries and the like, available for munching while you watch a movie or play trivia or bingo in the lobby on Wednesdays. Movie-themed cocktails and mocktails. \$\$

Bad Moon

246 E. Clayton St.

instagram.com/badmoonbar

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • Instagrammable, with lots of neon, disco balls and a light-up dance floor, '90s music, karaoke. Choose from domestic and local standbys, or order a house specialty like the disco lemonade, jello shots or 1.5-gallon Moscow mule. \$

Baddies Burgers

1591 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-8331

1011 Park Dr., Watkinsville • 706-705-6032

eatbaddies.com

FILE UNDER: Burgers. **FEATURES:** Beer, take-out, catering, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Small menu done well: smashburgers topped with caramelized onions, cheese, housemade pickles and zippy house sauce; fries; banana pudding in a few different flavors. New Watkinsville location has a drive-thru. \$\$

Bar Bruno

1664 S. Lumpkin St. • 770-215-9100

barbrunoathens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • ZZ & Simone's sister business is a bar first and foremost, but has expanded its food offerings to heartier stuff like baked ziti and meatballs. Wine and aperitifs over beer and shots, plus bowls of olives, pretty desserts, fancy toasts and stuff like that to keep you going. \$\$\$

Bar South

104 E. Washington St. • 706-850-1329

instagram.com/barsouthathensga

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, live music. • Roomy bar beloved by Barstool Sports with TVs, pool tables, darts and foosball. Beer and mixed drinks across a wide range of taste and budget. Pool and beer-pong tournaments, plus cornhole; boozy snow cones in the summer. \$

Barberitos Southwestern Grille & Cantina

1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-354-0300

1739 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-1866

1860 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-549-9954

259 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-9008

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

680 N. Hwy. 29 • 706-543-5299

1180 Prince Ave. • 706-850-1701

barberitos.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer (Clayton St.), catering, outside seating, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. • Locally owned burrito chain has expanded throughout the Southeast but remains Athens-y. Serves health-oriented Mexican-ish fare, highlighting low-fat options. Everything is customizable to your taste/dietary needs: burritos, quesadillas, fajitas, tacos, nachos and salads, lots of veggies; vegetarian and vegan options. \$

Barnes and Noble Café

3650 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-354-1195

barnesandnoble.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi. \$

To Atlanta:

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

To Hartsfield-Jackson Airport:

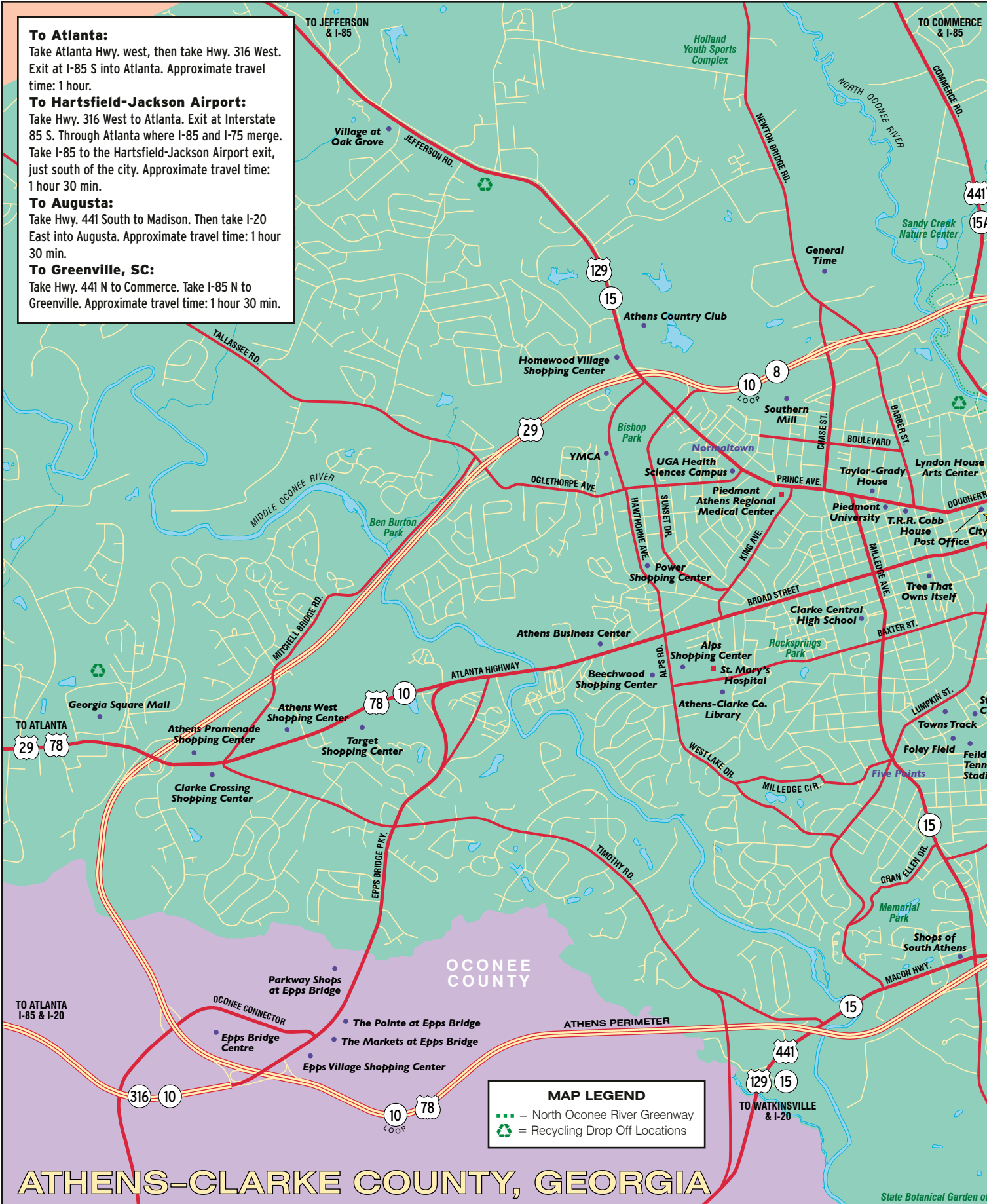
Take Hwy. 316 West to Atlanta. Exit at Interstate 85 S. Through Atlanta where I-85 and I-75 merge. Take I-85 to the Hartsfield-Jackson Airport exit, just south of the city. Approximate travel time: 1 hour 30 min.

To Augusta:

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

To Greenville, SC:

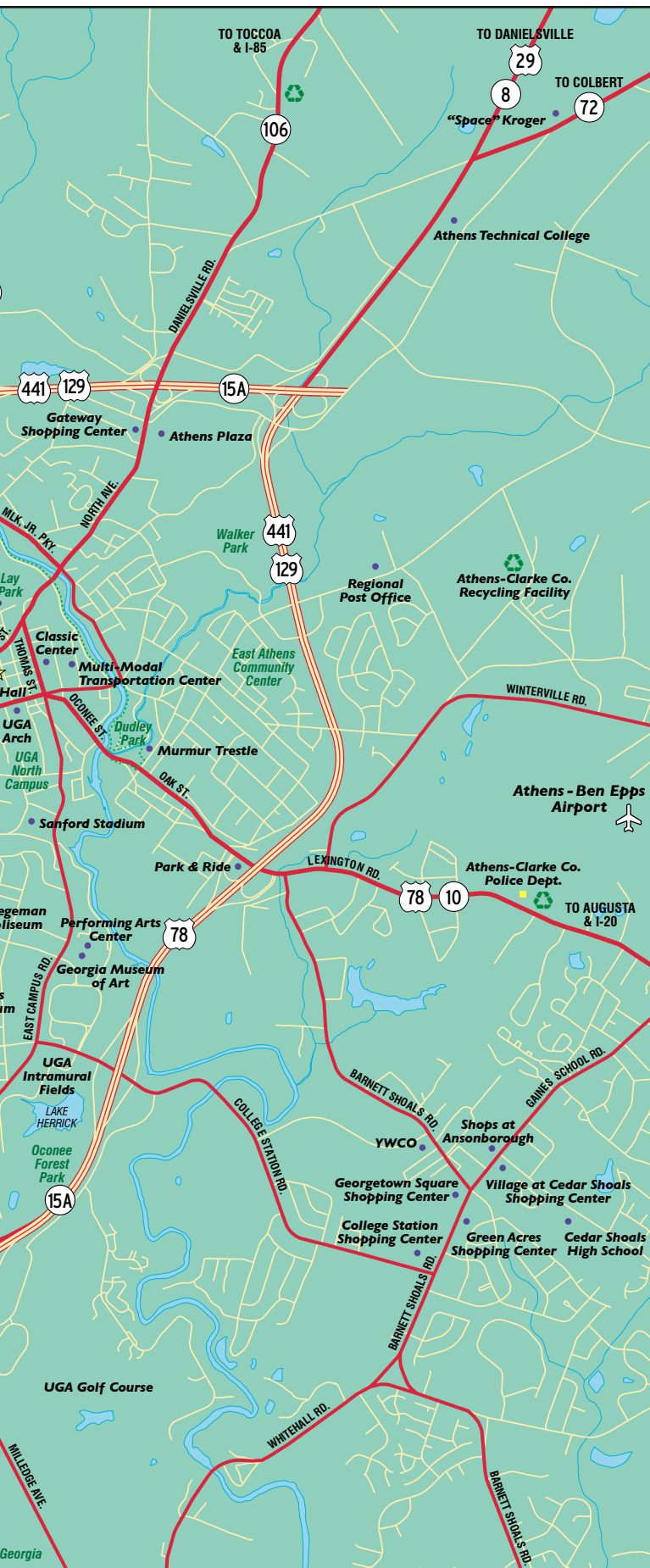
Take Hwy. 441 N to Commerce. Take I-85 N to Greenville. Approximate travel time: 1 hour 30 min.



MAP LEGEND

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

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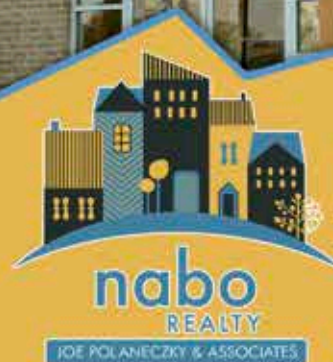


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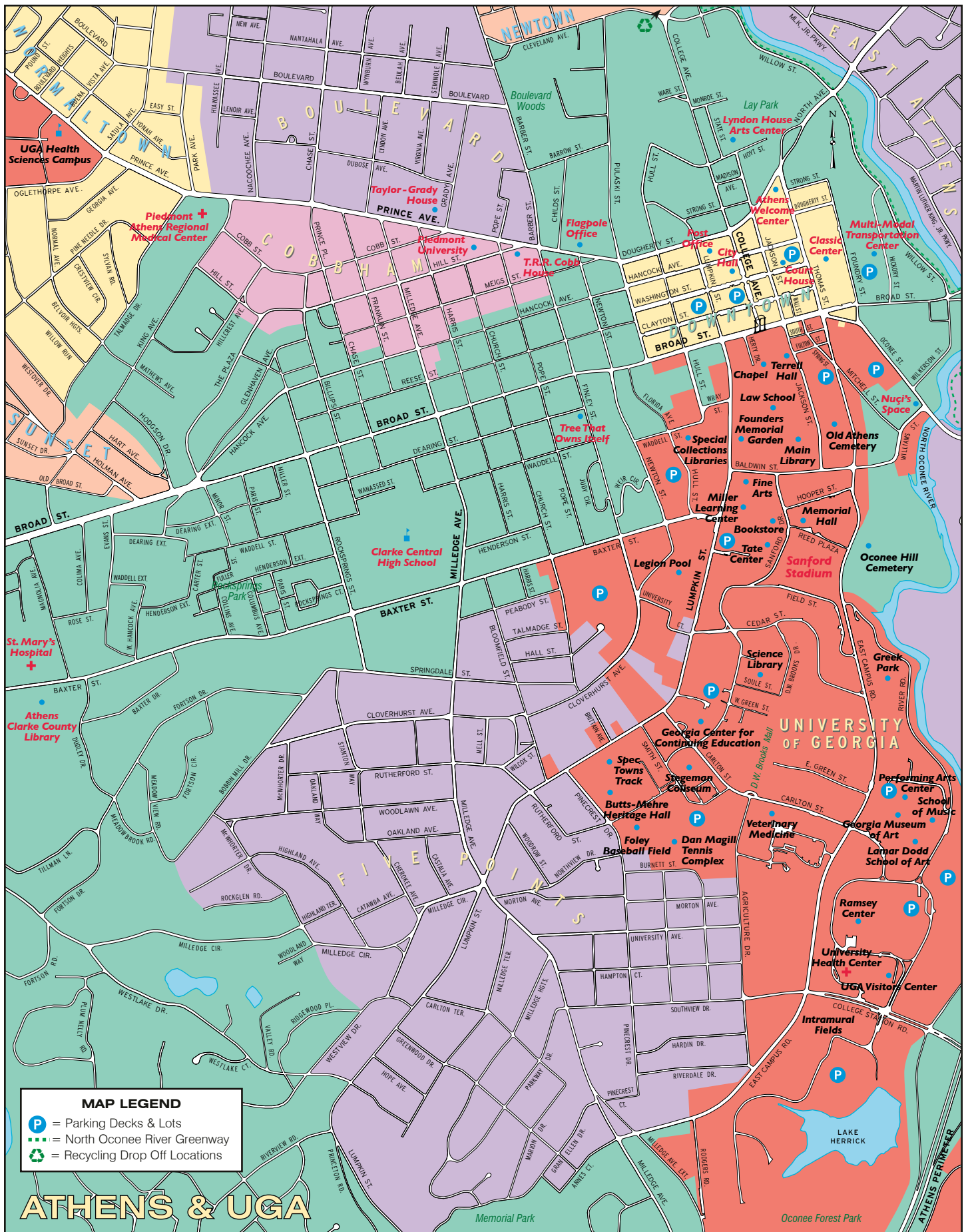


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TRANSIT



MAP LEGEND

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

ATHENS & UGA

Baskin-Robbins/Dunkin'

771 Prince Ave. • 706-548-3444
2081 Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville • 706-769-8363
1045 Gaines School Road • 706-353-7166
1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-546-1635
935 Highway 29 N. • 706-548-6338
dunkindonuts.com
FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies, Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, Wi-Fi, counter service. • Prince Avenue, Epps Bridge Parkway and Highway 29 locations are Dunkin' only. \$

bb.q Chicken Athens

230 N. Finley St.
bbqchicken.com
FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Not, in fact, a barbecue restaurant, but a Korean fried chicken chain with locations from California to New York. The "BBQ" stands for "best of the best quality." Tenders, wings, tteokbokki and sides from pickled radishes and cheese sticks to onion rings. Opening soon. \$\$

Bee's Knees Bakery & Gifts

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-353-3633
beeskneesbakeryandgifts.com
FILE UNDER: Bakeries, Sandwiches, Delivery. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service. • Cute independent bakery does cupcakes, custom cakes, cookies, cake pops, gooey bars and box lunches with a sandwich, cheese straws and a cupcake. \$

Beef 'O' Brady's

1860 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-850-1916
beefobradys.com
FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, outside seating, trivia, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. \$\$

Ben & Jerry's Scoop Shop

105 College Ave. • 706-208-0031
benjerry.com/athens
FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, counter service. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

Bento Stop

142 W. Clayton St. • 706-850-0350
bentostopathens.kwickmenu.com
FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. • Sister restaurant to Bubble Cafe offers quick-service, mostly Korean food: bento boxes with a protein, rice, two dumplings and a side; snacks like tteokbokki (spicy rice cakes) and seaweed salad; wings, noodles and fried rice. \$

Big City Bread Cafe

393 N. Finley Street • 706-353-0029
bigcitybreadcafe.com
FILE UNDER: Bakeries, Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, catering, counter service, outside seating, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch, Friday dinner, Sunday brunch • Longtime Athens favorite has a great patio popular with dogs and kids. Biscuits, French toast, continental breakfast, omelets, great sandwiches, quiche, soups, burgers (veggie and non), small but good selection of beer and wine. Baked goods galore, including for special order. \$\$



Billy Meadow's Station

6729 Hwy. 72, Colbert • 706-788-3517
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. **FEATURES:** Take-out, counter service, cash only (ATM available). • Old-school hot doggerly in the country makes a steamed dog with coleslaw on a toasted bun like no other. Also grilled cheese, corned beef and chicken salad. \$

