

ATHENS



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Greece

Located in the eastern end of the Mediterranean, Greece is often called "the cradle of Western Civilization". Throughout the history of the world, different nations which have been the great and controlling powers of the world have risen and fallen. Without exception, no nation has ever had a greater influence on the course of Western history than has Greece. In the fields of science, medicine, art, navigation, astronomy, democratic principles, and the fundamental precepts on which a free society are based, ancient Greece set standards which are the basis for our conduct in these fields to this day.

The modern history of Greece dates from the early years of the 19th Century. At that time Greece was part of the decaying Ottoman Empire. Desire for liberty and democracy, always fundamental characteristics of the Greek people, precipitated this nation's successful war of revolution (1821-29) which separated Greece from what is now modern Turkey. Except for one period of ten years, Greece has been a constitutional monarchy ever since.

The period began in 1925 when King George II was deposed and forced to leave the country. A plebiscite established a republic which lasted until 1935 when the people once again voted back the King.

In October 1940 the Italian government delivered an ultimatum which the Greeks refused to accept. Instead they rallied their forces and drove the Italians back, even capturing a

quarter of Albania. The following April the Germans came to the aid of their partner and within a few weeks had taken the whole country.

Although the Greeks were defeated, their staunch defense required the Germans to take troops from other areas thus upsetting their offensive timetable. In September 1944 British paratroopers landed in Greece and with the help of guerrillas who had been fighting throughout the occupation, regained control of Greece for the Allies within a month.

King George was reinstated by a plebiscite in September 1946, but he died the following April and was succeeded by his brother, Paul I, the present ruler. Following King George's death, civil war erupted between Communist guerrillas and government forces. The Communists were doing well for almost a year largely as a result of aid from Yugoslavia. In 1948 two events brought the war to a rapid conclusion. The first was the institution by the United States of massive military aid in the form of the Truman Doctrine which was coupled with some economic assistance from the Marshall Plan. The other factor was the break which occurred between Tito's Yugoslavian government and Stalin's in Russia. Almost immediately Tito halted all aid to the guerrillas in Greece and this, combined with U.S. assistance, broke the back of the Communist resistance which was finally eliminated by the spring of 1949.

At this time Alexander Papagos, a pro-West-

ern, vigorous anti-Communist, acceded to the post of Prime Minister which he held until his death in 1955. He was succeeded as the leader of the Greek Rally Party and as Prime Minister by the present leader, Constantine Karamanlis.

Under the Greek system of a limited constitutional monarchy, the Prime Minister is appointed by the King, as is his cabinet, but both are responsible to the Chamber of Deputies which can vote them both out of office. The three hundred Deputies are elected every four years by universal suffrage. The King is Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and can veto legislation but actually does not exercise much influence in these matters.

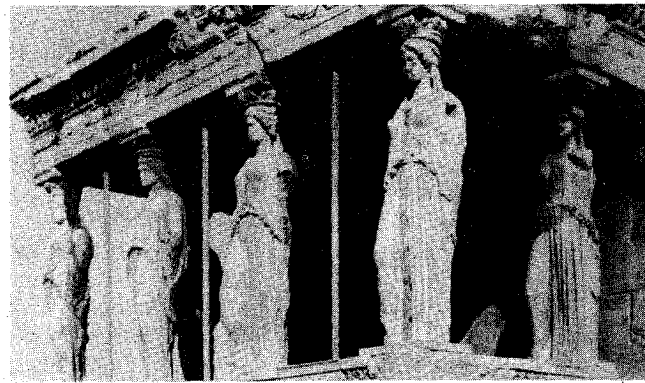
Under Karamanlis the Greek government has embarked upon a five year plan (1960-64) which will cost \$3.3 billion. It is designed to assist the farmers by shifting to more profitable crops and by instituting modern methods. Tobacco production has greatly increased and now comprises 45 per cent of the nation's export. Industry is being encouraged and partially financed as is development of the bauxite and iron pyrite reserves found in Greece. A recent push to the economy was made by Greece's acceptance as an associate member of the Common Market. Since 1947, the U.S. has given Greece \$1 billion in military aid plus additional economic and other assistance. The government is strongly pro-Western and pro-U.S. and is making progress in bringing up the standard of living in Greece which has lagged behind that of her fellow Europeans for many years. Greece is a member of NATO and participates in exercises "with units of the Sixth Fleet throughout the year.

