



EFTC 2017

17th European Fusion Theory Conference

9 - 12 October 2017, Athens - Greece

City information for conference participants



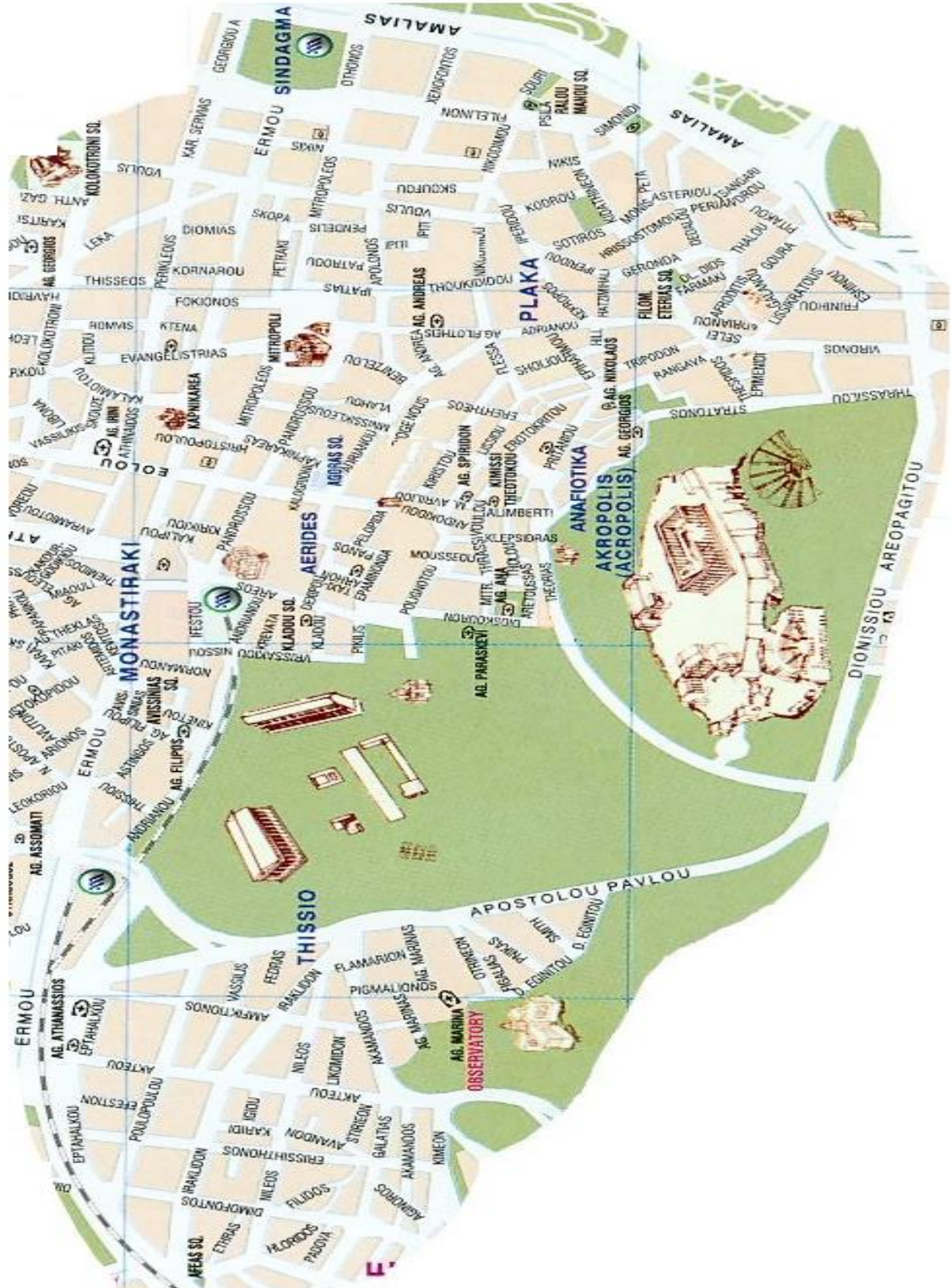
The conference is organized by



Organizing Secretariat



Map of Athens historical city centre



Contents

About Athens

Past and present

Landmarks

Acropolis Hill and Museum private tour

Proposed hotels for accommodation

Practical information

Visa requirements

About Athens



Surrounded by a lining of stunning coastline and mountains, Athens is filled with gems just waiting to be discovered.