Birdies

497 Prince Ave. • 706-850-1711
birdiesathens.com
FILE UNDER: American, Coffee Houses. **FEATURES:** Counter service. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Birdie's has Rancho Gordo beans, amazing cheese and much more. It also does coffee, retails Independent Baking Co. pastries and makes pretty, local produce-driven soup, salads and sandwiches, all of which change out frequently. Pick up your online order at the back entrance or linger at a table. \$\$

Birrieria & Taqueria Jalisco

494 Broad St. • 678-767-2912
FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Tacos, grilled meats and Mexican standards, but the real attraction is the birria, a meaty stew highlighting goat or lamb, darkly spicy with ancho chiles. \$

Biscuit Basket

723 Boulevard • 706-548-3412
FILE UNDER: Downhome. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Southern lunch counter inside a neighborhood convenience store is well known for its fat biscuits with sausage, ham, eggs, tenderloin, cheese, gravy and more. Grits, eggs or hashbrowns on the side. Lunch items rotate and include corn dogs, chicken fingers, pork chops and fish on Fridays. \$

Blazer's-N-Hull

1462 Glenn Carrie Road • 706-208-0705
blazers-n-hull.com
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Take-out, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Wings and chicken fingers to go, with 16(!) different sauces and a wide variety of customizations (extra wet, extra crispy, etc.). Also: burgers, corn dogs, meaty salads, fried shrimp, onion rings, fries and fried apple pies on the side. Other locations are in Statham, Lexington, Commerce, Elberton, Hartwell and Royston. Online ordering. \$

Blind Pig Tavern

312 E. Washington St. • 706-548-3442
2440 W. Broad St. • 706-208-7979
2301 College Station Road • 706-850-4919
22 N. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-310-4450
blindpigtavern.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Vegetarian Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Catering, outside seating, trivia, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, seven days. • Longtime Athens sports bar has several locations and a big menu including many vegetarian choices. Beer on tap and in bottles, including local brews. Each location has its own specials. \$\$

Blue Sky

247 E. Broad St. • 706-850-3153
instagram.com/blueskybarathens
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • Cozy bar on the second story of a historic building, for students and townies with a nice view and a rooftop patio. Big drink selection: 300+ craft beers, 100+ scotches, a wide selection of whiskeys and wine from all

over. Occasional vinyl nights where you can bring your own tunes. \$

Boar's Head Lounge

260 E. Washington St. • 706-369-3040
instagram.com/boarsheadlounge
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, outside seating. • Big, divey, multi-level student bar. Pool, beer pong, popcorn machines and more inside. Regular specials on already inexpensive drafts and wells. \$

Bourbon Street

333 E. Broad St. • 706-369-1313
instagram.com/bourbonstreetathens
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • College bar encourages you to chug through Power Hour and party New Orleans-style all night. Pool upstairs. Cheap beer and champagne, nightly specials and liquor drinks, including hurricanes and fishbowls. \$

Brett's Casual American Restaurant

3190 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-850-1395
brettscasualamerican.com
FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, curbside pick-up, catering, outside seating, delivery, take-out, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Family-oriented restaurant with a huge menu, great deals on kids meals and something for everyone, including celiac folks. Big salads, fried apps, tacos, burgers, grilled seafood and more. \$\$

Bruster's Real Ice Cream

1029 Parkway Pl. • 706-850-1249
brusters.com
FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Catering, drive-thru. \$

Bruxie

311 E. Broad St. • 706-850-1358
bruxie.com
FILE UNDER: Chicken. **FEATURES:** Beer, catering, delivery, take-out, wine. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$\$

Bubble Café

247 E. Broad St. • 706-355-3002
bubblecafeathens.com
FILE UNDER: Asian, Tea House, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, take-out, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Bubble tea, of course, in a wide variety of flavors (almond milk for the lactose intolerant; milk teas, fruit teas, smoothies, cloud cream, matcha), but also fun snacks, dumplings, good soups, rice and poke bowls and more, all in an Instagrammable interior. Good vegetarian options. \$

Buddha Bar

431 E. Broad St. • 404-271-8440
instagram.com/buddha_athens
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar. • Less zen, more sake bombs that involve pounding on the table to make the shot fall into the drink. Skee-Ball in the back, lychee martinis, shots and beer. Lots of sports. \$

Bulldawg Pizza, Wings & More

2026 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-355-3294
bulldawgpizzawingsmore.com
FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Counter service, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night. • Some of the biggest pizzas in town, plus wings, hot and cold subs, calzones, fried apps, pasta, salads, breadsticks and dessert. Open as late as 3 a.m. Take-out and delivery only. \$\$

Bulldog Bistro

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-338-8781

hotel.uga.edu/dining-in-athens/bulldog-bistro

FILE UNDER: American, Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Take-out, outside seating, full bar. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner. • This restaurant inside UGA's Georgia Center does a wide variety of dishes throughout most of the day, including some grab-and-go stuff and made-to-order breakfast. Bar snacks, Savannah Room favorites like celestial chicken, Thai chicken salad, burgers and more. \$

Butt Hutt BBQ

480 Macon Hwy. • 706-850-8511

butthuttathens.com

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, catering, outside seating, delivery, trivia, karaoke. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • The rare barbecue place that has both good smoked meats (especially pork and ribs) and a full bar. Sides like chicken mull, corn nuggets, fried okra, meat skins and a meaty potato salad are legit. Desserts are well thought of. Kids menu. \$\$

Buvez

585 Barber St. • 706-850-0172

instagram.com/buvez_athens

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Bars, Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Full bar, counter service, outside seating, Wi-Fi, comedy, live music. • Boo-vay, not booves, as in the French for "you drink." European-style cafe with a lot of different beverages all through the day: coffee, tea, cool sodas, craft cocktails, wine, beer and aperitifs. Chef Mimi Maumus has been redoing the eats, which focus on real, satisfying food: kale salad, bagel with banana jam and bacon, noodles, housemade granola and more, plus alcoholic and booze-free snoballs. Popular with kids and grown folks alike. \$

Cabin Creek BBQ

199 Memorial Dr., Nicholson • 706-757-2267

Find Us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Worth the drive a bit outside of Athens to Nicholson for some of the best barbecue around, Friday through Sunday. Also: chicken mull, Sunday buffet with Southern standards and cobbler for dessert. Holiday specials. \$\$

The Café on Lumpkin

1700 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-215-9240

thecafeonlumpkin.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Take-out, outside seating, beer and wine, catering, counter service. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and afternoon tea. • Breakfast until late afternoon, with pastries, burritos, sandwiches, good baked things; classic sandwiches, soups and salads at lunch; several different types of proper tea service (by reservation) with scones, clotted cream, tea sandwiches; and then snacks and light drinks in the early evening. Wide selection of teas. Gluten-free, dairy-free and vegan options. \$\$

Cafe Racer Coffee + Donuts

2343 W. Broad St. • 706-850-0297

caferacer78.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Burgers. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner. • Eight or so seasonal potato donut flavors (pistachio, strawberry surprise, stuffed ones), good coffee, big biscuits, breakfast burritos and tacos until 2 p.m., then a break and a switch to dinner with smashburgers, chicken and excellent fries. Look for the air-dancer out front. Drive-thru or walk-up. There's also a food truck for catering and pop-ups. Another Athens location, on the Greenway on Oconee Street,

is in the works, but the original Arnoldsville shop is closed for now. \$

Cali 'N' Tito's

1254 Cedar Shoals Dr. • 706-355-7087

1427 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-227-9979

Find Us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, beer, wine and margaritas (Eastside), delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Both locations of this Athens original do Latin American food with a Peruvian influence: lomo saltado, big sandwiches, plantains (sweet and savory), yuca, tacu tacu (rice and beans topped with eggs) and much more. Lots of veggie choices. Eastside location is bigger with an eclectic atmosphere fun for adults and full of quarter-operated rides for kids. Lumpkin has a small fee to BYOB. \$\$

Cantaritos Cafe

2467 Jefferson Road • 706-850-0844

instagram.com/cantaritoscafe_

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner. Open seven days. • Family-run spot gives you free soup instead of chips and salsa and has a menu that ranges all over Latin America: quesabirria, bandeja paisa, lomo saltado, pupusas, sweet and savory empanadas, arepas. Delightful breakfast, kids meals and an array of coffee drinks. \$

Carrabba's Italian Grill

3194 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-546-9938

carrabbas.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Full bar, curbside pick-up. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. \$\$\$

Catch 22 Gastropub

1021 Parkway Blvd. • 706-549-6333

catch22gp.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • This hashtag-happy gastropub welcomes "thirst seekers, hoggazers, palate pushers" and plays fast and loose with flavors like sriracha and blue cheese. Good beer selection, regular specials, street tacos, lots of fusion and a food truck that pops up at bars and breweries. \$\$

Cava Mediterranean

145 Alps Road • 706-715-5481

cava.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-out, curbside pick-up, vegetarian friendly, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. \$

Cecilia's Cake Shop

610 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-543-3308

ceciliascakeshop.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering. • Longtime Athens bakery offers cupcakes, cookies and cakes made to order, including for special occasions like weddings and birthdays. Popular flavors include lemon, tres leches, hummingbird, mocha, caramel, coconut and red velvet. Purchase only. No seating. \$\$

Celia's Bakery

9029 Hwy. 29 N., Hull • 706-850-2021

facebook.com/celiasbakeryga

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Donuts, tamales and an absolute rainbow of Mexican sweet breads (conchas that resemble jack-o'-lanterns at Halloween and much, much more), all well priced and nicely made. \$

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Centro Bar

400 E. Clayton St. • 404-271-8440

instagram.com/centrobarathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • Watch football on a big screen, dance under the disco ball and sign up for the weekly beer pong tournament. A balcony with its own bar wraps around the main floor. Full bar with specialty drinks like the East Clayton lemonade and key lime pie shots. DJs and karaoke. \$

Cheba Hut

135 W. Washington St. • 706-850-0767

chebahut.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out, counter service, full bar, vegetarian friendly, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night. Open seven days. • Weed-themed sandwich shop is really committed to the bit, but the food ain't bad. Sandwiches with a wide variety of fillings, including a bunch of vegetarian options, are your best bet. Also: salads, snacks, drinks. \$\$

Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen

2040 Oconee Connector • 706-353-0217

cheddars.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, seven days. \$\$

Chef Ming

1720 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-552-3233

chefmingathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Healthier-than-average strip-mall Chinese, focusing on Cantonese standards. Hot pot, seafood, Singapore noodles, roast duck and lunch specials. Online ordering. \$\$

Chibugan Cafe & More

302 Athens Rd, Winterville • 706-424-4286

Find us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Asian, Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Coffee. **FEATURES:** Take-out, counter service, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Corner grocery in Winterville now serves Filipino yum as well as classic American deli sandwiches, coffee, bubble tea (milk only), ice cream and light and colorful slices of cake. Pick up a pack of cracker nuts and some noodles while you're at it. \$\$

Chili's Grill & Bar

183 Alps Road • 706-613-5405

chilis.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, curbside pick-up, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

China 1

2026 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-850-7788

chinaoneathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Counter service, catering, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Mostly to-go food, available fast, but a better selection than your standard stir-fry eatery: egg foo young, lo mein, pancit, teriyaki, sweet and sour, moo shu and meat entrees, plus chef's special Cantonese dishes. \$

China Star Super Buffet

3567 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-316-3382

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Buffet, catering, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Large AYCE buffet with many Chinese, American and Japanese dishes, including crab legs sometimes. You can also order off the menu of mostly Americanized Chinese standards or get take-out priced by the pound. \$

China Wok

2475 Jefferson Road • 706-353-3399

athenschinawok.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. • Americanized quick-service Chinese dishes, including chop suey, lo mein, mai fun, moo shu, et al., make up the primary order of business in this small restaurant that mostly does to-go. \$

Chipotle

165 Alps Road • 706-548-7210

1797 Oconee Connector, Oconee • 762-234-5100

chipotle.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out, catering, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. Downtown location coming at some point. \$

Choco Pronto

700 Baxter St. • 706-850-0622

choco-pronto.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Seven days. • The Dale brothers' coffee shop is neat as a pin, with a simple menu (coffee, tea, Montane seltzer, Figment kombucha, chocolate milk) and a focus on sustainability. A few snacks include pastries and Condor Chocolate brownies. \$\$

Choo Choo Grill Express

1055 Gaines School Road • 706-543-8888

choochooexpress.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and sake, delivery, trivia, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, open seven days. • Quick-service hibachi basics, wings, spicy ramen, plus some Korean specialties like bulgogi. \$



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The Chop House

2055 Oconee Connector • 706-395-7855
thechophouse.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Delivery, full bar, take-out, Wi-Fi, reservations, curbside pick-up. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$\$

Chops and Hops

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

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, outside seating, reservations, Wi-Fi, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Steak and beer, but also seafood, chicken, salmon tacos and burgers at this somewhat upscale Watkinsville restaurant. Tap takeovers, mocktails, Southern veggie for sides and gluten-free items. \$\$\$

Chuck E. Cheese

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

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

Chuck's Fish

220 W. Broad St. • 706-395-6611
chucksfish.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Catering, full bar, outside seating, reservations, take-out. **HOURS:** Dinner, open seven days. • Upscale place with an emphasis on Gulf seafood, including a large, well-executed sushi menu. Land animals, too. Signature cocktails with sake or Japanese whiskey as well as standards. Big for date night. \$\$\$

Cicis Pizza

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

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Buffet, catering, counter service, curbside pick-up, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Ciné

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

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, movies, art. • Yes, it's a movie theater, with a wide variety of indie flicks and classics, but you can also go hang out in the bar and drink movie-themed cocktails or good beer, wine and liquor. Coffee, tea, sodas, local baked goods and fresh-popped popcorn, plus an art gallery run by ATHICA. \$

City Bar

220 College Ave. • 706-546-7612
instagram.com/citybarath_

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, trivia. • Watch sports in a historic space with marble accents and chandeliers. Daily drink deals, plus beer, seltzers and shots. Spiked hot chocolate in the winter. \$

Clarke's Collective

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

FILE UNDER: Bars/Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, live music. • An event space and college bar, with a frozen drink machine, Creature Comforts beer for \$3, a game room with Skee-ball and a covered back patio. \$\$\$

Classic City Eats

1290 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-705-6434
classicciteats.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Full bar, take-out, catering, karaoke. **HOURS:** Lunch and din-

ner. • Sports-bar vibes and big menu with an emphasis on fried snacks and chicken (a good half-bird fried to order, chicken livers, wings), plus pizza. Video games for grown-ups (Golden Tee) and kids (an arcade side room). Pool. Bar has beer plus makes beachy drinks. \$\$

The Clayton Social

335 E. Clayton St. • 706-395-6575
instagram.com/claytonsocial

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, trivia. • College bar with a big "How Bout Them Dawgs" light-up sign for photo ops. Espresso martinis, Aperol spritzes, champagne and prosecco specials. \$

Clean Eatz

1791 Oconee Connector, Ste. 560 • 706-850-6415
cleaneatz.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Catering, curbside pick-up, take-out, vegetarian friendly, counter service. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

Clocked!