Modern Greece has an area of 51,200 square miles, of which islands account for about 8,900. Most of the land is mountainous: only 25 per cent is arable. The country has a total population of 8,500,000 with 570,000 in Athens and 190,000 in Piraeus.

The City

According to mythology, Athens was founded many milleniums ago by a Phoenician named Cecrops. Old legends give Theseus credit for uniting all the small city-states surrounding Athens into one state, which took the name Athens in honor of its patroness, the goddess Athena. In actual recorded history Athens was already a small naval power in the 7th Century B.C. In the 6th Century B.C. Solon put the agriculture of Attica on a sound footing while the tyrant, Pisistratus, raised Athens from the status of a country town to that of a major international city.

Athens firmly established her independence from the Persians at the battles of Marathon



(490) and Salamis (480). A new era in the history of Athens was thus inaugurated. Themistocles fortified the city, and the port was moved to Piraeus, which was soon to become one of the largest ports of the ancient world. Under Pericles, the city attained its famous architectural embellishments with the building of the Parthenon and other buildings of the Acropolis. With the rapid development of maritime power, a virtual Athenian empire was shortly established over the Aegean. During the golden period Athens gave to the world the great writers, philosophers, playwrights and artists whose works are the foundation of Western culture and society.

The Peloponnesian War, in which Athens and Sparta fought for the supremacy of Greece, and in which Athens was finally defeated in 404 B.C., brought an end to the Classical Age. In the second half of the 4th Century B.C. the Macedonians under Philip invaded Greece, and Athens and its allies were defeated at the battle of Chaironeia. Athens was once more to rise to a position of leadership in the world under Philip's son, Alexander the Great. Alexander's expansion carried Hellenism far into Asia, but it took with it the seeds of the city's downfall.

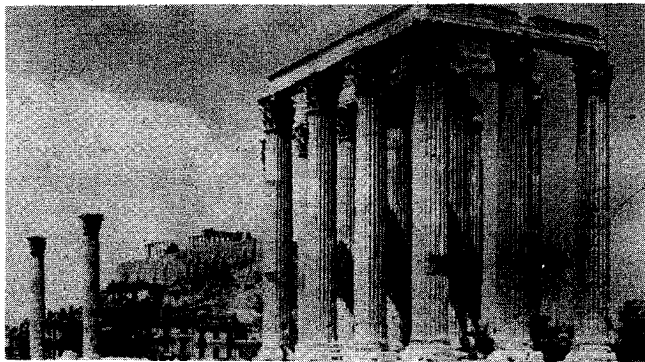
In the 2nd Century B.C. Greece fell under Roman domination. Athens suffered disastrously when Sulla, the Roman general, captured the city in 86 B.C. He destroyed Piraeus, tore down its wall and demolished its port installations. While commerce and maritime power declined rapidly thereafter, Athens continued to be the cultural capital of the world under the Romans. Roman emperors erected many buildings and added many embellishments. The Emperor Hadrian, who sincerely loved Greece, brought about a renaissance of sorts in the 2nd Century A.D., but the principal contributions of the Athenians had been made, and no amount of grand Roman overlay could bring back the Greek spirit which had flourished during the golden era.

Public buildings fell into disrepair and a general decay set in after the 3rd or 4th Century A.D. The capital of the civilized

world had by then shifted to Constantinople. The final blow was the appalling visitation of the Goths at the end of the 4th Century. Athens was sacked, ravaged and henceforth left to moulder away in total insignificance. Athens came under the suzerainty of Florence in the 13th Century. For almost four centuries after 1455 she was under Ottoman subjugation little more than a dilapidated village--a group of houses clustered around the dismantled Acropolis. In 1687, the Venetians, attempting to wrest Athens from the Turks, inadvertently blew up the Parthenon. Greece gained her independence from the Turks in 1833, and Athens became the capital of an independent nation whose boundaries underwent repeated extension with each successive war against the Turks until the end of World War I. From then on, Athens was the focus of all the reawakened social, political and commercial forces in the country.

As for Piraeus, for 1800 years since its destruction at the hands of the Romans it had been a desolate fishing village known as Porto Leone. But in 1824 it was liberated from the Turks, the ancient name was revived, and piers and quays were constructed. Soon it again became one of the leading ports of the Mediterranean.