Located at the crossroads of three continents, the capital of Greece with an overall population of close to four million people, has often been the melting pot of many cultures.

Characterized by a culture and people that are welcoming and relaxed, every visitor will feel like home.

Athens is an ideal congress destination, which combines state-of-the-art infrastructure, excellent congress facilities and easy access from all over the world with world-class cultural attractions, modern amenities, diverse entertainment and natural beauty.

Athens is the city of ideas. Some of humanity's most exciting ideas, as well as philosophy and democracy, were born in Athens.

In terms of cultural life, Athens is a unique case internationally. It is probably the only place in the world where you can discover a city more than 2.500 years old integrated into a contemporary metropolis.

Past and present



Boasting a history of 2.500 years with monuments incorporated into the modern city, coupled with world class museums and a vibrant contemporary cultural life, Athens becomes a very attractive destination.

The establishment of Athens as a city dates back to mythological times. Despite the length of the city's history, it is still evident throughout Athens in the form of many ancient, Roman, Byzantine and Modern monuments.

A centre for the arts, learning and philosophy, home of Plato's Academy and Aristotle's Lyceum, Athens was also the birthplace of Socrates, Pericles, Sophocles and its many other prominent philosophers, writers and politicians of the ancient world.

It is widely referred to as the cradle of Western civilization and the birthplace of democracy, largely due to the impact of its cultural and political achievements during the 5th and 4th centuries BC on the rest of the, then known, European continent.

The heritage of the classical era is still evident in the city, represented by a number of ancient monuments and works of art, the most famous of all being the Parthenon on the Acropolis, widely considered a key landmark of early Western civilization.

The city also retains a vast variety of Roman and Byzantine monuments, as well as a smaller number of remaining Ottoman monuments projecting the city's long history across the centuries.

Landmarks of the modern era are also present, dating back to 1830 (the establishment of the independent Greek state), and taking in the Greek Parliament (19th century) and the Athens Trilogy (Library, University, and Academy).

Athens was the host city of the first modern-day Olympic Games in 1896. Having hosted the 2004 Olympic Games, Athens can evidently meet the requirements of the most demanding of events, always delivering an impeccable result.

Today's capital is a result of integration of ancient and medieval history into the contemporary era. If you add to this city's lively nightlife - numerous bars and clubs for all tastes - and Mediterranean cuisine, you get some idea of how many different segments of the tourism market it can cater for.

Landmarks

The establishment of Athens as a city dates back to mythological times. The city's history is still evident throughout Athens in the form of many Ancient, Roman, Byzantine and modern monuments.

Today's capital integrates the ancient and medieval history into the contemporary era. Monuments can be found all around the city centre, side by side with contemporary constructions such as buildings, roads, sports fields and bus/train stations.

Acropolis



The Parthenon, a monument that constitutes the symbol of Greece worldwide, has been standing on the “sacred rock” of Athens, the Acropolis, for thousands of years. The Parthenon along with the other monuments of the Acropolis, are all excellent pieces of art, reflecting the Classical period and the Golden Age of ancient Athens in the 5th and 4th centuries B.C.

Odeon of Herodes Atticus



At the footsteps of the Acropolis, the Odeon was built in 161 A.D. under Tiberius Claudius Atticus Herodes. To date concerts, plays and ballets have been performed. The natural setting of Herodeion, with its marvellous arcades, the Parthenon as a backdrop and the moon up in the sky will certainly fascinate you.