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

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, curbside pick-up, delivery, outside seating, take-out, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Local favorite does beef and veggie burgers (made with good ingredients and creative toppings: bacon jam, peanut butter, gouda, etc.) plus grilled cheese, tater tots and milkshakes (including boozy ones). Gluten-free options and a big patio. \$\$

Cloud

164 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-7771
cloudathens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music. • Rainbow-lit bubble wall bar and a light-up dance floor has a club vibe, with a VIP section. Spacious layout, pool, TV and laser lights. Full bar with all the shots and bombs you could ask for, plus boozy slushies and DJs playing thumping music. \$

Coconut Pat's

120 E. Clayton St. • 706-353-9800

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar. • Filling the need for a tiki bar in Athens, with loads of nautical decor, this bar is inside Cutters Pub and specializes in drinks served out of a fresh pineapple. \$

Condor Chocolates

1658 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-4803
160 E. Washington St. • 706-521-8966
condorchocolates.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses, Something Different. **HOURS:** Seven days. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, Wi-Fi. • Locally-based small-batch chocolate shop offers truffles, chocolate bars, coffee bars and more, plus drinking chocolate, coffee, gelato, ice cream sandwiches, toffee, etc. Vegan options. Downtown location has big windows to watch the chocolate elves at work, or you can book a tour. \$

Costa Alegre

2131 Hog Mountain Rd, Watkinsville • 706-705-6333
facebook.com/costa.alegre.seafood

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Cheery spot in Watkinsville decorated with bright colors and ocean theme does a lot of seafood: shrimp, oysters, fish, octopus, ceviche, aguachile. Land animals, too, if you prefer. Also: margaritas, buckets of beers, palomas. \$\$

Cozy Bar

179 N. Jackson St. • 706-668-8420
instagram.com/cozybar179

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, live music. • Itty-bitty space on a side street downtown, with paper lanterns and flowers on tables, gets rowdy and crowded. Food is sometimes available. Domestic, Asian beers, wine and liquor (especially sake bombs). \$

The Crab Hut

1860 S. Barnett Shoals Road • 706-850-0762

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Take-out, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Viet-Cajun fusion serves tasty boil-in-bag seafood (crawfish, shrimp, mussels, crab legs and more) with plenty of spice as well as fried baskets, salmon and shrimp burgers, corn, hushpuppies, coleslaw and wings, but the real reason to go is for Vietnamese coffee and specialties including pho, bún, côm, bo kho and more. BYOB and karaoke on Friday and Saturday nights. \$\$\$

Cracker Barrel Old Country Store

1913 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-208-0304
crackerbarrel.com

FILE UNDER: American. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

Creature Comforts Brewery

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

FILE UNDER: Breweries. **FEATURES:** Beer, outside seating. • Big, beautiful brewery with lots of indoor and outdoor seating, pretty lighting and legit art. Popular year-round offerings include Tropicalia, Athena and Classic City Lager, but there are lots of seasonal and limited-edition beers, too. Purchase cans, bottles and merch on site to take home. Food trucks and pop-ups for eats. \$



Crumbl Cookies

196 Alps Road • 706-389-5894
crumblcookies.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, delivery. **HOURS:** Mon-Sat., opening early and closing late. \$

Cutters Pub

120 E. Clayton St. • 706-247-1187
cutterspub.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • One of the largest bars in town, with a more grown-up, less college-heavy crowd than many bars around it. Pool, Skee-Ball, Golden Tee, foosball, darts, a photo booth and football on TV. Huge whiskey selection, befitting its Irish branding, Guinness on tap. \$

D.P. Dough

180 W. Broad St. • 706-842-2828
dpdough.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out, catering, counter service, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, open seven days. \$

D92 Korean BBQ

1080 Baxter St. • 706-850-7990
d92athens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • Grilled meats

cooked on your table, either in pre-set portion sizes or all-you-can-eat (within 2 hours), plus banchan (free snacks that vary frequently). It's not inexpensive, but it is good. Also: vegetarian options, Korean ramen, kimchi stew. Japanese whiskey, shochu and other unusual selections at the bar. \$\$

Dawg Gone Good BBQ

224 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-613-9799

dawggonegoodbbq.com

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, delivery, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Cheerful, Black-owned barbecue joint that does ribs, chicken, pork and sausage, plus Southern-style veggies (available in small, medium and large) and fruit cobbler. Picnic tables out front plus seating inside. \$\$

DePalma's Italian Cafe

2080 Timothy Road • 706-552-1237

1965 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-369-0085

401 E. Broad St. • 706-354-6966

depalmasitaliancafe.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, curbside pick-up, delivery, full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • This

Athens favorite has been in business for decades doing classic Italian, from pizza and standard red-sauced pasta to eggplant florentine and grilled salmon. Each location has a slightly different menu, but all have vegan, vegetarian, dairy-free and gluten-free options; kids menu. Long wine list with many Italian reds and plenty of beers. \$\$\$



Ding Tea

125 W. Washington St. • 706-850-3737

facebook.com/dingteaathens

FILE UNDER: Tea House. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Open seven days. • Bubble tea: milk, fruit or classic tea-based drinks. \$

Donderos' Kitchen

590 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-354-8688

donderoskitchen.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Something for everyone: brunchy-lunchy hot food made to order until 2 p.m., with lots of veggies; stuff in the fridge and freezer any other time, and lots of weekly specials, ranging all over the world in influences. Holiday special orders. Walkers, bikers and bus riders get a 5% discount. Great with dietary restrictions. \$\$

Dooley's Bar and Grill

259 E. Broad St. • 706-850-1587

instagram.com/athdooleys

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, open seven days. • Restaurant/bar combo serves fancy grilled cheese, fried stuff, salads and smash burgers, with an upstairs bar that also has darts and a pool table. Taco Tuesday. Kitchen closes at 11 p.m.; bar stays open late. \$\$

Dos Palmas Mexican Grill

3523 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-353-7771

athens-dospalmas.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, curbside pick-up, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Americanized Mexican staples done

well: tacos, burritos, nachos, fajitas, quesadillas, enchiladas, queso, fried ice cream. Margaritas, lots of tequilas. \$\$

Double Barrel

429 E. Broad St. • 404-271-8440

instagram.com/doublebarrelathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs, outside seating. • A college bar named for Athens' famous non-working piece of Confederate memorabilia. TVs to watch sports and low prices (\$2 Tuesdays). What you'd expect for drinks plus a cocktail named for UGA grad golfer Bubba Watson. \$

Earth Fare Café

1689 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-2170

earthfare.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Buffet, counter service, outside seating, Wi-Fi. • Hot bar inside grocery store includes veggie and vegan stuff, plus chicken, fish, soup and salad. \$\$

Eddie's Calzones

227 E. Clayton St. • 706-549-9676

eddiescalzones.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Counter service, delivery, take-out, beer. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, open seven days. \$

Effin' Egg

140 W. Broad St. • 706-850-0658

effinegg.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Breakfast, take-out, counter service. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch, open seven days. \$\$

El Bajío

400 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-850-1191

facebook.com/elbajioathens

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • You can get Tex Mex or Americanized Mexican stuff here, but the better bet is to dig into the seafood section of the menu. The siete mares soup is particularly good. \$

El Barrio

1331 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-850-0708

elbarrioathens.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, curbside pick-up, delivery, outside seating, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Most of the restaurant is outside, and the lawn is often busy with a Five Points crowd. Tacos (including veggie and vegan choices) that change out regularly, plus other Mexican-ish standards, kids menu and a serious bar with lots of tequilas, a selection of mezcals, beer buckets and build-your-own margs. \$\$

El Paso Tacos & Tequila

255 W. Washington St. • 706-898-4611

elpasoathens.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Large regional chain Tex-Mex restaurant features murals and elaborate hanging lights, plus a big bar in the middle. You can find some gems among the standard burritos and taco salads: tableside guacamole, chile colorado, lots of tequilas and margaritas in over a dozen flavors. \$

Ellianos Coffee

925 N. US Hwy. 29 • 706-770-1195

ellianos.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, catering. **HOURS:** Open seven days. \$\$

Em's Kitchen

975 Hawthorne Ave. • 706-206-9322

emskitchenathwthorne.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, curbside pick-up, delivery, outside seating.

HOURS: Breakfast and lunch. • Family-run eatery inside Hawthorne Drugs does a surprisingly good Cuban sandwich as well as Southern lunch standards (pimento cheese and the like), plus breakfast plates, milkshakes, hot dogs and more. Kids menu and a super family-friendly atmosphere. \$



Emmy Squared Pizza

199 Prince Ave. • 762-315-4005

emmysquaredpizza.com

FILE UNDER: Pizza. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, catering, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and brunch, open seven days. • Fancy Detroit-style pizza franchise can make you a gluten-free pie. Also serves burgers, salads, mozzarella sticks, soy and sesame marinated cucumbers, family-style banana or chocolate pudding for dessert, all in the former location of The Grit. \$\$\$

Entangled Cat Cafe & Market

6 Court St., Watkinsville • 706-705-1226

entangledcatcafe.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. • Not a place for ALF, but a place where you can go love on cats while enjoying some snacks and beverages. This partnership with the Georgia-based animal rescue organization Circle of Friends Animal Society serves Pawfee, yogurt purrfait, cake pops and a few other treats. \$\$

The Expat

1680 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-521-5041

theexpatathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Reservations, outside seating, take-out, full bar. **HOURS:** Dinner. • Refined and intelligent restaurant with a beautiful bar has an Italian focus to its food, with anitpasti, burrata, housemade pasta (can be gluten-free), risotto and more. Offerings change regularly. Virgin cocktails made with as much love as the boozy ones, plus nice wines. \$\$\$

Farm Burger

100 Prince Ave., Suite 102 • 706-850-3184

farmburger.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Delivery, outside seating, take-out, counter service, catering, beer and wine, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Locally originating burger chain does patties with 100% grass-fed, no-antibiotics, locally raised beef, pasture-raised pork, ground chicken or vegan ingredients. Lots of toppings, sides, kids menu, shakes and floats, burger + beer combos. \$\$

The Farm Cart

1074 Baxter St. • 706-850-8150

thefarmcart.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Delivery, vegetarian friendly, outside seating, take-out, counter service, full bar. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Primarily biscuits, served all day, but not just traditional egg and cheese varieties. Nice ingredients like housemade pickles and jam. Lunch adds non-biscuit sandwiches and burgers plus specials and cocktails. Baked goods in a case at the counter, good coffee. \$\$

Figment Kombucha and People's Pantry

1085 Baxter St. • 706-850-3339

figmentkombucha.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Curbside pick-up, delivery, take-out. • The tasting room for Figment Kombucha features its small-batch drinks made with high-quality local ingredients, available on tap, canned or by the growler (half or full), plus a rotating selection of snacks, nonalcoholic drinks and fermented goods. Specific flavors change regularly. Get a kombucha float with housemade sorbet for a grown-up treat. \$

Firehouse Subs

1226 Prince Ave. • 706-357-4994

firehousesubs.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Catering, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

First Watch

140 Alps Road

firstwatch.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and weekend brunch. • National breakfast-driven fast-casual chain makes fresh-squeezed juice, all a.m. foods you can think of, plus sandwiches and salads. Moving into Jason's Deli in 2024. \$

Five & Ten

1073 S. Millidge Ave. • 706-546-7300

fiveandten.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full bar, reservations, catering, outside seating, take-out, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Dinner. • Newly purchased by local Peter Dale, Five & Ten remains the gold standard for fine dining in Athens. The menu is Southern-ish but chef-driven and up to date, changing weekly depending on what's in season. Wine list by James Beard nominee; unpretentious but smart cocktails; excellent after-dinner drinks. Look out for specials, including picnic stuff during football season. \$\$\$\$

Five Bar

269 N. Hull St. • 706-543-5515

five-bar.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full bar, curbside pick-up, delivery. **HOURS:** Dinner, weekend brunch. • Five entrees, five desserts, five apps and so on. Seafood from Destin is a point of emphasis, but you can also get a ribeye

or fried chicken. Jazz brunch on weekends. Five specialty cocktails from the bar. \$\$\$

Five Guys Burgers and Fries

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-549-9081

fiveguys.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches and Burgers. **FEATURES:** Delivery, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Flama

1550 Oglethorpe Ave, Athens, GA 30606 • 706-850-8299

flamasteakhouse.com

FILE UNDER: South American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Brazilian steakhouse offers an all-you-can-eat model. Pay once, then go up to the meat window and/or the salad bar (which also has mashed potatoes, empanadas, etc.) as many times as you like. Vegetarians can do the buffet and grilled pineapple and still be happy. Lower prices for kids. Drinks and dessert are separate. \$\$\$

Flanagan's & Half Moon Pub

301 E. Clayton St. • 706-208-9711

instagram.com/flanagans_athens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, outside seating. • Longtime Irish pub Flanagan's and its downstairs sister bar get packed with students on late nights and weekends. Pool, daily specials on everything from cocktails to shots to Ultra Right Beer. Lots of whiskey, both on special and just regularly. \$

Flicker Theatre & Bar

263 W. Washington St. • 706-546-0039

flickertheatreandbar.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, outside seating, movies, art, trivia. • Cult film nights, cool movie posters and fun drinks at this chill townie bar. Also: boozy slushies, retro cocktails, half pours on beer, mocktails, local tea, snacks (Pouch Pies' savory pies and more). Rent the side room for your private event. \$

The Flying Biscuit Café

1180 Prince Ave. • 706-850-5656

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy, Ste. 117 • 706-850-7164

flyingbiscuit.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, catering,

outside seating, take-out, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and weekend dinner, open seven days. \$\$

Food for the Soul

1965 W. Broad St. • 706-546-0052

FILE UNDER: Downhome, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch. • Real-deal Southern food, available in meat-and-sides combos or as all-you-can-eat. Menu changes daily but could include pork chops, fried chicken livers, catfish, greens, yams, black-eyed peas, mac and cheese and more. \$

Fox's Pizza Den

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

foxspizzacoonee.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out, catering, curbside pick-up, outside seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Foxglove Plantbar

1063 Baxter St. Suite 600 • 706-850-8930

foxgloveplantbar.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses, Bars. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine. **HOURS:** Wed-Sun. • This cozy hangout for plant lovers offers a space to learn about and purchase botanicals. The bar serves beer, wine, coffee, soft drinks and things like canned oatmilk lattes. Lots of classes. \$\$

Frank & Sons Neighborhood Bistro

1040 Gaines School Road • 706-850-1585

frankandsonsathens.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, weekend brunch, open seven days. • Latin-accented neighborhood place with lots of steaks (the churrasco is a highlight) but also lots of other stuff, from the owners of Punta Cana. Do it up fancy and get a tomahawk with lobster tail on the side or just get a burger with your sweetie. Domestic and Mexican beer on draft, some classic cocktails and sangria. \$\$\$

Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers

2050 Oconee Connector • 706-354-0671

freddysusa.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Frozen Treats. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$



JITTERY JOE'S

Voted Athens' Favorite Coffee House
14 years in a row.

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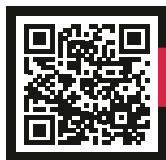
GOING **BEYOND** THE EXPECTED

Did you know there's a vet clinic on the UGA campus?

The University of Georgia Pet Health Center is just behind the College of Veterinary Medicine on South Campus. If you ever find yourself at UGA, we're about as close as you can get!

We offer a variety of primary care services for cats and dogs, like annual check-ups, vaccinations, dentistry, and basic surgery. Our veterinarians, staff, and students are committed to going beyond the expected to provide your pets with the best care possible.