Points of Interest



The principle points of interest are generally architectural monuments of the Ancient World. In the following list, a number of those listed are together on the Acropolis. No one should come to Athens without seeing these remarkably well-preserved monuments of 25 centuries ago.

Attractions in or near Athens include the following:

- The Parthenon - completed 432 B.C.
- The Propylaea - monumental gateway
- The Temple of Athena (Wingless) Victory
- The Erechtheum - ancient temple, built 420 B.C.
- Monument of Lysicrates - excellent example of Greek art

- Tower of Winds
- Roman Market of Caesar and Augustus
- Temple of Olympian Zeus (center of city) begun in 6th Century B.C.
- The Stadium
- Old Royal Palace
- Theater of Dionysius
- Hadrian's Arch of Triumph
- Panorama from Mt. Lycabettus
- Plaka Quarter - northern slope of Acropolis
- National Archaeological Museum - 44 Patisision Street
- Benaki Museum - Koumbari Street
- Byzantine Museum - 22 Queen Sophia Blvd.
- Acropolis Museum
- Zappeion Gardens & National Gallery - Patisision St.
- Church of Daphni - Byzantine, 11th Century
- Elevsis - site of Telesterion (Great Hall of Mysteries)
- Corinth Canal - 40 miles west of Elevsis
- Ancient Corinth - dates 3000 B.C., site of Doric Temple of Apollo
- Marathon - 24 miles northeast of Athens
- Sounion - 45 miles from Athens (impressive Greek promontory)

The relieving of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, in Constitution Square, takes place on Sunday at 1030. The guard is rotated weekly among the two services, the gendarmerie, and the Evzones, who are the King's personal bodyguards. The ceremony is particularly colorful when the Evzones are either relieving or being relieved.

Currency

U.S. Dollars	Drachma
.25	7½
.50	15
1.00	30

Shopping

Due to the warm climate from 15 March until 14 October, all business establishments are closed from 1300 until 1800, reopening at 1800 and remaining open until 2100. From 15 October until 14 March all business establishments are closed from 1400 until 1600, reopening at 1600 and remaining open until 1900.

Principal shopping areas in Athens are in the vicinity of Constitution Square along Churchill Street to Omonia Square, and the area to the west of Churchill St.

Some of the better buys in Athens are furs (especially marten), handicrafts, jewelry, ceramics, brassware, linens and baskets. A selection of stores is listed below:

John Sistovaris & Sons - Hermes St; furriers
 Athens Fur Shop - 3 Nikis St.
 Halifax Furs, Ltd. - 24 Voullis St.
 The Diacosmitiki - 5 Stadium St.; hand em-
 broidery, national costumes, brass, ceram-
 ics, jewelry, and wood carving
 The Queen's Fund Shop - opposite Grande Bre-
 tagne Hotel; same variety of goods as Dia-
 cosmitiki
 Connoisseur - 10 University; ceramics
 Jeannides - 12 Churchill St.; silver
 Sklaves - 18 Venizelos; crystal
 Majestic Wrought Iron Shop - Tameion Building
 Arcade.
 Pandrossou Street Flea Market area - antiques,
 bric-a-bracs, jewelry

The hours of the PX are as follows: Monday,
 Wednesday, and Friday - 1000-1800; Tuesday and
 Thursday - 0900-1400.

Theater and Cinema

There are many modern theaters in downtown
 Athens which show international films; others
 give concerts and plays.

Religion

The greater number of churches in Athens
 are Greek Orthodox, since most Greeks are of
 this faith. Visitors are welcome during serv-
 ices. A continuous service is held on Sundays
 in the Cathedral in Athens, located near Con-
 stitution Square, beginning about 0730 and
 ending about 1100. It is a Greek custom to
 attend for about 45 minutes during this time.

The 7206th Air Base Group, at Ellinikon
 Air Base, has a Protestant and a Roman Catho-
 lic chaplain attached. Other churches are
 listed below by denomination.

Church of England: St. Paul's - Philellinon
 St., off Constitution Square; Sunday serv-
 ices: 1100; Communion: 0800, 1200.

Roman Catholic: St. Denis - 33 Venizelos St.;
 Sunday Masses: 0700, 0800, 0900, 1000,
 1200 and 1800. St. Paul's - 23 Philomon
 St., Piraeus; Sunday Masses: 0730, 0830,
 and 1000.