The Acropolis Museum



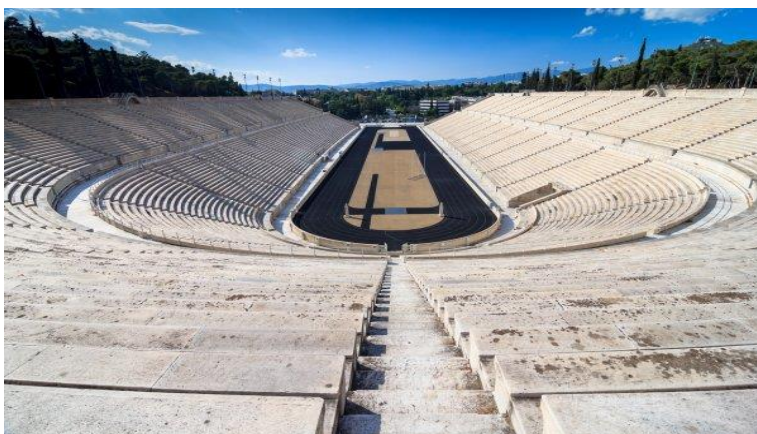
Designed by Bernard Tchumi in collaboration with Michalis Photiadis; the sparkling new museum (June 2009) has already become the city's top attraction and is expected to become one of the most visited and "must see" museums worldwide. The museum, exhibits approximately 4.000 artefacts and allows the sculptures to be viewed in natural light, with special glass and climate-control measures protecting from sunlight. The most impressive part of the museum is its top floor, where visitors are able to view the frieze and then look out of the windows to view the Parthenon itself.

Ancient Agora



The Ancient Agora, which means "market" in modern Greek, is situated at the footsteps of the Acropolis and in ancient times it served as the commercial centre of the city but also as a political, cultural and religious centre.

Panathinaikon Stadium



Originally built in the 4th century B.C. for the athletic competitions of the ancient Greek festivities for the "Great Panathinaia", the Kallimarmaron Stadium (meaning of translation: "beautiful marble") was the venue of the first modern Olympic Games, in 1896.

National Archaeological Museum



The National Archaeological Museum of Athens is the largest in Greece and one of the most important museums in the world devoted to ancient Greek art. It was founded at the end of the 19th century to house and protect antiquities from all over Greece, thus displaying their historical, cultural and artistic value.

Byzantine and Christian Museum



The Byzantine and Christian Museum, which is based in Athens, is one of Greece's national museums. Its areas of competency are centred on - but not limited to - religious artefacts of the Early Christian, Byzantine, Medieval, post-Byzantine and later periods. The Museum has over 25.000 artifacts in its possession, which date from the 3rd to the 20th Century A.D.

Museum of Cycladic Art



The Museum is dedicated to the study and promotion of ancient cultures of the Aegean and Cyprus, with special emphasis on Cycladic Art of the 3rd millennium BC. It was founded in 1986, to house the private collection of Nicholas and Dolly Goulandris, an extensive and unique collection of prehistoric art from the Cycladic islands as well as ancient Greece.

Foundation of Hellenic World



A living museum, an ultramodern cultural center, where visitors can learn about history, culture, nature and sciences through interactive exhibitions, educational programs, virtual reality shows, presentations and documentaries.

Benaki Museum



The Benaki Museum ranks among the major institutions that have enriched the material assets of the Greek state. It houses 30.000 items illustrating the character of the Greek world through a spectacular historical panorama of several periods, ranging from the Prehistoric, Ancient and Roman periods up to the Byzantine and the contemporary Hellenic period.

Acropolis Hill and Museum private tour



This sightseeing tour, offered as an option to the 17th European Fusion Theory Conference participants, is the perfect combination tour with which you will experience the two most important attractions of Athens.

The Acropolis is one of the most famous archaeological sites and landmarks of Athens and Greece, and the Acropolis Museum is the place where the masterpieces of the Acropolis are displayed in a stunning way and will be explained thoroughly by an experienced licensed guide.

Entering the Acropolis you will visit the Dionysus sanctuary and Dionysus Theatre built in the 5th century BC. As you begin to ascend the sacred hill a breath-taking view of the city below will unfold.

Your guide will give you a detailed explanation of the glorious monuments of the Acropolis such as the Parthenon, the Erechtheion, the Propylaia, the Nike Temple, the Agrippa monument and the surrounding monuments such as the Herodes Atticus Odeon, the Ancient Agora, the Observatory as well as the Philopappos, Mars and Pnyx Hills.