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VISIT

vet.uga.edu/flagpole



Pet Health Center

College of Veterinary Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

125 Veterinary Loop, Athens, GA. • 706.542.1984

Fresh Air Bar-B-Que

1110 Hull Road • 706-546-6060
freshairbbq.com

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Classics like chopped pork, Brunswick stew, baked beans and coleslaw, plus chicken tenders and banana pudding, kids menu, tailgating specials, meats and sides in bulk. \$

Fully Loaded Pizza

1260 Mars Hill Road Ste. 101, Watkinsville • 706-705-6150
1255 S. Millledge Ave. • 706-215-9348
fullyloaded.pizza

FILE UNDER: Italian And Pizza. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, take-out, trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Locally owned pizza place that focuses on big slices with a wide variety of toppings. Also: wings, salads, subs, pasta, chicken fingers, cannoli, fried pickles and the Redneck Stromboli (a hot dog and cheddar baked in pizza dough). Kids menu. \$

G Brand BBQ

1140 Athens Road, Crawford • 706-743-7000
1973 Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville • 706-705-6966
gbrandbbq.com

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out, drive-thru. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • This barbecue place with an original location in Crawford and a new offshoot in Watkinsville, both of which sell via drive-thru, prides itself on brisket but also offers pork, chicken and ribs. Five different sauces, great green beans among the sides and a kids menu that offers grilled cheese or a hot dog. \$\$

The Garden Grille

390 E. Washington St. • 706-353-6800
hilton.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast. • Inside the Hilton Garden Inn. \$

Garfias Mexican Restaurant

225 Cherokee Road, Suite 1, Winterville • 706-899-0250
garfiasmex.odoo.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, take-out, beer and wine. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Mexican place in Winterville has a big menu (with a section for kids) that includes your standard dips and quesadillas, fried and grilled fish, seafood soup, "tacos gringos" (hardshell with ground beef or chicken, lettuce and cheese), churros and lunch combos. Margs, aguas and horchata to drink. \$\$

Gekko Kitchen

1725 Electric Ave., Watkinsville • 706-424-9431
gekkokitchen.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Take-out, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Lots of things in bowls: hibachi, ramen, poke, plus some side snacks like seaweed salad, edamame, potstickers, bao and shrimp tempura. Ramune Japanese sodas to drink. Treats like Pocky and Hello Kitty marshmallows to wrap it up. \$\$

General's Athens

164 E. Clayton St. • 706-521-5500

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • Controversy-courting downtown spot decked out in Civil War memorabilia. Southern-themed cocktails. \$

George's Lowcountry Table

420 Macon Hwy. • 706-548-3359
georgeslowcountrytable.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, res-

ervations, outside seating, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Dinner and Sunday brunch. • Gulf and low country classics: étouffée, shrimp and grits, sherry crab bisque, oysters (raw, fried, grilled), jambalaya, redfish and much more. Good wine list from all over, beer and Southern-accented cocktails. \$\$\$

Girasoles

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

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Take-out, catering. **HOURS:** Dinner and Sunday brunch. • Mexican-accented Continental/fusion restaurant does a not inexpensive but very popular all-you-can-eat brunch, plus dinner with steaks, seafood, pasta, jambalaya, shrimp and grits, escargot, chicken in a roasted garlic mushroom cheese sauce and more along the same lines. Specials change weekly. \$\$\$

The Globe

199 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-353-4721
globetavern.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs, Something Different. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, Wi-Fi, live music. • An Athens classic, open since 1989, that hasn't lost a step. Huge beer selection, general literary atmosphere (poetry nights!) and lots of cool things to look at. On the menu, you'll find smart takes on pub food with lots of vegetarian options (hot tofu as well as hot chicken, veggie burgers alongside the beef) plus actual greens and fresh ingredients. Soccer on the tv upstairs. \$

Golden Dragon

126 Alps Road • 706-552-1688
athensgoldendragon.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, delivery, catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Tons of standard Americanized Chinese options, including duck, seafood and some good tofu options. Dragon Dinners feature combinations of dishes for two to 10 people. Online ordering. \$\$

Golden Sun Chinese Restaurant

4375 Lexington Road • 706-549-3388
ordergoldensun.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Countless classic options, loads of chef's specials and lunch specials. A lighter fare section offers steamed MSG-free meals low in sodium; lots of tofu choices. \$\$

The Grill

171 College Ave. • 706-543-4770
thegrillathens.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Burgers (Impossible and meaty), fries (dunk 'em in feta dressing), classic milkshakes, sandwiches, kids menu in this longtime Athens institution that's been serving since 1981. No longer open 24 hours but still a classic, with lots of vegetarian options. \$

Grindhouse Killer Burgers

1553 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-612-9327
grindhouseburgers.com

FILE UNDER: Burgers, Vegetarian Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full bar, counter service, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Small chain out of Atlanta does smashburgers with one patty or two (beef, turkey, beans and quinoa, or Impossible Burger), plus bar snacks, fried sides and boozy or virgin milkshakes. Nice upstairs outside seating. \$\$

Groove Burgers

1791 Oconee Connector • 762-499-5699
grooveburgers.com

FILE UNDER: Burgers, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, take-out, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Clever burgers (both meat and veggie), plus salads and hot sandwiches (pimento chicken, Italian beef), good sides ("street corn," Brussels sprouts, fabulous onion rings) and milkshakes. \$\$

Gusto

161 Alps Road • 706-850-0855
whatsyourgusto.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, drive-thru, take-out, counter service. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Small Atlanta chain does build-your-own bowls, salads and wraps with a protein (chicken, shrimp, tofu, avocado), veggies and sauce, ready fast. Kids menu. \$

Gyro Wrap

114 College Ave. • 706-850-7442
gyrowrap.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-out, counter service, beer. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • We know it's a chain, but it's our chain. Longtime Athens franchise, with its own identity and a cult following, now around the corner from its original location under new ownership. Curly fries, gyros, salads, etc., plus The Upstairs Bar, which hosts live music and comedy events, with a view of campus and wallpaper based on old Athens band posters. \$



Happy Lemon

225 N Newton St • 762-772-2020
happylemonusa.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Tea House. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Bubble tea AND bubble waffles in one of Athens' newest boba spots. The nationwide chain is known for its salted cheese foam, puff cream and drinks with fresh-squeezed lemon juice. \$

Hendershot's Coffee Bar

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

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Bars. **FEATURES:** Breakfast, full bar, catering, counter service, live music, art, Wi-Fi, outside seating. **HOURS:** Open seven days. • Coffee drinks, nitro coffee, teas and juices all day, plus baked goods. Lots of draft and bottled/canned craft beers, plus wine, craft cocktails and mocktails (some made with coffee). Breakfast includes beignets, egg plates, a Spam-based brekkie and more. Grab-and-go sandwiches and cheese plates. Loads of events. \$

Hi-Lo Lounge

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

FILE UNDER: American, Bars, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Family-friendly tavern is all things to all people, with lots of food (including a kajillion vegetarian and vegan options) as well as a major bar selection. Sandwiches, noodles, salads, soups, chili, hot dogs, grain bowls, falafel. Great beers; also whiskeys, classic cocktails and juice for kids. \$

Hibachi Grill Supreme Buffet

2020 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-546-8777

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Buffet, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Huge Asian buffet also does hibachi cooked to order. Tofu, Chinese dishes, sushi, American food, fruit, salad and desserts spread across the room. Open most holidays. \$\$

Hidden Gem

615 Barber St.

instagram.com/hiddengemglobalhq
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar. • An offshoot of Normal Bar, with lots of personality. Think wood paneling, thrift store art, funky lighting inside with a lush patio outside. Beer and wine of course but a focus on cocktails, with sodas made from scratch and good prices. Also: beer + shot combos, low-alcohol and no-alcohol cocktails, no TVs. \$

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 and brunch, open seven days. • Country club-ish place does classic American food with a bit of a Southern accent, like meatloaf, steak sandwich, crab cakes and gumbo. A fair amount of fried stuff but salads, too. Big desserts. Nice patio. Earlybird specials. \$\$\$

The Hive Pub

22 E. South Ave., Comer • 706-783-2523

soswhiskey.com
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, outside seating. • Comer's first boozery distills its own whiskeys through Soldier of the Sea, often incorporating local honey (hence the name) and Georgia grains, then mixes them into cocktails. Food pop-ups, camaraderie galore. \$\$

Hodgson's Pharmacy

1260 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-543-7386

hodgsonsr.com
FILE UNDER: Ice Cream. • Old-fashioned drug store with soda fountain counter. Dollar scoops of Edy's ice cream in a cup or cone. Malts, shakes and floats, too. Sit on the hill outside for the best experience. \$

HoneyBaked Ham Co. & Café

3690 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-613-8800

honeybaked.com
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Delivery, catering, curbside pick-up, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. \$

Hook and Reel

3640 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-850-2010

hookreel.com
FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Catering, curbside pick-up, delivery, full bar. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$\$

Hybar

412 N. Thomas St. • 706-425-1800

instagram.com/hybar.athens
FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, dinner, outside seating. • Fancy rooftop bar with great views of downtown Athens and TVs for gameday, atop the Hyatt Place hotel. Also: some snacks (charcuterie, dips, wings) and some heartier eats (burgers, fried chicken strips, salad). Specialty cocktails, including some made with champagne and billed as Hybar Pops. \$

Ideal Bagel

815 W. Broad St. • 706-353-0005

facebook.com/idealbagel
FILE UNDER: Bakeries, Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Counter service, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch, open seven days. • Nice bagels, excellent house-smoked fish and sandwiches (either on bagels or on Luna bread) and made with meats sliced in front of you (capicola, roast beef, etc.) but also hummus, roasted veggies, sauerkraut and scrambled eggs. Kids meals. \$

Independent Baking Co.

1625 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-3550

independentbaking.com
FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Tue-Sun. • Consistently delicious baked goods made by bread nerds with house-milled wheat. Also: delightful viennoiserie (the palmiers are particularly good), a few beautiful cookies, excellent sandwiches that show up around 11 a.m. in limited quantities (fillings change out seasonally). Choco Coffee and hot chocolate, plus house-milled flour and grits. Products available at a few other places around town. \$

Inoko Express

3190 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-425-8828

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Counter service, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Quick-service hibachi includes steak, chicken, shrimp, salmon, tofu and "Ultimate Vegetarian" with fried rice, vegetables and two sauces. \$

Inoko Hibachi Express

1860 S. Barnett Shoals Road • 706-546-5662

inokoathens.com
FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Unlike its sister restaurant, this one focuses more on sushi than on hibachi, although you can get that too. Choose among nigiri, maki and specialty rolls, then accessorize with katsu, edamame, seaweed salad, etc. Teriyaki and tempura, too. \$\$

Insomnia Cookies

228 E. Clayton St. • 706-623-6277

insomniacookies.com
FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, delivery. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

Iron Works Coffee

295 E. Dougherty St. • 706-549-7020

hotelabacusathens.com
FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses. • Coffee shop inside Hotel Abacus does grab-and-go snacks, coffee and a small menu of breakfast things made to order: sandwiches, burritos, waffles. \$

J&J Flea Market

11661 Commerce Road • 706-613-2410

jandjfleamarket.com
FILE UNDER: American, Mexican. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, counter service. • Wander around the flea market inside and outside and find some eats while you're there, especially Mexican and Latin American foods. Look out for La Michoacana...es Natural's ice cream/paleta truck. Don't forget to cruise through the produce vendors for treats and supplies. \$

J. Buffalo Wings

196 Alps Road • 706-850-2095

1805 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-353-0823

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

Beer, counter service, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

J. Christopher's

1650 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-3520

jchristophers.com
FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch, open seven days. \$\$

Jeni's Splendid Ice Creams

1710 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-493-7377

jenis.com
FILE UNDER: Ice Cream. **FEATURES:** Take-out, counter service. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$\$

Jennings Mill Drug Company

1360 Caduceus Way, Watkinsville • 706-621-5996

facebook.com/jenningsmilldrugco
FILE UNDER: Frozen Treats. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch. • Drugstore soda fountain does milkshakes to order plus sells some prepackaged snacks. \$

Jersey Mike's

690 U.S. Hwy. 29 • 706-353-4655

jerseymikes.com
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Catering, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Jim 'N Nick's Bar-B-Q

1787 Oconee Connector • 706-350-5565

jimnicks.com/
FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Take-out, drive-thru, beer and wine, outside seating, counter service. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Barbecue chain out of Birmingham, AL, makes pork, chicken, brisket, ribs and turkey, plus fried catfish, smoked wings, nachos, burgers, loaded potatoes, pie, etc. Gluten-free options. \$\$

Jimmy John's Gourmet Subs

600 Baxter St. • 706-613-0500

2301 College Station Road • 706-543-5411
jimmyjohns.com
FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru (Baxter), delivery, catering, counter service, outside seating (Baxter). **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Jinya Ramen Bar

351 E. Broad St. • 706-478-0880

jinyaramenbar.com
FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Highly reputed franchise does lots of ramen but also salads, tacos, rice bowls, curry, sides like crispy chickpeas, dumplings and takoyaki. Mochi ice cream and panna cotta for dessert. Kids meals, too. \$\$

Jittery Joe's Coffee

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

1860 Barnett Shoals Road • 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

150 Fritz Mar Ln. • 706-227-2161

jitteryjoes.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee/Tea Houses and Bakeries.

FEATURES: Drive-thru (Baxter, Greensboro and Epps Bridge), outside seating, art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Vary by location. • The local coffee roaster now extends quite a bit beyond Athens, but the beans are still roasted in town. Lots of specialty roasts benefit different causes. Hot and cold drinks, premium teas and locally baked goodies.

Stop by the Tasting Room on Fritz Mar Lane for fresh-roasted beans by the pound—whole or ground; cups of coffee, teas and shots of espresso. \$

Joe and Sam's Café

1021 Jamestown Blvd., Watkinsville • 706-705-1400

joeandsams.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, catering, counter service. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Jittery Joe's coffee drinks, biscuits and breakfast plates in the a.m. in an airy, open space. Lunch features classic sandwiches, soups, salads and kids menu. Baked goods, too. \$

Johnny's New York Style Pizza

1040 Gaines School Road • 706-354-1515

johnnypizza.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, catering, delivery, outside seating, take-out, trivia, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

Journey Juice

1428 Prince Ave. • 706-850-0707

journeyjuice.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, curbside pick-up. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Raw, organic, cold-pressed and unpasteurized fruit and vegetable juices that are also delicious and pre-packaged for easy transporting. \$

The Juicy Crab

2361 W. Broad St. • 706-850-6173

thejuicycrab.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$\$

Just Pho... and More

1063 Baxter St. • 706-850-1420

facebook.com/justphoandmore

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, art, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Plenty more, actually, in addition to the Vietnamese beef, chicken or vegetable broth-based noodle soup customizable with lots of additions. Other things on the menu include rice dishes with grilled meats, noodle dishes, banh mi sandwiches, goi cuon, tiramisu. \$\$

Kelly's Jamaican Food

1583 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-208-0000

kellysjerk.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, catering, counter service, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Serious bang for your buck, with hefty portions of jerk chicken, oxtail, curry goat, barbecue ribs, salmon, spicy cabbage, spicy squash, rice and peas, fried plantains, mac and cheese, patties, super-sweet tea and cornbread, served with good cheer. \$\$

Kiki's Bakeshop

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

kikibakeshop.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Tue–Sat. • Watkinsville bakery does a wide variety of cakes and pies (order whole ones in advance), plus cookies, scones, cheese straws, cupcakes, quiches, pimento cheese, bread, muffins and more. Holiday menus. Will accommodate dietary needs. Always trying something new. \$\$

Killer Crust Pizza Co.

1791 Oconee Connector

instagram.com/killercrustpizza

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, beer and wine, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Now open in the Epps Bridge Parkway shopping center in Oconee County, this pizza place has connections to the former Doughby's. Pizza by the slice or the pie, with specially toppings including chicken and waffles. Also sandwiches and cannoli. \$

Kique's Kitchen

18 Barnett Shoals Rd • 706-705-6066

kiqueskitchen.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Catering, outside seating, take-out, counter service, full bar, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Birria-focused, adorable, family-run restaurant does quesatacos, ramen, burgers, ceviche, plus the hearty meat stew that forms the basis of most of its menu. Kids menu. Aguas frescas made in house. \$\$

Krimson Kafe

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

krimsonkafe.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, outside seating, art, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch. • Sweet little cafe in Watkinsville does deli sandwiches (including pimento cheese, egg salad and hummus) and salads, both lettuce-based and mayo-based. Order ahead online if you like. \$

Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

3703 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-208-0628

krispykreme.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, drive-thru, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

La Cabaña Mexican Restaurant

2061 Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville • 706-769-4490

2971 Monroe Hwy., Watkinsville • 678-661-0571

lacabanamexican.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Americanized Mexican in a stone-walled interior (both locations). Queso, burritos, combo plates, fajitas, quesadillas and lots of lunch specials. Yes, you can get a margarita or a Mexican beer, as well as a pineapple topped with chicken, chorizo and cheese. Kids menu. \$\$

La Fiesta

1395 College Station Road • 706-549-5933

facebook.com/lafiestaofathens

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Popular Americanized Mexican fare: burritos, enchiladas, fajitas, taquitos, nachos, tacos and quesadillas. Special entrees and combo plates. Margaritas, Mexican beers, domestics and house wines. \$\$



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To loving where you live



Community Events:

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- Rivers Alive 10/19
- MLK Day of Service 1/20
- St. Paddy's Green & Brew-tiful Event 3/17

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Visit our website to learn more
www.KeepAthensBeautiful.org

La Laguna Taqueria Express

7990 Macon Hwy., **Watkinsville** • 706-705-6195
primostaqueriaexpress.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, delivery, beer and wine, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Fast-casual Mexican, both drive-thru and dine-in, offers birria, quesabirrias, burritos, tortas, tacos and a quinoa salad. \$

La Michoacana Antojitos Mexicanos

3750 Old Jefferson Road • 706-202-5890
instagram.com/michoacana_ath

FILE UNDER: Frozen Treats, Mexican. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out, outside seating. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Hundreds of flavors of popsicles and ice cream in this shop attached to La Jalisco grocery store and taqueria. Also: street-food snacks like a grilled ear of corn encrusted with Hot Cheetos, agua fresca with ice cream, mango with chile powder and a fruit cup topped with spicy gummy worms. \$

La Michoacana Es Natural

1635 Glenn Carrié Road, **Hull** • 706-521-8008
instagram.com/lamichoacana_esnatural

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream and Smoothies, Mexican. **FEATURES:** Outside seating. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Astonishingly good Mexican ice cream shop that makes flavors fresh in-store daily (including queso, tequila, eggnog and more), as well as gorgeous paletas full of fruit, smoothies, aguas frescas and street-food snacks like Dorilocos and loaded potato chips. Its food truck shows up at the J&J on weekends with ice cream and savory stuff. \$