Christian Scientist: Christian Scientist
 Church - 54 Roosevelt St.; Sunday: 1045;
 Wednesday: 2030.

Interdenomination: St. Andrew's Protestant
 Church - 66 Sina St.; Services: 1100. The
 minister will arrange services for Naval
 personnel.

Jewish: Synagogue - 6 Meldoni St., off Ermou
 St.; daily services: 1715; Saturday: 0730,
 1715.

Hotels

The leading hotels in Athens are listed be-
 low. A double room with bath runs about \$9.00
 per day, but modest accomodations can be had
 at reasonable prices.

Grande Bretagne - Syntagma Square
 Athenee Palace - Kolokotronis Square
 Athens Hilton - corner Queen Sophia, King Con-
 stantine Blvd.
 King George - Syntagma Square; pool and roof
 garden
 King's Palace - opposite Grande Bretagne;
 roof garden, night club, three bars
 National - opened in 1955, clean, comfortable,
 less expensive than the above.

Transportation

The ship will be anchored in Phaleron Bay,
 Piraeus, some 10 miles from Athens. Electric
 trains and buses connect Athens and Piraeus,
 and the summer resort of Kifissia; the fare
 to Athens is about two drachma. Service is
 less frequent after midnight. Three buses and
 three trucks, donated by the Greek Navy, will
 be available for trips to the EM Club, PX and
 Officers' Club.

Taxis are plentiful, and while expensive,
 the drivers are scrupulously honest. Only
 meter cabs are legal. Each meter has a window
 below the fare window which reads "1" or "2".
 This indicates whether single or double fare
 is being paid. Double fare is legal on long
 trips (e.g., from Piraeus to Athens), but for
 short trips within the city only single fare
 should be charged.

The number of passengers has no bearing on
 the fare. The following oneway fares are ap-
 proximate and should not vary greatly from
 one meter to the next:

Fleet Landing to King George Hotel, Athens:
 60 drachma



Fleet Landing to American Club, Kifissia: 150 drachma
 King George Hotel to American Club: 90 drachma
 St. George's Bay to Piraeus: 30 drachma
 St. George's Bay to King George Hotel: 120 drachma
 Fleet Landing to NCO Club, Glyfada: 120 drachma
 St. George's Bay to NCO Club, Glyfada: 120 drachma
 USO to NCO Club: 120 drachma
 Fleet Landing to USO: 70 drachma

Restaurants

Athens is not noted for the excellence of her restaurants. Prices in the first-class places are fairly high. Lunch for two persons runs about \$4.00, including wine or beer. Dinner can run as high as \$10.00 and occasionally even higher. There are many good restaurants in the Constitution Square area which offer international food at reasonable prices.

Some local food specialties are souvlakia (shishkebab), dolmades (grape leaves stuffed with meat and rice), moussaka (veal, onions, white wine, tomato sauce), kalamaraki (squid), langouste (crayfish), melintazano-salata (egg-plant paste) and taramo-salta (roe paste).



Some of the better restaurants in Athens are as follows:

Floca's - 6 Venizelos Ave., probably the best in the city
 Grande Bretagne - Syntagma Square
 Athenee Palace - Kolokotronis Square
 King George - Syntagma Square
 Chez Lapin - Ithaki St.
 Costi's - 2 Korais St.
 Palaia Athinaa - 4 Flessa St.; popular tavern, floor show
 Bucarest - 44 Patission St.
 Xynou - 4 Anghelos Gheronda St.
 Platanos - 4 Diogenes St.
 Astir - Glyfada; dancing: very expensive
 Epta Adelfia - Greek atmosphere, combo
 To Tzaki - one block from American Embassy; floor show, dancing
 Vrachos - floor show

in Piraeus:

Vassilena - corner of Etoliky and Vitelion Streets; seafood (huge meal at reasonable prices)

Clubs and Bars

There are American bars in the Athenee Palace, King George and Grande Bretagne hotels. Athenians themselves seem to prefer sidewalk cafes, some of which are Zonar's and Floca's on Venizelos Avenue, and the Hellenikon and Lykovrissi on Kolonaki Square. Some of the better night clubs in Athens are as follows:

Argentina - 15 Philellinon St. (open in winter)
 Argentina - Kalamaki (8 miles distant, on the beach; open in summer)
 Copacabana - 5 Korais St.
 Lido-Mocambo - Kypselis St.
 Trocadero - Phaleron Bay
 Blue Fox - 32 Trias St.
 Flamingo - Syntagma Square
 Ritz - 65 Stadiou
 Esperanto - 6 Hamilton St.
 Triana - Syngros Avenue; bouzoukia tavern
 Tzitzifies - New Phaleron; bouzoukia tavern

Most night clubs serve food and drink at reasonable prices. Dancing and floor shows normally commence at 2300. Many night clubs move outdoors along the waterfront between the months of May and September.