You will have the opportunity for exploring and picture taking at the Acropolis before your tour of the Acropolis Museum begins.

The New Acropolis Museum was designed by Swiss architect Bernard Tschumi in co-operation with the Greek architect Michalis Photiadis. Its unique design has incorporated the excavations, which are visible under stunning glass floors. The Acropolis masterpieces are marked out and given the prominence they deserve through the ideal interior atmosphere conditions, the natural lighting, as well as easy visitor access, panoramic views and excellent layout of the exhibition areas. The museum exhibits about 4,000 artifacts.

Date: Thursday, 12 October 2017

Launch time: 15.00

Estimated duration: 4 hrs

Cost: 50 € per person

Highlights

- Marvel the Parthenon, the most famous monument of Greece
- Learn everything about the Propylaea, the Temple of Athena Nike and the Erechthion
- See the famous Caryatids

Inclusions

- 4 hour private tour
- Entrance fees of the Acropolis (20 €) and Acropolis museum (5 €)
- Acropolis guided tour
- Acropolis Museum guided tour
- English speaking state licensed guide
- Whisperers (one for each person)
- Private & tailored on the way tour
- All taxes

Exclusions

- Bus transfers
- Gratuities (optional)
- Personal expenses

Proposed hotels for accommodation

Hotel	Category	Distance from venue	Single room	Double room
Astor	****	0,7 km	100 €	115 €
Athens C. S.	***	1,1 km	90 €	105 €
Arion Athens	***	0,95 km	84 €	98 €
Achilleas	***	0,75 km	87 €	102 €

Astor Hotel



Astor is an elegant hotel offering a breath-taking view of Acropolis Hill. Astor Hotel has been welcoming guests to its rooms since 1964. This hotel is located in a historic area, just 350 meters from Athens City Museum, Zappion, National Garden and Acropolis. It is set 1 km from the centre of Athens renowned for Adrianou Street and Hadrian's Arch.

<https://www.google.gr/maps/place/Astor+Hotel+%CE%9E%CE%B5%CE%BD%CE%BF%CE%B4%CE%BF%CF%87%CE%B5%CE%AF%CE%BF/@37.9765951,23.7302659,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x14a1bd3c16e8eb53:0xd539bd8e9bfa b568!8m2!3d37.9765951!4d23.7324546>

Athens Center Square Hotel



In a strategic position about 300 meters from the Plaka and Monastiraki Square, the Hotel Athens Center Square is a short walk from all the major archaeological sites and just a few minutes from Syntagma Square (Parliament) and Ermou shopping street. From the hotel's garden-terrace you can relax and admire the panoramic views of the city and the Acropolis.

<https://www.google.gr/maps/place/Athens+Center+Square+Hotel/@37.9803178,23.7260477,15z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x0:0x4eb4db3d7ce36dc!8m2!3d37.9803178!4d23.7260477>

Arion Athens Hotel



Arion Athens Hotel is a modern, city centre hotel, a 2-minute walk from Monastiraki Metro Station. It features bright, stylish rooms and a rooftop garden with stunning Acropolis view.

<https://www.google.gr/maps/place/Arion+Athens+Hotel/@37.979414,23.7235103,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x14a1bd249c1be6d9:0x28a5323f85438935!8m2!3d37.979414!4d23.725699>

Achilleas Hotel



With an excellent location in Athens city centre, 2 minutes' walk from Syntagma Square and close to all the historical sites. Just a stroll from Hotel Achilleas will take you to the Acropolis, the Temple of Olympius Zeus, Plaka and Monastiraki.

<https://www.google.gr/maps/place/Hotel+Achilleas/@37.9770391,23.7294997,17z/data=!3m1!4b1!4m5!3m4!1s0x14a1bd3c6c3f9d9b:0xe50cccfdf6bdb624!8m2!3d37.9770391!4d23.7316884>

Practical information

Language

The official language of the conference is English. There will be no service available for simultaneous translation during the conference sessions.

Time

Athens is at the time zone UTC/GMT +2 hours.

Climate



Athens enjoys a warm Mediterranean climate with light rainfall and ample sunshine. The average temperature during the month of October in Athens range from 16°C to 24°C (i.e. from 61° F to 74° F).