La Montaña Mexican Restaurant

4115 Lexington Road • 706-850-6765
lamontanamexicangrill.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Take-out, full bar, live music. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Big Americanized Mexican restaurant has a multi-page menu with all kinds of fajitas, quesadillas, burritos, lots of seafood. Grilled stuff is a highlight. Kids menu. Mariachi music sometimes. \$\$

La Parrilla Mexican Restaurant

196 Alps Road • 678-354-2700
laparrilla.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Not to

be confused with the locally-owned Taqueria La Parrilla, this new place opening in Beechwood Shopping Center is a Georgia-based chain. The menus are somewhat similar: Tex-Mex, burritos, plenty of vegetarian options. Also: aguas frescas and margar. Kids menu. \$\$

La Tienda Los Amigos

109 Rowe Road • 706-543-9637
Find Us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Walk inside the grocery store to find this taco counter next to the butcher counter. Weekends usually find the tortilla press working hard. Tacos (including "American" style with lettuce, tomato and cheese), tortas, burritos and specials like shrimp cocktail and chiles rellenos. Horchata and aguas frescas to drink, or snag a Jarritos from the store. \$

Lalo's Tacos & Cantina

1725 Electric Ave., **Watkinsville** • 706-705-1414
lalostacoscantina.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Catering, full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and brunch, open seven days. • Atlanta vibe at this cheffy Wire Park restaurant that brings you three salsas instead of one and offers lamb and octopus in its tacos as well as chicken and steak. Order something interesting, and you'll be happier. Good vegetarian and pescatarian options. Mezcal in addition to tequila. Swanky cocktails. Kids menu. \$\$

The Lark Winespace

493 Prince Ave. • 706-850-5455
thelarkwinespace.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Wine, Outside Seating. **HOURS:** Seven days. • The Expat's Krista Slater's wine store and tasting room. Come taste before you buy (half or full pours, cool stuff described in an accessible and smart way), and have a snack while you're at it (tinned seafood, nuts, cheese, charcuterie, toasts and Condor chocolates). Food pop-ups sometimes. \$\$

Larry's Giant Subs

2145 Oconee Connector • 706-227-7298
larryssubs.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch

and dinner, open seven days. \$

Last Resort Grill

184 W. Clayton St. • 706-549-0810
lastresortgrill.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, art, full bar, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Dinner and weekend brunch. • Crowd-pleasing restaurant mixes Southern and Southwestern cuisine; veggie and vegan choices, plus fish and seafood are highlights. Large dessert case. Plan ahead for lines at brunch. Well-stocked bar, with a variety of single malts, as well as aperitifs/digestifs and a long list of wines, many available in half bottles. Large outdoor dining area. \$\$\$

Lindsey's Culinary Market

520 N. Thomas St. • 706-353-0558
lindseysculinarymarket.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out, counter service. **HOURS:** Lunch and early dinner (open until 6 p.m.). • Salads (chicken salad, pimento-less cheese and the like, plus bowls of greens and vegetables), soups, lots of veggies that change daily. Cookies, brownies, fancy chocolates, candy and gift items available, too. Holiday menus. \$\$

Little City Diner

135 Cherokee Road, **Winterville** • 706-742-7590
littlecitydiner.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Counter service, curb-side pick-up, delivery, take-out, outside seating, vegetarian friendly, catering. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and weekend brunch. • The Little City in question is Winterville, just outside Athens. Southern breakfast and brunch include biscuits, eggs, quiche and Red Mule grits. Lunch means sandwiches on housemade breads, burgers and salads. Good desserts, coffee and veggie options. \$\$

Little Italy

125 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-7100
facebook.com/littleitalyathens

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, counter service, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night. • Classic New York-style pizzeria is fast and busy. Slices are big and floppy, subs are ginormous (one of the best deals in town), salads available, too. \$



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Little Kings Shuffle Club

223 W. Hancock Ave. • 706-369-3144

instagram.com/littlekingsshuffleclub

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, trivia, live music, outside seating, Wi-Fi. • Grown folks' bar hosts music, trivia and frequent private events. Big patio with cornhole. A variety of bottled beers and rotating drafts that include seasonal brews. Wine and cocktails, too. Pop-up food offerings occasionally. \$

Live Wire Athens

227 W. Dougherty St. • 706-543-8283

livewireathens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music/DJs, outside seating. • This all-purpose performance/events venue has three stages—two inside and one in a large beer garden—and does a variety of events. A good assortment of craft and local beer, as well as budget-friendly options. Wine and cocktails, too. Tiki Taco Tuesdays. \$\$

The Local 706

1676 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-207-8700

instagram.com/thelocal706

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Sports bar and grill in the middle of Five Points serves burgers, tacos, bowls, fried things like deviled eggs and mushrooms, kids menu. Also, Southern-themed cocktails. Heated outside dining. \$\$

Locos Grill & Pub

2020 Timothy Road • 706-549-7700

1985 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-208-0911

locosgrill.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Curbside pick-up (Timothy), delivery, live music (Timothy), trivia, catering, Wi-Fi, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Locally based sports bar chain has a big menu with lots of vegetarian choices, deli sandwiches, burgers, salads, grilled cheese and chili combo, wines and fish tacos. \$\$

Longhorn Steakhouse

2170 W. Broad St. • 706-548-0054

longhornsteakhouse.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$\$

Los Reyes Mexican Restaurant

1880 Hwy. 29 N. • 706-227-8308

Find Us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Delivery, outside seating, full bar, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • One of the best Mexican restaurants around, with excellent tacos (filled with cilantro, onions and fish, al pastor, barbacoa or lengua), big tortas, menudo, tostadas de ceviche, caldo de siete mares, gorditas, sopes and more, plus a manganada margarita. \$

Loving Botanicals

269 N. Hull St. • 706-394-8368

lovingbotanicals.com



FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs, Coffee/Tea Houses. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi. • Something a little different, with nonalcoholic cocktails and coffee drinks that feature CBD/THC. Lots of plants

inside and plenty of charging stations as well as stuff to buy: brownies, grow kits, creams, water, olive oil, etc., all infused with CBD, Delta 8 and the like. \$

Lumberjaxe

510 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-995-7405

lumberjaxe.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. • Yup, you can drink and throw axes at targets. Also: TVs, games like giant Jenga and handcrafted wood tables. Local craft beer and wine. Need some solid calories? Snack on fried things from mozzarella sticks to eggrolls, hush puppies and broccoli bites. \$\$

Madison Bar & Bistro

500 College Ave. • 706-546-0430

indigoathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Reservations, outside seating, live music, room service, take-out, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast and dinner, open seven days. • Hotel Indigo's restaurant serves croissant sandwiches and omelets for breakfast, plus a full dinner, with steak, salmon, sandwiches, salads and even a kids menu. Nice cocktails. \$\$

Maepole

1021 N. Chase St. • 706-850-3600

1880 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-510-3133

maepole.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Virtuous and tasty quick service, now franchised and expanding elsewhere. Start with brown rice, quinoa, sweet potatoes or salad greens. Add a protein, two veggie-forward sides and a sauce. Menu changes seasonally. Condor Chocolates and cookies for dessert. Kids meals. Gluten-free choices. Everything is recyclable or compostable. \$\$

Magnolias

312 E. Broad St. • 706-543-0797

magnoliasath.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • Two-story bar in a historic building keeps long hours, a great view of downtown and campus and TVs for sports. The usual array of brews; house drinks tend to be sweet and beachy, plus low-priced bottles of wine. \$

Mai Kai Kava Lounge

1035 Baxter St. • 706-850-1813

maikaikava.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Take-out, snacks. **HOURS:** Seven days. • This kava bar serves a non-alcoholic beverage that's made to chill you out. Also has games so you can hang out. It offers traditional kava, kava by the growler, herbal tea made from kava, boba and kava mixed into cocktails, plus the promise of no hangovers. \$

Main Moon Restaurant

2061 Experiment Station Road • 706-769-8686

mainmoonwatkingsvillega.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Basic Chinese restaurant with pictures of the food you can order: chow mein, stir fry, fried rice, lo mein, egg foo yung, Mongolian chicken, Szechuan beef, Hunan shrimp and the like, all ready fast. Menu has a Weight Watchers section. \$\$

Mama Ning's Thai

2 S. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-705-1012

mamanings thai.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Take-out, catering, beer and wine, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Delicate,

not oversugary Thai food in the middle of downtown Watkinsville: satay, tom yum, curries, eggplant basil, noodles, Thai tea, boba. Cake from Sweetie Pie by Savie. Kids menu. Makku rice beer. \$\$

Mama Sid's Pizza

2240 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-549-6100

mamasidspizza.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Buffet, delivery, beer. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Casual, family-run pizzeria of long standing with budget prices, salads, subs, pasta, hot wings, calzones and more. \$\$

Mama's Boy

197 Oak St. • 706-548-6249

8851 Macon Hwy. • 706-850-8550

1725 Electric Ave., Watkinsville • 706-612-8438

mamasboyathens.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, curbside pick-up, counter service, outside seating, art, Wi-Fi.

HOURS: Breakfast and lunch. • Southern breakfast and lunch all day: biscuits with lots of toppings, hash, egg plates, tacos, pimento cheese burger, chicken salad, strawberry lemonade. Lots of great sides. Very accommo-

dating to those with special dietary needs. The Electric Avenue location in Wire Park is smaller, with a limited menu. \$\$



Manhattan Café

337 N. Hull St. • 706-369-9767

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, DJs. • Eclectic decor in a dimly lit, divey interior popular with townies. Zapp's potato chips pair well with specialty drinks, including a whole selection of hot ones in cold weather, listed on handwritten signs. Cocktails, beer, wine, sangria and sake. \$

Mannaweenta

1055 Gaines School Road • 706-850-8422

mannaweenta.wixsite.com/home

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Athens' only Ethiopian restaurant serving what feels like a home-cooked meal. Beef, for sure, but also loads of vegan choices, all served with chewy, pancake-like injera bread. Ethiopian tea and coffee, plus cookies. \$\$

Marco's Pizza

1021 Jamestown Blvd., Watkinsville • 706-765-2832

1045 Gaines School Road • 706-621-6200

marcos.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$\$

Marker 7 Coastal Grill

1195 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-850-3451

marker7coastalgrill.co

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and weekend brunch, open seven days. • Coastal fish shack does Georgia and Gulf seafood with mostly open-air seating: lightly fried baskets, peel-and-eat shrimp, oysters (raw or cooked), grilled or blackened entrees and sides like coleslaw and hush puppies. Burgers and chicken tacos, too. Beachy cocktails. \$\$\$

Martino's Italian Restaurant

2061 Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville • 706-705-6243
martinositalian.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, outside seating, take-out, beer and wine, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Family-owned, friendly local Italian place with lots of booth seating has all the stuff you'd expect: baked ziti, linguini pomodoro, veal marsala, tiramisu. Kids menu. Italian wine. \$\$\$

Marti's at Midday

1280 Prince Ave. • 706-543-3541
martisatmidday.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly.

FEATURES: Catering, counter service, delivery, outside seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch. • Longtime Athens lunch spot guided by the spirit of its late founder is popular for catering, too, as well as for take-home entrees and casseroles that are great for new parents or anyone who doesn't want to cook. Big salads, scoops of pimento cheese and chicken salad, sandwiches, sweets. \$\$



McAlister's Deli

2033 W. Broad St. • 706-395-4142
mcalistersdeli.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches. **FEATURES:** Take-out, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. \$

Mediterranean Grill

1591 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-543-5000
mediterraneangrill.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Counter service, catering, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Grilled meats and veggies (lamb, chicken, kofta, gyros) and tons of vegetarian choices, like falafel, salads, dolmas, hummus and tabbouleh, all of which can be mixed and matched into good combos. Baklava and other desserts. \$\$

Mell's Place

4648 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-548-0830
Find Us on Facebook

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, cash only. • Escape the downtown scene for the oldest bar in the area, built in 1952. The atmosphere is warm and unfussy with pool, video games and karaoke. Cold domestic beer and liquor 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 and dinner, open seven days. • Lots of toppings and specialty pies, plus pretzels, salads, subs, calzones and munchies; good beer selection. \$\$

Mitti Food Court

2024 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-215-9239
instagram.com/mitti_athens

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • New Desi restaurant attached to and owned by Achachi Market focuses on South Indian take-out but does have some tables inside and out. Classics like chicken 65 and tandoori chicken coexist

with goat sukka varuval (a dry-fry curry), savory donuts, lots of dosai, idli and a bunch of different kinds of naan. Lassis, rose milk, Indian tea to drink. \$

Mochinut

1860 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-850-6554
mochinut.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Tea Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • It's a franchise that's known for its rice-flour donuts and Korean corndogs coated in things like Hot Cheetos, but Chef V is busy serving delicious Indonesian dishes that you won't find at any other location. She's always tinkering with the menu, so ask her what's good and you'll end up with something that hits every kind of tastebud in your mouth. Good boba, too, and now rolled ice cream. \$\$

Molly's Coffee Company

8830 Macon Hwy • 762-499-2002
instagram.com/mollyscoffeeco

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, outside seating. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Darling independently owned coffee place does drip coffee, cold brew, lattes, tea, kombucha, mochas, bagels, pastries from Kiki's Bakeshop, all with an emphasis on sustainability. Latte art and pop-ups. \$

Mother Pho

167 E. Broad St. • 706-354-6006
motherphoathensga.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Delivery, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Sweet covered patio is a great place to sit at this Vietnamese restaurant. It has its titular beef broth-based noodle soup, of course, but also banh mi, crepes, summer rolls, claypots and rice dishes, with a good veggie-friendly selection. Vietnamese coffee, fruit slushies, bubble tea and coconut juice to drink. \$\$

Munch Hut

175 E. Broad St. • 706-850-7150
munch-hut.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Catering, late night, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night (closed Sundays). • Snacks, drinks, smokes and food. This convenience store/restaurant does gyros, hot subs, chicken fingers, rice bowls, salads, fries and sodas. It also now offers Indian food for lunch and dinner (but not late night) through its ghost kitchen Curry Love, with tikka and chana masala, butter chicken and a few other dishes. \$

The National

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

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Reservations, catering, curbside pick-up, outside seating, Wi-Fi, full bar. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • This place always pleases, whether for date night or an upscale lunch. The menu is Spanish/Mediterranean-inspired, with lots of vegetables (try the "power lunch") and high-quality ingredients. Roasted chicken with za'atar, Portuguese custard tarts, pizzettes and a lot more. Great wine list and cocktails. Hosts occasional pop-ups from small operations. \$\$\$\$

New Red Bowl Asian Bistro

1935 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-227-7888
newredbowl.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-out, curbside pick-up, full bar. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner.

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Newk's Eatery

1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-543-5700
700 Baxter St. • 706-510-6545

newks.com

FILE UNDER: American **FEATURES:** Catering, delivery, dinner, lunch, take-out. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

Nighthawks Lounge

175 Tracy St.

nighthawkslounge.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • This bar from Jerry and Krista Slater of The Expat features fancy cocktails, great wine and cold beer alongside a few snacks (chips, bologna sandwich, sardines) and occasional pop-ups offering pizza, hot dogs or patty melts. Chill DJs sometimes. No kids. \$\$

Normal Bar

1365 Prince Ave. • 706-548-6186

facebook.com/normal.bar.7

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, live music. • Chill neighborhood bar in Normaltown with a great patio with firepits in the winter and a dimly lit interior with plenty of space. Craft and local beers and hand-crafted cocktails, plus boiled peanuts for snackin'. \$

Nothing Bundt Cakes

1021 Dowdy Road • 706-400-6950

nothingbundtcakes.com

FILE UNDER: Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, curbside pick-up, delivery. **HOURS:** Mon–Sat. \$

Nowhere Bar

240 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-546-4742

nowherebarlive.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music. • Old-school dive bar with a big painting of its late founder, Sky Hertwig, is like traveling back in time. Darts, pool and lots of live music. Plenty of beers on draft, with the usual suspects behind the bar. \$

Oak House Distillery

1015 Macon Hwy. • 706-850-5474

oakhousedistillery.com



OAK HOUSE
DISTILLERY

space, which is available for events. Tons of outdoor space under huge oak trees. Food pop-ups, movie nights, open mic, Yappy Hour. \$\$

FILE UNDER: Distillery.