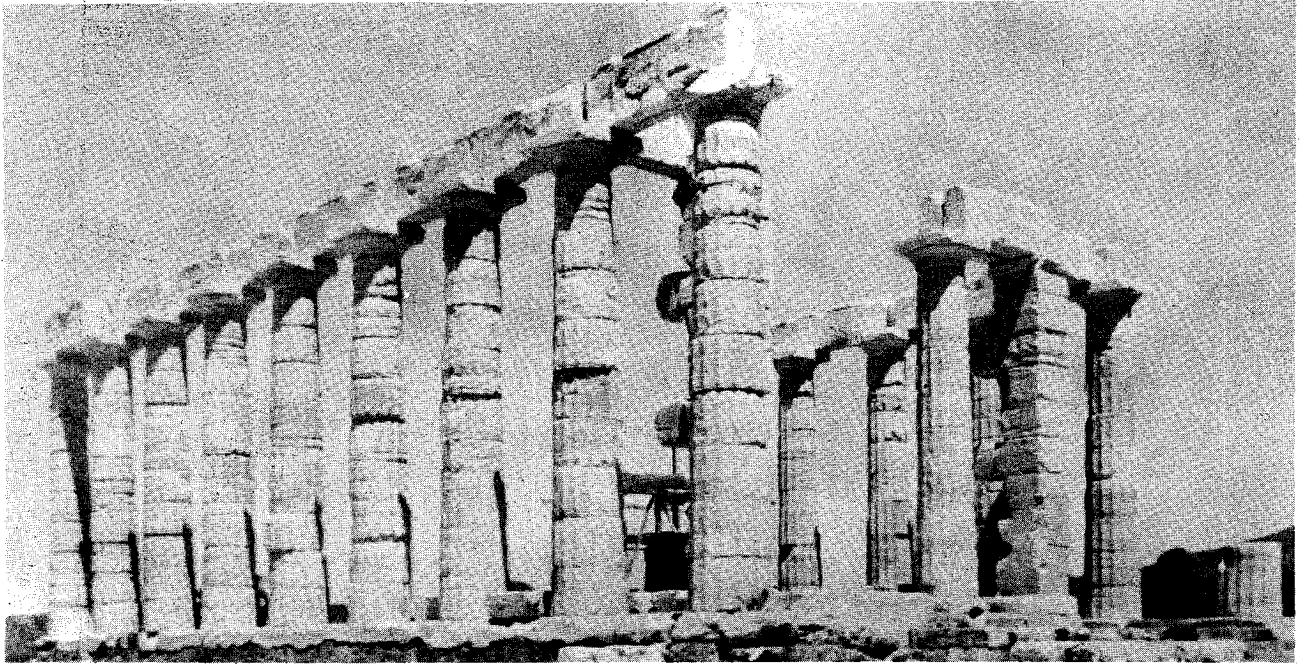


Clubs for Officers:

U.S.A.F. Officers' Club - Glyfada. tele. 04198 closed Mondays
 The Royal Yacht Club (Officers' landing), sports a beautiful view along with drinks and excellent food
 The Royal Hellenic Naval Officers' Club (Piraeus) is located near the Air Force Base.

For enlisted. E-5 and above:

The Air Force NCO Club is located past the civilian airport.



Open clubs:

USO is located on Venizelon and Themis Tocleas streets near Omonia Square. The USO will be open daily from 0900-2300. Special entertainment will be provided nightly during the ship's visit.

The American Club (for Americans in Greece) is located in Kifissia, a small suburb just outside of Athens. The hours of operation are from 1400 to 2330 from Sunday through Thursday and from 1400-2030 on Friday and Saturday. The club has commissary privileges and serves American beer, drinks and excellent food at reasonable prices.