Emergency telephone numbers

- Ambulance: 166
- Fire Department: 199
- Police: 100

Liability and insurance

Participants are required to arrange their own insurance for cancellation, travel, loss of personal possessions, accident etc. EFTC organizers and the conference secretariat PCO CONVIN accept no liability.

Health

Emergency treatment is free to all visitors in public hospitals. Tap water in Athens is drinkable and of good quality.

Public transport and shopping

Buses, metro and trams accept the same ticket (except from the metro route to the airport), and a single ticket of price 1.40 € is valid for 90 min with unlimited changes (detailed information about public transport in Athens is [here](#)). Open store hours are 9:00 - 15:00 on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, and 9:00 - 21:00 on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Tipping of services is not mandatory (the service charge in hotels, restaurants and taxis is included in the bill).

Currency and transactions

Greece is a full member of the European Union since 1981, and its currency is the Euro (EUR, €). All major debit/credit cards are widely accepted in Greece.

Options for lunch break

The restaurant located inside the Ionic Centre, Epikourios, will provide cold/hot sandwiches and quick meals during the conference days.

There are many restaurants in the vicinity of the conference venue (Plaka, Syntagma and Monastiraki squares) that offer a variety of lunch options: fast food (souvlaki, burgers, falafel), traditional Greek cuisine (moussaka, stuffed vegetables, meat plates) and snacks (frozen yoghurt, pies, crepes).

Electricity

						
North America Grounded NEMA 5-15	Japan Non-grounded JIS C 8303	Europe German style CEE7/4 Schuko	Europe French style Schuko	Europe/Russia Non-grounded CEE7/16 Europlug	Great Britain Grounded BS-1363	Great Britain "Shaver socket" BS-4573
						
Australia/China Grounded AS-3112	Italy Grounded CEI 23-16	Switzerland Grounded SEV-1011	Denmark Grounded SRAF 1962/DB	Israel Grounded SI 32 (IS 16A-R)	India Grounded BS-546 "Small"	South Africa Grounded BS-546 "Large"

The electrical power supply voltage in Greece is 220 - 240 Volts (in contrast to 110 - 120 Volts in the United States). The electrical plug/outlet types are European.

Telecommunications



There are 4 main operators in Greece that you can roam with: Cosmote, Vodafone, Wind and CYTA. The protocols for digital mobile telephone transmissions are based on GSM technology, operating at the frequencies of 900/1800 MHz. Please contact your provider for further details.

Visa requirements

It is the responsibility of the participant to obtain a visa, if required.

Visa regulations depend on your nationality and country of origin. Please contact your local embassy/consulate for full and official instructions on the specific visa regulations and application procedures that apply to you.

Individuals requiring an official letter of invitation, or need any information regarding Visa procedures can contact the conference secretariat. If you wish to receive a Visa invitation letter, please state so in the relevant fields of the registration form.

The letter of invitation does not financially obligate the conference organizers in any way. All expenses incurred in relation to the conference are the sole responsibility of the attendee.

A (very) brief introduction to the Greek language

Greek Language Days of the Week

Sunday: **Κυριακή**
(Key-ree-ah-kee)

Monday: **Δευτέρα**
(DThef-tera)

Tuesday: **Τρίτη**
(Tree-tee)

Wednesday: **Τετάρτη**
(Te-tar-tee)

Thursday: **Πέμπτη**
(Pemb-tee)

Friday: **Παρασκευή**
(Pa-ra-ske-vee)

Saturday: **Σάββατο**
(Sa-va-tow)

Greek Language Numbers One to Ten

One: **Ένα** (E-na)

Two: **Δύο** (DThee-ow)

Three: **Τρία** (Tree-ah)

Four: **Τέσσερα** (Tes-se-rah)

Five: **Πέντε** (Pen-de)

Six: **Έξι** (Ex-hee)

Seven: **Επτά** (Ep-tah)

Eight: **Οχτώ** (Och-toe)

Nine: **Εννέα** (E-ne-ah)

Ten: **Δέκα** (DThe-ka)