FEATURES: Full bar, outside seating, live music. • This distillery inside the historic Henry Bishop house focuses on gin, rum and vodka. Offering cocktails and tours of the

Oglethorpe Garage

1560 Oglethorpe Ave. • 706-850-8810

facebook.com/oglethorpegarage

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, full bar. **HOURS:** Mon–Sat. • A motorcycle bar, but not like in the movies. This is just a chill neighborhood spot for people who like to ride and/or fix bikes and enjoy an Aperol spritz. Non-riders welcome, too. Snacks, regular pop-ups/food

trucks, ping pong and a nice patio. Sports on TV, fire pits outside in cold weather. \$\$

The Old Pal

1320 Prince Ave. • 706-850-4340

theoldpal.com



FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs.

FEATURES: Full bar, outside seating, take-out. • A cocktail bar intently focused on craft, mixing creativity with classics, and has the awards to prove it. Menu changes seasonally and includes nonalcoholic options. Deep list

of good spirits, plus some judiciously chosen wines and beers. Occasional snacks or pop-ups. \$

The Olive Garden

3666 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-227-2225

olivegarden.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

Osteria Athena

323 E. Broad St. • 706-353-3911

osteriaathena.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Catering, dinner, full bar, take-out. **HOURS:** Dinner. • Grown-up restaurant serving Italian standards with a nice view of UGA's North Campus out the second-story windows. Housemade pasta for primi; proper entrees for secondi; carpaccio among the antipasti. Gluten-free options. Italian beer and wine. \$\$\$

Osteria Olio

355 Oneta St. • 762-316-1818

osteriaolio.com

FILE UNDER: Italian. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, reservations. **HOURS:** Dinner, open seven days. • Brand-new chichi Italian with a Southern twist in the Rivet House boutique hotel. Order a family-style tasting meal and let the chef decide what you eat, or choose your own antipasti, primi and secondi before wrapping it up with a chocolate hazelnut semifreddo. Craft cocktails and some crisp beers. \$\$\$

Outback Steakhouse

3585 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-613-6015

outback.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, curbside pick-up. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$\$

Outtakes

1793 Oconee Connector • 706-355-9152

196 Alps Road • 706-546-1012

gtcmovies.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine (Oconee), full bar (Alps). **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Full-service movie theater restaurant. University 16 location does burgers, chicken sandwiches, flatbreads and tacos with movie-themed names. Beechwood location has full bar only (no kitchen). Mostly domestics on draft, imports and domestics in the bottle, wine and cocktails. \$

Oyishi Sushi and Hibachi

2061 Experiment Station Road, Watkinsville • 706-769-7088

oyishiwatkinsville.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Japanese restaurant with sushi (standard and specialty rolls), hibachi, ramen, fried rice, salmon tacos, soup and salad. Kids menu. Specials are a good deal. \$\$

Paloma Park

235 W. Washington St. • 706-850-7356

palomapark.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, trivia. **HOURS:** Dinner and Sunday brunch. • Huge bar with DJs, live music, gigantic TV for football games also serves a creative, fun Tex-Mex menu. Elote street corn "ribs," excellent smoke-fried wings in flavors like truffle-agave and honey sriracha, tacos with fresh corn tortillas, churro milkshake and much more. Brunch involves fried egg tacos and "brunchos" and is a bit quieter. Craft cocktails, palomas and margaritas on draft, and lots of specials. \$\$



Panera Bread

3151 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-546-6812

panerabread.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Paris Bánh Mì

165 W. Clayton St. • 706-215-9290

parisbanhmi.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Take-out, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Franchise does Vietnamese baguette sandwiches with pâté, pickled veggies, hot peppers, meats and seitan, plus versions of the same on croissants and hamburger rolls. Picturesque patisserie, top-notch bubble tea that tastes like more than sugar, a wide variety of snacks arranged on shelving for impulse buys. \$\$

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 and dinner. • Crepe-based restaurant by day (with savory and sweet options, plus non-pancake-based foods) turns into a busy bar by night with beer, wine and vodka-heavy cocktails. \$\$

Peach Pit Cafe

321 Athens Road, Winterville • 706-899-0001

facebook.com/peachpitcafe

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Winterville barbecue restaurant has pulled pork, barbecue chicken, ribs and brisket, slaw, stew, chips and bread, plus frequently varying desserts: cakes, cobblers, banana pudding. \$\$

Peking Restaurant

2725 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-549-9333

westpekingathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Elaborate decor and Chinese-American standards. Big menu covers all the standards, with lots of vegetarian options. Sizzling rice soup comes with many of the pre-set dinners, and soups in general are more interesting than you would expect. \$\$

Pelican's Snoballs

510 Baxter St..

pelicanssnoballs.com

FILE UNDER: Frozen Treats. **FEATURES:** Outside seating. **HOURS:** Seven days (closes in cold weather). \$

Peppino's

950 Whitehall Road • 706-613-1616

peppinos.wixsite.com/athens

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, counter service, take-out, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Owned by the same folks as Little Italy, so the food is similar (New York-style pizza, enormous subs), but the vibe is different and more family-oriented. Italian salads, pasta of the day, stromboli, tiramisu and cheesecake. \$

Philanthropy Fresh

350 E. Broad St. • 706-215-9954

philanthropyfresh.net

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Wi-Fi, take-out, counter service. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch, dinner and late night. • A percentage of your check goes to a local nonprofit, hence the name. Breakfast starts at 10 a.m. with sandwiches, avo toast and burritos; later in the day and well into the night you can get loaded fries, burgers, wings, salads, bowls, wraps and fried Oreos, plus coffee and tea drinks. A healthier option for late-night eats. \$\$

The Picnic Basket Meal Market

1973 Hog Mountain Road, Watkinsville • 706-705-1292

picnicbasketmealmarket.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, take-out, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and early dinner (closes at 6 p.m.) • Don't feel like cooking? This local company makes home-cooked meals. Order ahead on the website or stop by to see what's on offer. Options change daily, but could include tomato pie, lasagna, salads, cheesecake, enchiladas and anything else the owners feel like making. \$\$

The Pine

1235 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-395-6278

thepineathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Dinner and weekend brunch. First Friday lunch. • Mostly a bar, with a nice wine list, regular wine tastings and discounts for members of its wine club, but also a restaurant. Champagne brunch on weekends has quiche, burgers, sandwiches, waffles. Oysters, tapas and cheese plates. First Friday lunch pop-ups. \$\$\$

Pita Pit

123 N. Jackson St. • 706-552-0051

pitapit.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, open seven days. \$

Pizza Factory

122 Alps Road • 706-850-6169

pizzafactory.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Pizza, pastas, sandwiches, salads, wings. \$\$

Pizza Hut

680 U.S. Hwy. 29 N. • 706-354-0225

pizzahut.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

The Place

229 E. Broad St. • 706-850-2988

theplaceathens.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, full bar, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch, open seven days. • More refined takes on Southern stan-

dards, like shrimp and grits with gouda. Big salads, chicken and waffles, shrimp burger, collard spring rolls. Cocktails that play on things like peanuts and Coke. \$\$

Planet Smoothie

196 Alps Road • 706-316-3090

1993 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-353-8181

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-521-5833

2361 W. Broad St. • 706-369-3111

planetsmoothie.com

FILE UNDER: Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

Plantation Buffet

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

plantationbuffet.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ. **FEATURES:** Buffet, catering, counter service, take-out, outside seating, checks. **HOURS:** Lunch. • Old-school Southern restaurant opened in the 1970s serves an all-you-can-eat weekday buffet. Expect fried chicken, steak and gravy, barbecue, meatloaf, turnip greens, black-eyed peas, fried okra and Southern desserts. \$

Playa Bowls

196 Alps Road • 706-600-2003

playabowls.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Counter service, vegetarian friendly, take-out. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Right next to a gym, which is the usual location for an açai bowl franchise. Bowls of açai, coconut, pitaya, mango, banana, greens and oatmeal topped with fruit, protein powder and granola. Also coffee, juices and smoothies. \$

Poke Bar

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-850-3410

ilovepokebar.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Poke bowls, boba, ramen and desserts. \$\$

Ponko Chicken

529 Baxter St. • 706-850-8283

ponkochicken.com

FILE UNDER: Chicken. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out, outside seating, vegetarian friendly, delivery, counter service. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Tenders fried in rice bran oil, tofu options, vegan patties, hot dogs fried and served with slaw and sides that include white or brown rice and Japanese pickles. \$\$

Poquitos

195 Prince Ave. • 706-850-8706

poquitosathens.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Beer, counter service, outside seating, wine, take-out, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Get an elaborate michelada preparada, a pambazo (a torta soaked in red sauce) and some wet wipes, and you'll be thrilled. Lots of taco fillings, including an array of vegetarian choices that go beyond beans. Good, cold tres leches cake. Beer buckets. \$

Porterhouse Grill

459 E. Broad St. • 706-369-0990

porterhousegrillathens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, live music, reservations, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Downtown steakhouse also does crab cakes, chicken, shrimp scampi and other things that aren't red meat as well as a la carte sides. Lunch includes a fried green tomato sandwich, grilled salmon BLT and she-crab

soup. Desserts divided into edible and drinkable. Port and cognac for after dinner. \$\$\$

Preacher Green's

1995 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-215-9079

preachergreens.com

FILE UNDER: American, Downhome and BBQ. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. **FEATURES:** Counter service, beer and wine, outside seating, vegetarian friendly, take-out. •

Chef-driven meat and three is fresher and lighter than the trad Southern plate of brown. Lunch features sandwiches, including an excellent smash burger, and some beautiful salads. Dinner lets you make your own plate of protein and veggies or veggies alone. Kids menu. \$\$\$



Pretty Boy

247 Prince Ave.

instagram.com/prettyboyathens

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Full bar. **HOURS:** Dinner. • Chef Kenny Nguyen of The Expat and "Top Chef" is opening his own place in 2024 with folks from Seabear right next door to that restaurant. Judging by its pop-ups, the menu will focus on Vietnamese food, with items like stir-fried turmeric baby clams, chilled peanut noodles and pho. \$\$\$

Pulaski Heights BBQ

675 Pulaski St. • 706-583-9600

pulaskiheightsbbq.com

FILE UNDER: BBQ, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** BYOB, catering, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Who says a barbecue place can't be veggie-friendly? Chef-owned restaurant by the train tracks smokes high-quality meats and tofu daily. Watch the Instagram for specials and to see if things are running low: when they're out, they're out. Proudly inauthentic ramen on Wednesdays. \$\$

Puma Yu's

355 Oneta St. • 706-850-0709

pumayus.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Bars/Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, vegetarian friendly, reservations. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • James Beard Award-nominated little-bitty bar/restaurant with tons of personality and charm has a big covered patio with heaters in the winter. Menu is "Thai drinking food" but so much more than that, with big, complex flavors, a real love of veggies and a strong sense of fun. Graze lightly or keep ordering until you're full. Cocktails change regularly but feature beautiful rums and unusual ingredients. Mocktails, too. \$\$

Punta Cana Latin Grill

367 Prince Ave. • 706-850-8960

facebook.com/puntacanakitcheen

FILE UNDER: Mexican and South American. **FEATURES:** Delivery, full bar, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Darling Dominican resto serves typical rib-sticking fare featuring a lot of rice and meat, including mofongo (plantains mashed with tons of garlic and broth), tostones, seafood, empanadas and churros. Full bar serving all your favorite island drinks. \$\$

Rachel's Southern Style Restaurant

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

rachelssouthernrestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch

and dinner. • Traditional Southern cuisine with a rotating menu written on a whiteboard every weekday. Choose among pork chops, chicken, fish and more, grilled or fried, plus fried chicken livers and a host of vegetable sides (rutabagas, cabbage, carrot-and-raisin salad, turnip greens, hash-brown casserole). Homemade desserts. \$\$

Rafferty's Restaurant & Bar

15 Huntington Road • 706-613-0045

raffertys.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

The Rail Athens

1120 Mitchell Bridge Road • 706-354-7289

facebook.com/therailathens

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken, Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, live music, trivia. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Bar with food, pool tables, dart boards, slot machines and big-screen TVs. Food includes burgers, wings, sandwiches, nachos and fries. \$

Raising Canes

795 Baxter St. • 706-548-2008

raisingcanes.com

FILE UNDER: Chicken. **FEATURES:** Counter service, drive-thru. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Rashe's Cuisine

585 Vine St. • 706-850-4164

rashecuisine.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • From meaty Jamaican food (oxtail, goat) to vegan plates, Rashe's covers it all: roti, coco bread, plantains, vegan and regular mac and cheese, fancy chocolates made in a collab with Condor. Take-out and delivery only at the moment. Food truck, too. \$\$

Redstone Market & Butcher

2563 Brock Road

redstonemarket.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different. **FEATURES:** Take-out. • New independent grocery store with a meat counter featuring locally-sourced proteins, old-fashioned candy, gifts, ice cream, a dog park and a grab-and-go hot bar. Opening in 2024. \$\$

The Roadhouse

137 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-2324

instagram.com/roadhouseathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music, outside seating. • This dive bar "serving hangovers since 1991" features neon beer signs and friendly bartenders. \$

Rodeo Night Club

1700 Commerce Road • 678-780-0676

facebook.com/rodeoathensnightclub

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs/live music. • Nightclub/music venue off the beaten path, focusing on Latin music. Ladies get in free regularly. Big dance floor, flashing lights, heavy bass, sometimes a mechanical bull. \$

The Rooftop

215 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-850-7670

georgiatheatre.com/rooftop

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Counter service, outside seating, live music, catering. **HOURS:** Dinner. • Bar/restaurant on top of the historic Georgia Theatre is open during and just before shows, with food from pop-up restaurants. \$

The Rook and Pawn

294 W. Washington St. • 706-543-5040

therookandpawn.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs, Something Different. **FEATURES:** Full bar, counter service, outside seating, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Board-game café with plenty of food: hot and cold sandwiches, pizza made with pita, salads, cheese plates, bowls of salty and sweet snacks, kids menu, coffees, nonalcoholic cocktails. Games for rent or purchase, and drinks soft and hard. \$\$

The Root

1235 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-395-6278

therootathens.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music. • This Five Points bar in the basement of The Pine has a particularly great selection of whiskey, including Scotch, and access to its big sibling's food menu. Plenty of craft beer (not just local stuff) and specialty shots. Karaoke, silent disco, bingo and trivia, too. \$\$

The Royal Peasant

1675 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-549-7920

royalpeasant.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • English pub with a bitty kitchen does legit British food: housemade crisps, bangers and mash, shepherd's pie, curries. Also, good burgers. Soccer on the telly. U.K. beers, dry ciders, craft brews, wine, whiskey and cocktails. \$\$

Sake Mama

166 E. Clayton St. • 248-765-7636

instagram.com/sakemamauga

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar. • Club-type scene, complete with DJ. Knock some shots off chopsticks and hit the dance floor. A neon menu offers over 20 types of sake bombs. Beer, too. Big TVs for sports. \$

Sakura Steak House

3557 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-227-0001

1225 S. Milledge Ave. • 706-850-2027

sakurahibachiathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Both locations serve a similar menu, from hibachi as entertainment to some of the better sushi in town to elaborately presented sashimi platters. Also: lunch specials, hot pots, yaki udon, dumplings, mochi ice cream, kids menu. Japanese beer, sake, cocktails and wine. \$\$

San Angel Cocina and Cantina

2226 W. Broad St. • 202-555-0188

sanangelcocinacantina.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • From the folks behind Lalo's and a few other Mexican restaurants around town comes this new spot on the former Applebee's site with a remodeled rooftop bar. Guacamole can be made deluxe with pork belly, queso fundido is flambéed tableside with tequila, and lunch features some breakfast tacos and a patty melt with an egg. Big menu. Sangria and cocktails. \$\$

Sandbar

220 College Ave. • 706-548-1988

instagram.com/sandbarathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs, outside seating. • Beach-themed college bar lets you take