In addition to the above, there is the Tameion Snack Bar, located on the roof of the Tameion Building (not to be confused with the Greek-run "Snack Bar" on the street level of the same building). American food is served in cafeteria style and paid for in dollars. It is open only during mission working hours.

Sports

There are no indoor gymnasiums in Athens, but there are many sports clubs with well-lighted out-door basketball courts and fields suitable for softball, football and soccer. Matches with local teams can be arranged through the U.S. Embassy.

Tennis matches may be arranged with the Pan-Hellinikon Tennis Club or the Athens Tennis Club and the USO; several Greek teams welcome competition.

Other athletic facilities in the Athens-Piraeus area are as follows:

U.S. Air Force Base: Indoor gymnasium, basketball, softball, facilities for division parties

Greek Maritime Academy, Piraeus: Athletic field

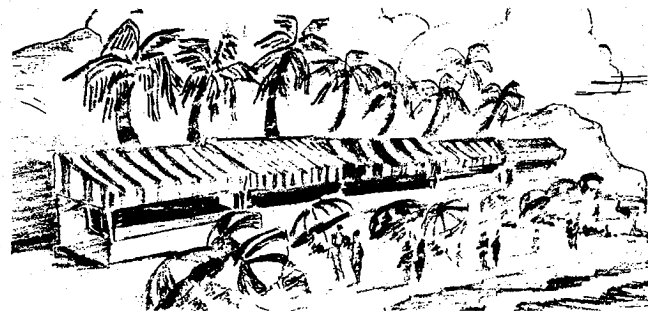
Royal Hellenic Naval Academy, Piraeus: Basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, tennis, badminton, 200 meter rifle range, swimming

In addition, there is a large playing field at the race track, two miles southeast of Piraeus, where the main Athens-Piraeus road leaves the seacoast.

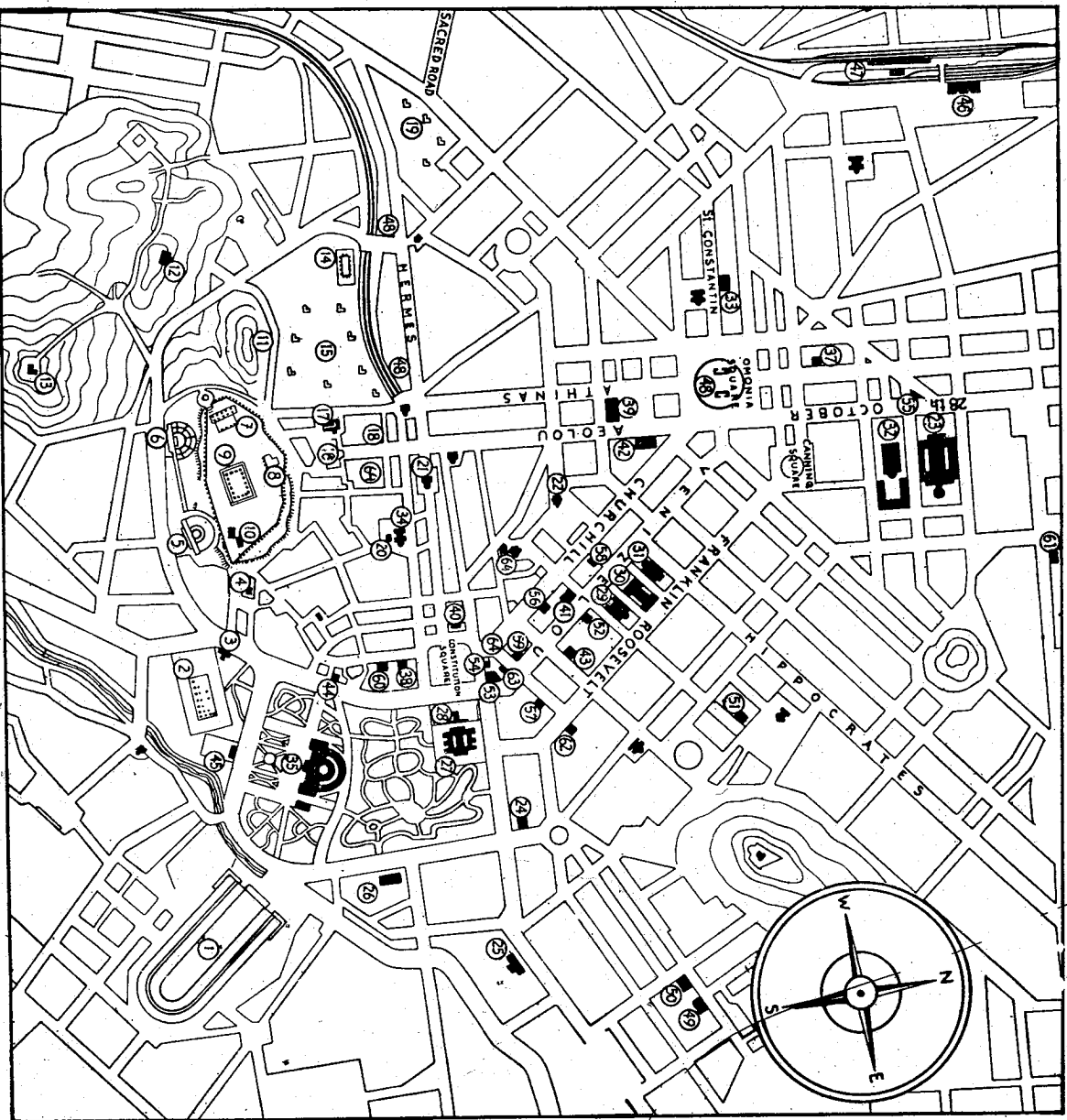
The Athens Golf Club (18 holes) is located at Glyfada. There is a \$1.00 green fee and the club remains open all day.

