

In Athens, You Should Stay Awhile

In the Greek capital, a centuries-old neighborhood has more to offer these days than souvenir shops, thanks in part to a new hotel with a bar worth lingering for.

If you're still under the impression that Athens merits little more than a pit stop—just enough time to glimpse the Parthenon before moving on to the islands—then you should book a night or two at the recently opened **Athenswas**. The hotel's rooftop bar and unobstructed up-close views of the Acropolis are major draws, as are the 20 mod-ish rooms with Le Corbusier armchairs and Warren Platner coffee tables. But the real selling point is the hotel's location in Plaka, smack-dab in the middle of historic Athens. Though it's full of tourists (especially since Greece's economic outlook has become sunnier than it was this past summer), there's more to do here than tour the ruins. Below, a cheat sheet on how to fill the time between sightseeing and toasting during happy hour on the roof (athenswas.gr; from \$200). —**SARAH KHAN**

SNACK: Housed in a refurbished neoclassical building, **Manimani** specializes in dishes from the rugged southeastern Peloponnese region of Mani, known for its simple but strong flavors and for recipes centered around fava beans and the orange-tinged cured pork called *sigíno* (manimani.com.gr).

SPICE: Newly opened by a former journalist, **Daphnis and Chloe** is a tiny shop selling foraged and cultivated culinary herbs for which the Greek islands are famous, all beautifully packaged. Specialty food shops and top restaurants around the world are already fans (daphnisandchloe.com).

SHOP: The Plaka neighborhood is known more for its souvenir shops than for its stores with style, but **Forget Me Not** offers an antidote to the tourist dreck with its playful edit of home decor items, clothes, toys, and beauty products—all from contemporary Greek designers (forgetmenotathens.gr).

SIP: The classic Plaka café **Yiasemi** makes an ideal stop for a mid-afternoon caffeine fix—locals love an iced frappé or a hot shot of Turkish coffee (just be sure to call it Greek). Bright-green alfresco bistro tables and chairs climb a set of stone stairs in a charming street leading to the Acropolis (yiasemi.gr).



An Ultra Cabana by the pool at the 1 Hotel and Homes South Beach.

Good for the Environment

A new hotel brand finds the sweet spot between sex appeal and sustainability.

Walk into the 1 Hotel and Homes South Beach and the first thing you'll notice is the plants, which are seemingly everywhere—on the walls, hanging from the ceiling, potted in the bright, airy lobby, all pumping out that distilled oxygen as guests sprawled on overstuffed couches, sip rosé from Tom Colicchio's intimate bar. It's a "green" aesthetic to be sure—both literally and figuratively—but one that doesn't make you feel like you're trapped in a West Elm terrarium or, worse, in an actual jungle. (Makes sense. The botanical installations are designed by the Wynwood Arts District's Plant the Future, which is decidedly more art gallery than florist.) It's all representative of the tasteful subtlety that thrums through former Starwood CEO Barry Sternlicht's new passion project, **1 Hotels**, a socially responsible hospitality chain that's as cossetting and comforting as it is sustainable. "The key is you don't have to sleep on burlap and be miserable," says Sternlicht, who in August debuted his second 1 Hotel, near Manhattan's Central Park, and will soon open one in Brooklyn. "It's been done before, but nobody's been doing it in the luxury space." One night spent under the covers on an organic hemp-blend Keetsa bed, wrapped in a hooded robe, drinking water that comes out of the tap already triple-filtered, and you'll wonder why it's taken so long (1hotels.com; from \$700). —**CANDICE RAINEY**



Acropolis views from the roof of the Athenswas.