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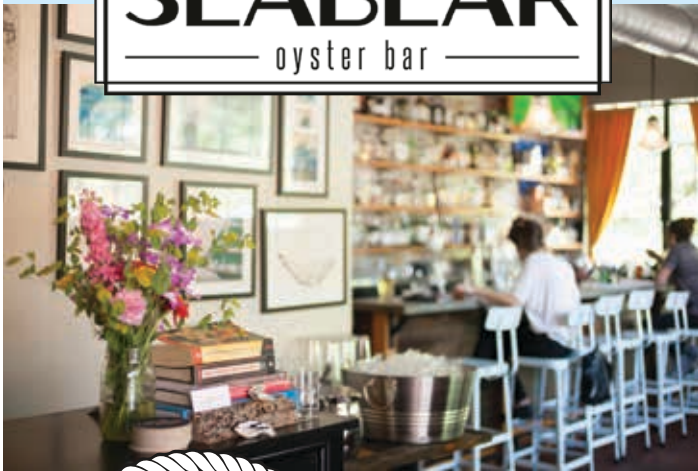
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a shot off a surfboard or choose from buckets of alcohol, frozen drinks and a full bar. Darts. \$

Saturday's

321 E. Clayton St.

instagram.com/saturdays.athens

FILE UNDER: Bar. **FEATURES:** Full bar. **HOURS:** Tues–Sat. • Student-oriented bar has a lot of Georgia-themed decor, pool and a downstairs called The Grotto. Plenty of room to spread out. Beer pong tournaments and DJs. \$\$

Saucehouse Barbeque

830 W. Broad St. • 888-978-7948

saucehouse.com

FILE UNDER: BBQ, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, delivery, outside seating, take-out, counter service. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Barbecue in a cavernous space in a variety of iterations: pork, brisket, ribs, tofu, hash or stew, served over a starch, plus sides: slaw, beans, potato salad and more. Available in bulk orders, too. Bar menu is smaller and focused on snacks. Large outdoor space has games. \$\$

The Savannah Room

1197 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-338-8781

hotel.uga.edu

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, Wi-Fi, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • UGA Hotel restaurant has been around for ages, serving strawberry ice-cream pie and celestial chicken, but also does shrimp and grits, salads, meatloaf, Southern vegetables and more. \$\$

Schlotsky's Deli

1490 Baxter St. • 706-543-2518

schlotzkys.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, catering, counter service, delivery, outside seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Scoops

1725 Electric Ave., Watkinsville • 706-705-6051

scoopsidecream.com

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Small Georgia ice cream chain with other locations in Madison and Monroe has lots of kid-friendly ice cream flavors, plus an excellent selection of candy, including obscure items. \$\$

Scott's BBQ

4007 Danielsville Road • 706-546-1005

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Cash and checks only. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • A family-owned place you might have seen on "True South" on the SEC Network. Pork, chicken, beef and ribs with 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, catering, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Dinner. • Longtime hip oyster bar, with a great selection that

changes frequently. Also fun takes on seafood and more: scallop fried rice, scallion pancake, lobster roll, grilled

cheese. Beer, wine, absinthe, sake, serious cocktails and frozen Negronis. Hire its mobile unit to shuck at your party. \$\$\$



Sr. Sol

175 Tallassee Road • 706-546-1570

2455 W. Broad St. • 706-850-7112

srsoalthens.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, delivery, catering, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • One location next to a gas station and the other in a bigger space. Both serve tasty Americanized Mexican standards but also lengua, buche and tripe tacos. Chilaquiles and surprisingly good hamburguesas. \$\$

Shake Tea

5375 Jefferson Road • 706-395-6270

shaketeausa.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Tea House. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Coming soon to Oak Grove. This bubble tea place features refreshers (carbonated fruit drinks mixed with tea) and matcha drinks plus snacks and teddy bear-shaped boba. \$\$

Shane's Rib Shack

680 U.S. Hwy. 29 N. • 706-549-9135

shanesribshack.com

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

Shokitini

251 W. Clayton St. • 706-353-7933

shokitini.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Karaoke, full bar, outside seating, delivery. **HOURS:** Dinner, open seven days. • Party sushi bar with private karaoke rooms. Lots of rolls and sashimi as well as surf and turf, noodles, fried tofu and apps. Hot and cold sake, saketinis, wine, mostly domestic beer but a few Japanese brews. \$\$\$

Silver Dollar

262 College Ave. • 706-389-0531

facebook.com/silverdollarathens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs, outside seating, live music. • Not really western-themed, despite the name, just a classic college bar with a covered outdoor patio. Ten beers on tap, well drinks and daily specials, plastic cups shaped like a bone. Beer pong and cornhole tournaments and the Dawgs on TV. \$

Sips Espresso Café

1390 Prince Ave. • 706-363-7211

instagram.com/sipsespresso

FILE UNDER: Coffee/Tea Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Seven days. • Small, independent coffee shop makes caffeinated beverages (including trendy stuff) with local coffees, plus has a variety of treats and other snacks like scones (sweet and savory). Good smoothies and plenty of loose tea options. \$

Siri Thai Cuisine

1040 Gaines School Road • 706-850-3500

sirithaiathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, catering, delivery, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Noodles (available with various proteins), rice entrees, soups, salads, curries and a dessert selection. A couple of Thai beers among the domestics, sakes and a section of organic wines. \$\$

Sister Louisa's Church

254 W. Clayton St. • 706-850-3668

sisterlouisaschurch.com

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. • Eclectic bar with velvet paintings, Pee-Wee Her-

man dolls and satirical religious art. Large patio hidden from street view. Dance or play ping-pong. Try the house sangria or check out a drag show. \$

Slater's Steakhouse

1680 S Lumpkin St. • 706-395-6082

slatersathens.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, reservations. **HOURS:** Dinner. • High-end steakhouse with attentive staff and beautiful drinks (martini service comes with a little extra in a glass carafe on a bed of ice and is thoroughly customizable). Family-style sides aren't included but should be ordered. Not just steaks, but definitely meat-centric. \$\$\$\$

Smallcakes

2421 Malcom Bridge Road, Bogart • 678-726-3026

smallcakesathens.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Mon–Sat. • Franchise bakery does cupcakes (mini and regular), cakes, cake pops, brownies, cookie sandwiches, ice cream and more. Pupcakes for dogs and custom orders. \$\$

Smoothie King

1591 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-613-2600

smoothieking.com

FILE UNDER: Smoothies. **FEATURES:** Catering, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Seven days. \$

Soldier of the Sea Distillery

22 E. South Ave., Comer • 706-783-2523

soswhiskey.com

FILE UNDER: Distillery. **FEATURES:** Full bar. **HOURS:** Thur–Sat. • Veteran-owned whiskey distillery, with its product made from locally sourced honey. Open for tastings and bottle sales, with an accompanying pub, The Hive, for cocktails, etc. next door. \$\$

South Kitchen and Bar

247 E. Washington St. • 706-395-6125

southkitchenbar.com

FILE UNDER: American, Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and weekend brunch, open seven days. • Historic former hotel with a menu of small and large plates, all with big flavors: sweet potatoes, chicken-fried tofu, duck fat tater tots, candied bacon, that kind of thing. Gluten-free stuff. Rotating draft beers in full or half pours, good wines by the glass (and bottle) and regularly changing craft cocktails with house-made ingredients. \$\$

South Main Brewing

1725 Electric Ave., Watkinsville • 706-705-6067

southmainbrewing.com

FILE UNDER: Breweries. **FEATURES:** Beer, comedy, live music, outside seating, trivia. • Brewery in Watkinsville's Wire Park is dog- and family-friendly, with about 20 beers on tap, emphasizing IPAs. Plenty of events and a polished inside as well as outdoor seating. Feel free to BYO food, including from the numerous eateries right next door, but also food trucks sometimes. \$\$

Southern Brewing Company

231 Collins Industrial Blvd. • 706-548-7183

sobrewco.com

FILE UNDER: Breweries. **FEATURES:** Beer, live music, outside seating, trivia. • Lots of outdoor space and a wide variety of beers, organized into easy-drinking, hoppy, sour and dark. Handcrafted vodka-based slushes (flavors change) and small-batch specialty brews, but also standards that are always available. Food trucks (different ones listed on the

website on the calendar) and lots of events, from trivia to wrestling. Dog-friendly. \$

Southern Prospect

1725 Electric Ave, Watkinsville • 678-310-1096
southernprospect.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, reservations. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Upscale Southern in Wire Park is a bit more of a date night place. Signature cocktails are cute and fun. Graze on apps like fried deviled eggs and crab fritters, dig into a big entree or go lighter in the “betweens” (i.e. sandwiches) section. No need to dress up unless you want to. \$\$\$

Square One Fish Co.

1298 Prince Ave. • 706-353-8862
facebook.com/SquareOneFishCo

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and Sunday brunch, open seven days. • New owners are tinkering with the menu and the atmosphere is a little more casual, but you can still expect seafood, including \$1 oysters at happy hour, shrimp and grits, a raw bar, fried baskets, a couple of land-based entrees, lots of drink specials and winery events. Food truck, too. \$\$\$

Starland Lounge & Lanes

145 E. Clayton St. • 706-613-8773
starlandlanes.com

FILE UNDER: Bars. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, full bar, live music. • A large, two-level bar with duckpin bowling lanes upstairs as well as other games. Domestic and import bottles and cans, tons of craft beer, wine and a good selection of bourbon, including some rare options. Grill and snack bar with burgers and dogs. Popcorn. \$\$

Strickland's Restaurant

4723 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-548-7003
stricklandsrestaurant.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome. **FEATURES:** Catering, checks. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Open since 1960, this unassuming place out on Atlanta Highway serves some of the best Southern food in town. Menu changes daily but always includes fantastic biscuits. You might also get fried chicken, ribs, catfish, pork chops, mashed potatoes and gravy, creamed corn and greens. Good desserts. \$\$

Stripling's General Store

4501 Monroe Hwy., Bogart • 770-725-7772
striplings.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch, open seven days. • The grocery out of Cordele well-known for housemade sausage also does a hot bar for Southern breakfast and a meat-and-three-type lunch, priced by the pound. Pick up some snacks and drinks to round out your options. \$\$

Suncatcher Café

42 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-424-8281
facebook.com/suncatchercafe

FILE UNDER: Downhome. **FEATURES:** Take-out, counter service. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • As you'd expect from a breakfast place connected to a gas station, speedy service and big biscuits are characteristic, but there are bigger breakfast plates, too, plus meat-and-three Friday and Sunday lunch. Kids meals. \$

Sunroof Coffee Company

175 Tracy St. • 706-395-6363
sunroofcoffee.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, take-out, catering. • Sweet little kiosk coffee company run

by BFFs in the Southern Mill development on Oneta Street has a few tables and chairs outside. Cold brew, hot brew, cutie-pie specials, pour-overs, tea, shaken espresso. \$\$

Surcheros

700 Baxter St. • 706-842-6887
1850 Epps Bridge Pkwy. • 706-410-2901
surcheros.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Sushi One

1430 Capital Ave. Ste., Watkinsville GA • 706-552-0488
sushiones.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Delivery, take-out, full bar, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Sushi place in Watkinsville has a large array of rolls, entrees, bento boxes, kids meals, poke, noodles, desserts. Sake and Japanese whisky at the bar as well as Japanese beers and other stuff. Gluten-free choices and a variety of boba drinks. \$\$

Sweetie Pie by Savie

150 E. Whitehall Road • 706-850-9255
sweetiepiebysavie.com

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries. **FEATURES:** Catering, take-out. **HOURS:** Tue–Sat. • Asian-inflected bakery in a historic grocery does Eastern and Western baked goods, either custom order or from a selection each day. Impressive and elaborate cakes, croissants, cupcakes, mini pies, bar cookies, scones, mini quiches and more. Espresso and drip coffee. Gluten-free, dairy-free and vegan options available. \$

The Table Bistro

1075 Baxter St. • 706-395-6599
thetablebistro.square.site

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Counter service, outside seating, take-out, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Fresh flavors, low salt cooking and lots of vegetables in dishes like pasta with creamy basil arugula pesto or coconut macademia crusted fish at this restaurant. Gluten-free and dairy-free options. \$\$

Taco Mama

265 N. Lumpkin St. • 762-728-4675
tacomamaonline.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, take-out, outside seating, catering, counter service, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Taco bar franchise based in Alabama appeals to college kids, with not very spicy tacos, burritos, quesadillas and nachos, plus lots of drinks. Loads and loads of free toppings. Also: kids menu, family-pack take-out meals. \$\$

Taco Stand

2270 Barnett Shoals Road • 706-549-5481
670 N. Milledge Ave. • 706-549-2894
facebook.com/thetstand

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, outside seating (Milledge), take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Athens fondly home this American Mexican restaurant. Milledge location has been open since the 1970s, with very little in the way of change, as it should be. Burritos, veggie chili, quesadillas (naked or grilled), gigantic nachos. Eastside has some different options. \$

Tacos los Plebes

675 Danielsville Road • 706-850-8077
Find Us on Facebook.

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Excellent traditional Mexican

inside a former Huddle House offers amazing values and delicious food: pollo, lengua, cabeza, al pastor, chorizo, carnitas, barbacoa, asada and tripa. Menudo on weekends, horchata and great sopes. \$

Tai Chi Bubble Tea

151 E. Broad St. • 706-395-6483
taichibubbletea.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Tea Houses. **FEATURES:** Take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Bubble tea, ramen, poke bowls, sushi burritos and salad bowls. Order online and pick up. \$

Tamez Barbecue

1660 W. Broad St. • 706-850-3939
tamezbbq.com

FILE UNDER: Downhome and BBQ, Mexican. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, take-out, catering, delivery, outside seating. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and early dinner. • Texas-style barbecue with a chef pedigree. Breakfast burritos in the a.m. on unbelievable housemade tortillas, pork and other meats in the p.m. (brisket if you're lucky), plus cornbread, beans, collards. Meats smoked daily. \$\$

Tapped Athens

297 Prince Ave. • 404-538-4369
tappedathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Bars. **FEATURES:** Wine. **HOURS:** Wed–Sat. • Wine bar with 24 selections on tap, served from an Enomatic in various sizes or buy a bottle. Regular tasting events. Biscuits on the first Saturday of the month; snackies to accompany wine. \$\$

Taqueria del Sol

334 Prince Ave. • 706-353-3890
taqueriadelsol.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Full bar, catering, counter service, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Chef-crafted taqueria with a focused menu. Pork, brisket, fried chicken, carnitas, fish and veggie tacos, plus weekly specials and a blue-plate special. Great selection of premium tequilas, build-your-own margaritas and bottled beers. \$

Taqueria Juaritos

3865 Jefferson Road • 706-521-5260
taqueriajuaritosga.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Counter service, catering. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Great taqueria inside the Petro Express does tacos, sopes, gorditas and burritos with fillings including asada, chicken, al pastor, barbacoa, carnitas, desebrada (shredded beef), tongue, tripe, chorizo and buche (stomach), plus hot wings and really good soups. Excellent condiment bar. \$

Taqueria la Jalisco

3750 Old Jefferson Road • 706-316-3560
lajaliscoathens.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Taqueria inside a full-service grocery store with a butcher counter. Menudo, carnitas, chorizo, tortas, al pastor and a few freshly made salsas. Great baked goods in the grocery section and paletas/helados next door. \$

Taqueria la Parrilla

1431 Capital Ave., Watkinsville • 706-310-9991

2439 Jefferson Road • 706-549-4977
855 Gaines School Road • 706-548-5040
lapa.us

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar (Jefferson and Gaines School), beer and wine (Watkinsville), delivery, catering, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Locally owned small chain Mexican restaurant has chips-and-salsa-type standards and will give you fried ice cream on your birthday, but also serves Mexican-style tacos and good tortas. Kids menu available. Margaritas, Mexican beers, regular bottled stuff and pitchers. \$\$

Taqueria Morros

3073 Danielsville Road • 706-850-1019
ordertaqueriamorros.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • A gas station taqueria worth a detour. Stellar deshebrada and soups. Not a ton for vegetarians, but meat-eaters can delight in carnitas, al pastor, buche, tripa, chicharron and more. Not just tacos but platillos, wings, a kids menu and fin de semana treats like menudo, consomme and a gorgeous caldo de res. \$

Taqueria Tsunami

1791 Oconee Connector • 706-353-0040
320 E. Clayton St. • 706-621-7999
taqueriatsunami.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Mexican and South American, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Outside seating, take-out, delivery, full bar. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Small Atlanta-based chain does Asian/Latin fusion tacos: bulgogi and shiitake, teriyaki chicken with pineapple pico de gallo, tofu with sesame-soy vinaigrette and more. Apps, bowls and salads. Margaritas, cocktails, sangria and craft beers. \$\$

Taste of India

1040 Gaines School Road • 706-559-0000
indiaathens.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, delivery, catering, outside seating, take-out, vegetarian friendly. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Big menu of Indian standards, from samosas and pakoras to poori, chat, tandoori and many vegetarian and vegan options. Get your entree made with veggies, paneer, tofu, chicken, lamb, goat, fish or shrimp. Lassis, chai and Indian tea, 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, catering, counter service, delivery, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Mediterranean quick-service franchise does 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 Road • 706-543-8326
teambandb.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, catering, outside seating. **HOURS:** Breakfast and lunch. • Heavily football-themed place that does biscuits with sausage, bacon, bologna, steak, chicken, country ham, tenderloin, smoke-link or salmon. Beef, chicken, salmon and shrimp burgers. Wings available in large quantities geared to tailgating. \$

Ted's Most Best

254 W. Washington St. • 706-543-1523
tedsmostbest.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, outside seating, take-out, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Personally sized pizzas with thinly sliced fancy toppings. Also other Italian-ish items and great salads. Gluten-free options. Desserts in the refrigerated case. Good beer in cans, on draft and bottles, a few wines by the glass. Large patio with a sandbox for kids. \$\$

Terrapin Beer Co.