Beaches

Swimming is not safe within five miles of Piraeus because of pollution. The nearest safe areas are located at Glyfada and Kavouri. Swimming at Sounion is also safe. Astir Beach, two miles south of Ellinikon Air Field, has excellent swimming facilities and clean rooms for changing. There is bus service from the center of town to the beaches of the southern coast.



PLAN OF CENTRAL ATHENS



• KEY TO THE MAP OF ATHENS •

ANCIENT MONUMENTS

- 1) Stadium.
- 2) Temple of Zeus.
- 3) Hadrian's Arch.
- 4) Monument of Lysicrates.
- 5) Theatre of Dionysus.
- 6) Odeon of Herodes Atticus.
- 7) Acropolis - Propylaea.
- 8) Erechtheum.
- 9) Parthenon.
- 10) Acropolis - Museum.
- 11) Areopagus.
- 12) Pnyx.
- 13) Monument of Philopappus.
- 14) Theseum.
- 15) Agora of Athens.
- 16) Tower of the Winds.
- 17) Roman Agora.
- 18) Library of Hadrian.
- 19) Ceramieus.
- 20) St Eleutherios Church.
- 21) Capnicarea Church.
- 22) St Theodore Church.
- 37) Aliens Police Department.
- 38) Tourist Police Department.
- 39) General Post and Telegraph Office.
- 40) Branch Post Office.
- 41) Bank of Greece.
- 42) National Bank.
- 43) E.L.P.A. (Automobile Club).
- 44) Touring Club.
- 45) Tennis Club.
- 46) Larissa Railway Station (for Northern Greece).
- 47) Peloponesus Railway Station.
- 48) The Athens - Piraeus Electric Railway.

MUSEUMS

- 43) Archaeological Museum.
- 24) Benaki Museum.
- 25) Byzantine Museum.

MODERN ATHENS

- 26) Royal Palace.
- 27) Old Palace (Parliament).
- 28) Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.
- 49) Academy of Athens.
- 30) University of Athens.
- 31) National Library.
- 32) Polytechnic School.
- 33) Royal Theatre.
- 34) Cathedral (Metropolis).
- 35) Zappion (Exhibitions).
- 36) National Tourist Organization.
- 64) Shops of Greek Handicraft and Antiquaries
- 65) AMERICAN EXPRESS OFFICE

HOTELS

- 53) Grande Bretagne (A.A).
- 54) King George (A.A).
- 55) Acropole Palace (A.A).

RESTAURANTS

- 56) Averof.
- 57) Cellare.
- 58) Costis.
- 59) Zonaris.
- Dailis - 21 Jan Smuts St.

NIGHT CLUBS

- 60) Argentina.
- 61) Brazil.
- 62) Miami.
- 63) Fenicia.

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