Greek Language Popular Greetings

Hello and Good bye: **Γειά σου / Γειά σας** (Ya-sou for one person or Ya-sas for more than one person)

Good Morning: **Καλημέρα**
(Ka-li-me-ra)

Good Night: **Καληνύχτα**
(Ka-li-nich-ta)

Please, You are welcome,
Excuse me: **Παρακαλώ**
(Pa-ra-ka-lo)

Thank You: **Ευχαριστώ**
(Ef-ha-risto)

Thank You Very Much:
Ευχαριστώ πολύ
(Ef-ha-ris-to po-li)

Greek Language Alphabet

Alpha: **Α α** (al-pha)

Beta: **Β β** (vee-ta)

Gamma: **Γ γ** (gha-mma)

Delta: **Δ δ** (dhel-ta)

Epsilon: **Ε ε** (ep-see-lon)

Zeta: **Ζ ζ** (zee-ta)

Eta: **Η η** (ee-ta)

Theta: **Θ θ** (thee-ta)

Iota: **Ι ι** (yio-ta)

Kappa: **Κ κ** (ka-ppa)

Lambda: **Λ λ** (lam-dha)

Mu: **Μ μ** (mee)

Nu: **Ν ν** (nee)

Xi: **Ξ ξ** (ksee)

Omicron: **Ο ο** (o-mee-kron)

Pi: **Π π** (pee)

Rho: **Ρ ρ** (rho)

Sigma: **Σ σ ς** (seegh-ma)

Tau: **Τ τ** (taf)

Upsilon: **Υ υ** (eep-see-lon)

Phi: **Φ φ** (fee)

Chi: **Χ χ** (hee)

Psi: **Ψ ψ** (psee)

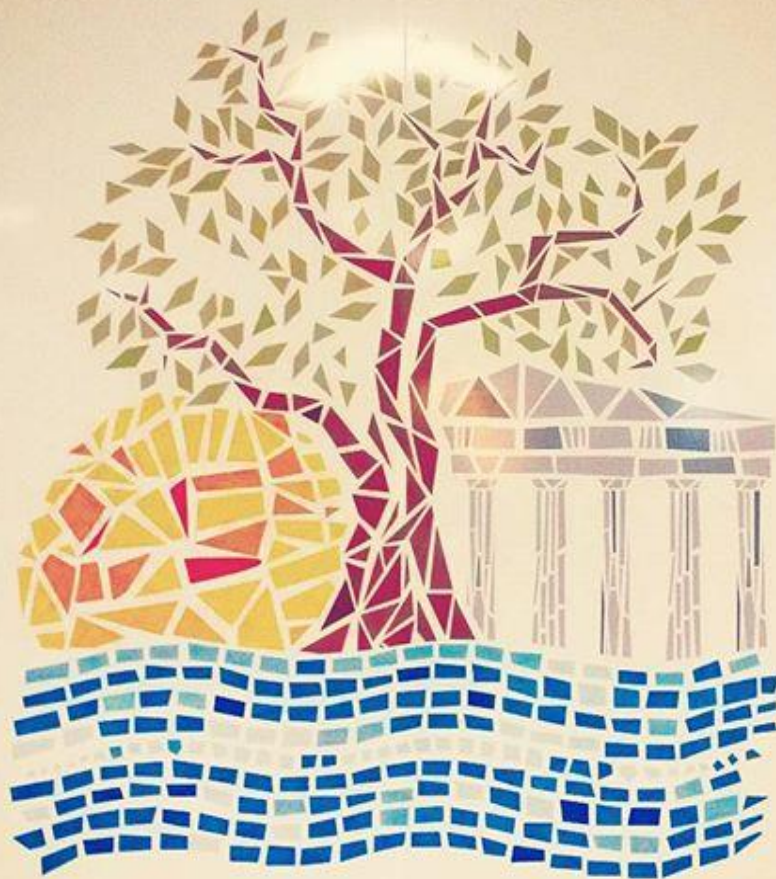
Omega: **Ω ω** (o-meg-ha)

Map of Athens subway & suburban railway system



Welcome to Aθens

α



our Aθens is your Aθens