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



FILE UNDER: Breweries. **FEATURES:** Beer, outside seating. • Local brewer has a huge space, outside and inside, with live music, at which to taste craft beer. Dogs are welcome! IPA fiends are into Hopsecutioner, but you might also find a watermelon gose or the Wake-n-Bake coffee oatmeal imperial stout. Food trucks are sometimes present. \$

Texas Roadhouse

1021 Dowdy Road • 706-613-1300
texasroadhouse.com

FILE UNDER: American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, take-out, reservations. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$\$

Thai Spoon

149 N. Lumpkin St. • 706-548-9222
thaispoonathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, take-out, delivery, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Big menu runs from fresh Thai salads to satay, spicy basil duck, lots of seafood and vegan options, plus gluten-free stuff, with lots of eggplant, basil, chilis and curry, all customizable to your taste. Kids menu. Beer and wine, Thai iced tea and Thai iced coffee. \$\$

Tlalo El Mexicano Restaurant

1225 N. Chase St. • 706-613-9301
facebook.com/tlalocmexicano

FILE UNDER: Mexican and Latin American. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, drive-thru. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Central American and Mexican food at this cult favorite. Pupusas, massive tortas, regular specials and fantastic mole; lots of seafood options. Breakfast, which includes chilaquiles, starts at 10 a.m. and is served all day. Margaritas, beer and aguas frescas. \$\$

Tokyo Express

690 U.S. Hwy. 29 • 706-543-8833

FILE UNDER: Asian. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out. • Quick-service hibachi and sushi, plus wings, bento box specials at lunch and dinner, hibachi, soup, edamame and some fried appetizers. \$

Toppers International Showbar

100 N. Jackson St. • 706-613-0504
instagram.com/toppersathensofficial

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, exotic dancing. • Athens' finest and only strip club sometimes does a male revue. Full bar with prices for high rollers and budget drinkers alike. \$

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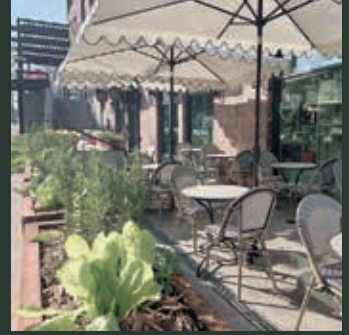


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269 N. Hull St. • 706-543-8997

trappezepub.com

FILE UNDER: American, Vegetarian Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, open seven days. Sunday brunch. • Big menu of food and beer with lots of vegetarian choices: loaded mac and cheese, Southern fish and chips, tabbouleh salad, housemade pickles, a vegan Reuben, buffalo tofu taco, plus scores of unusual, well-described beers in the bottle and on tap. There's also wine and nice cocktails. \$\$

The Traveling Hobo Cafe

20 Greensboro Hwy., Watkinsville • 706-310-4323

facebook.com/travelinghobocafe

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Ginormous two-hands-required burgers are the focus (bison, lamb, lots of toppings, regular specials), but you can also get other sandwiches, hot dogs, fried apps, wings and salads. Vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options. Kids menu. Cheesecake for dessert. \$\$

Treathouse Candy and Cones

585 Barber St. • 706-850-8226

treehousekidandcraft.com

FILE UNDER: Ice Cream. **FEATURES:** Outside seating. • Athens' most magical toy store Treehouse Kid and Craft also has an ice cream and candy shop, with vegan soft-serve (vanilla or a rotating fruit flavor) served in super-cool cones in unusual flavors, plus popsicles and both old-timey and imported candies. Think it's crazy to put salsa matcha on your ice cream? Don't knock it 'til you've tried it. \$

Tropical Bar

251 W. Clayton St. • 706-850-0406

instagram.com/tropicalbarathensga

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, live music. • Latin bar encourages guests to dance, drink and have fun listening to merengue, bachata, salsa and more. Bottle service, neon lights. \$\$

Utage Athens Sushi Bar

440 E. Clayton St. • 706-227-9339

utagesushibar.restaurant

FILE UNDER: Asian, Vegetarian Friendly, Bars. **FEATURES:** Full bar, delivery, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Lunch combos have more variety than at many other restaurants. Lots of specialty rolls (the sushi part of the menu is huge), but also good udon and ramen bowls, yakitori, tonkatsu, teriyaki, fried rice and more. Hot and cold sake, Japanese (and American) beers, wine, sake bombs and martinis. \$\$

VFW Post 2872

835 Sunset Dr. • 706-543-5940

facebook.com/vfwpost2872

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, karaoke, live music. • You don't have to be a member to come enjoy this cash-only bar, which is open to the public on Thursdays and Fridays (there's an ATM if you don't plan ahead). Dance floor, bottled and canned beer, wine and a full bar of liquor drinks. \$

Walker's Coffee & Pub

128 College Ave. • 706-543-1433

@walkerspub

FILE UNDER: Coffee Houses and Bakeries, Bars, Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Full bar, outside seating, counter service, art, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Open seven days. • Local coffee and light food until the early afternoon, bar by night. Six beers on draft and over 70 in bottles, including many microbrews. \$

Weaver D's Delicious Fine Foods

1016 E. Broad St. • 706-353-7797

facebook.com/weaverds

FILE UNDER: Downhome. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, outside seating. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • A legend, in Athens and far outside it, and thankfully still open. Look for the bright-green cinderblock building and the sign that reads "Automatic for the People." Fantastic fried chicken, squash casserole, mac and cheese, collards and the like, varying a bit daily. \$\$

Whataburger

3321 Lexington Road • 706-534-9161

3201 Atlanta Hwy. • 706-534-9160

700 US-29 • 706-534-9162

whataburger.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches and Burgers. **FEATURES:** Drive-thru, counter service. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner, open 24/7. Third location coming in 2024. \$

White Tiger

217 Hiawasse Ave. • 706-353-6847

64 N. Main St., Watkinsville • 706-705-6115

whitetigergourmet.com

FILE UNDER: Something Different, Downhome and BBQ, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Catering, counter service, delivery, take-out, art, outside seating, table service, full bar (Watkinsville). **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, weekend brunch (Watkinsville). • Original location is in an old-timey grocery with high ceilings and a ton of outside seating under fairy lights. BYOB. New candy-colored "Deluxe" edition is in Watkinsville with cocktails, beer, wine and dance party bathrooms. Both serve amazing cheeseburgers, pork and tofu barbecue and excellent veggie sides. \$\$

Willy's Mexicana Grill

196 Alps Road • 706-548-1920

willys.com

FILE UNDER: Mexican, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer, catering, counter service, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Winghouse Grill

8727 U.S. Hwy. 29, Hull • 706-850-9700

1307 Prince Ave. • 706-850-8250

50 N Main St, Watkinsville • 706-705-6462

winghouse-grill.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Curbside pick-up, take-out, outside seating, beer. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner. • Three locations, plus a food truck. Wings, fried stuff, burgers, hot dogs, chicken sandwiches and a couple of salads. Kids meals include a cookie. Home-made cake. \$

Wingster Café

521 Baxter St. • 706-583-9611

wingsterathensga.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Wings and chicken tenders are the bread and butter of this unassuming strip mall place near the dorms, but it also has a large menu of homestyle Korean favorites: dosirak, tteokbokki, soups, kimbap, bibimbap, manju, macarons. \$

WNB Factory

4375 Lexington Road • 706-308-8088

wnbfactory.com

FILE UNDER: Sandwiches, Burgers and Chicken. **FEATURES:** Catering, outside seating, take-out. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. \$

Wok's Up

1791 Oconee Connector, Bogart • 706-521-5486

woksupathens.com

FILE UNDER: Asian. **FEATURES:** Counter service, take-out, delivery. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Fast-casual made-to-order stir-fry. Pick a protein (steak, chicken, shrimp, pork, tofu), some veggies, a sauce and a base (rice, noodles, salad), and they'll cook it for you right then and there. \$

Wonderbar

240 E. Washington St..

instagram.com/wonderbarwonderbar

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs, live music. • Video games, board games and rock, paper, scissors tournaments, plus snacks. Sweet specialty drinks like a Yoohoo Mudslide, and shots flavored like Sour Patch Kids. \$

Woodford

120 E. Washington St. • 404-271-8440

instagram.com/woodford.athens

FILE UNDER: Bars and Clubs. **FEATURES:** Full bar, DJs, outside seating, trivia. • Craft and draft beer, specialty cocktails including Stiegl grapefruit soda mixed with vodka, TVs for sports, trivia. Dog friendly. \$

The World Famous

351 N. Hull St. • 706-543-4002

facebook.com/theworldfamousathens

FILE UNDER: American, Bars, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Counter service, delivery, art, full bar, live music. **HOURS:** Lunch, dinner and late night, open seven days. • Half bar, half restaurant, with hearty, fun food (poutine, meatball banh mi, General Tso's tofu), lots of veggie choices and regular specials. Creative cocktails, well-priced beer (including lots of canned craft brews), wine, house-made nonalcoholic sodas and a great chalkboard. \$\$

Your Pie

196 Alps Road • 706-549-3179

1430 Capital Ave., Watkinsville • 706-705-1510

yourpie.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Beer and wine, catering, counter service, delivery, Wi-Fi. **HOURS:** Lunch and dinner, open seven days. • Locally-based franchise does personal- and full-size customized pizzas. Lots of topping, sauce and cheese choices, as well as several doughs. Vegan and gluten-free choices. Panini, pasta, bread bowl salads, gelato, beer and wine. \$\$

Zeb's Bar-B-Q

5742 U.S. Hwy. 29, Danielsville • 706-795-2701

instagram.com/zebs_bar_b_q

FILE UNDER: BBQ. **FEATURES:** Curbside pick-up, drive-thru, checks, take-out. **HOURS:** Breakfast, lunch and dinner. • Country barbecue joint of long standing keeps long hours, has great atmosphere and is well known for its peppery, vinegary sauce. Burgers, chicken sandwiches, fries, tots and slaw, too, but the barbecue sandwich is the real attraction. Slices of soda cake shrink-wrapped to plates. \$

ZZ & Simone's

1540 S. Lumpkin St. • 706-395-6556

zzandsimones.com

FILE UNDER: Italian and Pizza, Vegetarian Friendly. **FEATURES:** Full bar, reservations, outside seating. **HOURS:** Dinner, open seven days. • Italian restaurant with a bit of beachiness and a great 1960s soundtrack. Primi including crudo and anchovies on toast, housemade pasta, meat-centric entrees, pizzas, from-scratch gelato, a serious cocktail program and more. Book a table ahead or walk in. Heated patio. \$\$



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Farmers Markets

Athens Farmers Market athensfarmersmarket.net

Saturdays, 8 a.m.–12 p.m. all year long at Bishop Park pavillion and Wednesdays, 5–8 p.m. March through November at the Creature Comforts patio downtown. SNAP is accepted and doubled. Locally grown vegetables, fruits, eggs, meat, flowers, artisan crafts and prepared foods. There is live music, kids activities and food trucks on site.

Comer Community Market facebook.com/comerfm

Saturdays, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. at the Farmer's Market Building. Locally grown produce, eggs, prepared foods, pottery, jewelry and handmade goods. There is live music and kids activities.

Danielsville Farmers Market danielsvillemarket.wixsite.com/farmersmarket

Saturdays, 8 a.m.–12 p.m. June through October at the Danielsville City Hall. Fresh fruits, vegetables, meat, homemade baked goods, honey, pet treats, plants, beauty products.

Diamond Hill Farm Stand diamondhillfarmathens.com

Thursdays, 4–6 p.m. at Athentic Brewing Co. Primarily servicing its Community Supported

Agriculture (CSA) pick-up orders, Diamond Hill Farm also has extra produce and flowers for sale to the public.

Marigold Market marigoldmarketwinterville.com

Mondays, 10 a.m.–3 p.m. in the Historic Pittard Bank building and Saturdays, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. at Pittard Park. SNAP is accepted and doubled. On Mondays shop market goods or hit the cafe for soups made from fresh produce, snacks, juices and prepared food. Local produce, cheese, eggs, meat, honey, home goods, plants and more.

Oconee Farmers Market oconeefarmersmarket.net

Saturdays, 9 a.m.–1 p.m. April through October at Harris Shoals Park. Fresh produce, prepared foods, and arts and crafts vendors. There is a kids craft center and market-related education presentations.

West Broad Farmers Market athenslandtrust.org/wbmf

Saturdays, 11 a.m.–2 p.m. April through December at Rocksprings Park. SNAP is accepted and doubled. Fresh produce, meat, eggs, baked goods, flowers and artisan goods. There is entertainment, kids activities, educational programs and more. Special themed markets take place around holidays.

Food Truck Parks

Food Truck Station 211 Tallassee Road

Three food trucks run by the on-site restaurant will feature different food options: Latin American staples like arepas, pepitos, cachapas and empanadas; American-style burgers, hot dogs and fried chicken; and a grill-based menu of meats and vegetables. Customers can choose from one or all three food trucks, then take their food to go or eat at one of the tables under the building's overhang. Coming soon in the fall of 2024.

Union Fare

169 W. Washington St. • unionfareathens.com

The street lot next to the Morton Theatre is undergoing a transformation into a more permanent home downtown for a rotating selection of food trucks. It will be open weekdays and weekends, and the lot is being remodeled into a fenced-in and well-lit park dedicated to on-the-go eats. Coming soon in the fall of 2024.





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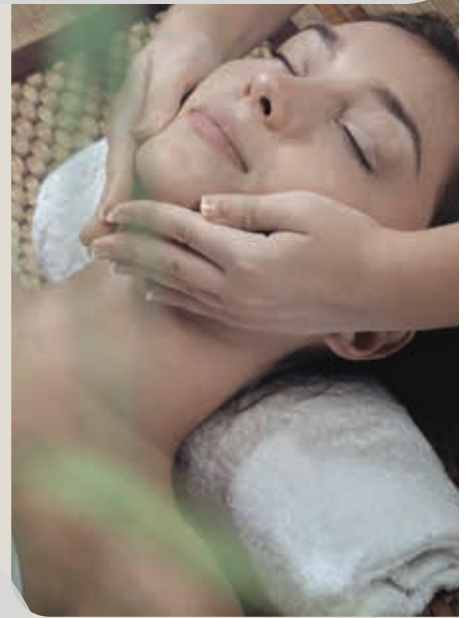


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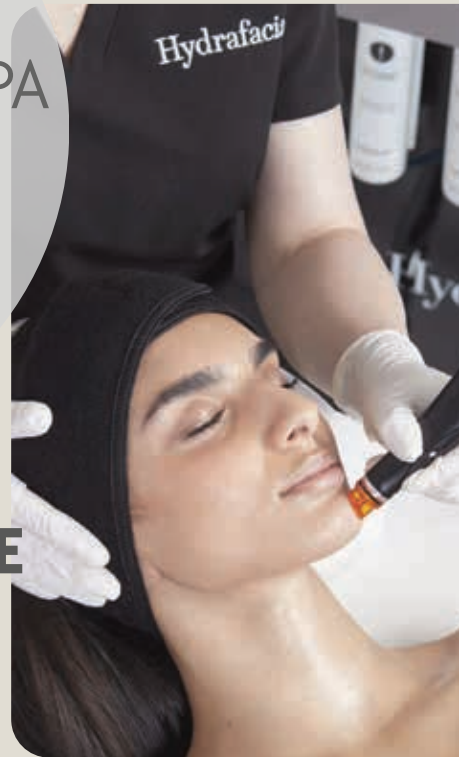
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