



City of Athens:

How can Athens become a carbon-neutral city by 2030?

Build back Better 2030: Setting the Goals

- We can use tourism to form better cities;
- We want to be a safe, accessible and sustainable destination for all. Everyone can live and visit without limitations or exclusions; Provide the same quality of climate, conditions of living, and equal opportunities to all;
- We are developing a holistic approach to destination management; The visitor economy should be an integral part of the strategic development of the city;
- Utilize a circular tourism model to develop as a sustainable destination and help tourism revenue stay in the city.
- Attract investments and talent to Athens.

Objectives

- Spread and share the potential of tourism across all local ecosystems
- Invest in the proper communication tools
- Support creative industries and innovative products;
- Encourage product diversification to help the tourism ecosystem to become more sustainable;
- Maximize use of public and mixed-use spaces.
- Utilize “skills on demand” to help people gain employment skills;

Climate Action Plan

- The implementation of the measures outlined in this plan will have a positive impact on the city, and not only for the environment and energy efficiency.
- Climate action has financial benefits such as the reduction of energy costs. It creates job and supports efforts to protect vulnerable populations.
- To realize these goals, the City of Athens has joined global efforts to mitigate climate change by participating in international city networks (C4o, ICLEI, Resilient Cities Network, Eurocities).



Introduce circular and sustainable urban living.

- Provide information & education about climate change.
- Protect the population from extreme climate effects.
- Support entrepreneurship and green innovation.
- Ensure decisions are made with data.
- Simplify administrative procedures.
- Promote social cohesion and justice.
- Communicate about our goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Collaboration is the key to the future

To further the City's actions into carbon neutrality and cyclical management we're building collaborations and Public-Private partnerships that shall contribute to social, business, and urban development.

- **This is Athens & Partners**
- **Athens Partnership**
- **Adopt your city**
- **Athens Traders Association**
- **Commercial Chambers of Athens**
- **Athens Business Green Toolkit**

Equitability

This is Athens, the official visitors guide, worked in cooperation with “Me Alla Matia” to map existing accessible routes, available online at accessibleroutes.thisisathens.org



Route Description

Step 1

Our itinerary begins with the “Syntagma” station of the lines 3 “Airport – Misis” and 2 “Arhtoupoli – Elliniko”.

Point of Interest: **Syntagma Metro Station – Line 2&3**

Step 2

At “Syntagma” metro station, there is only one elevator to exit at the level of the street. We get out of the elevator of Syntagma Square.

Point of Interest: **Syntagma Square**

Step 3

As soon as we exit the elevator, we will locate the tactile paving and we can follow it across the whole square. The tactile paving leads us to Ermou Street.

At the first junction of the tactile paving, the choice towards the right will lead us to the entrance-exit stairs of “Syntagma” metro station. We choose to follow the tactile paving towards the left to continue the itinerary.

[In case we get out of the exit stairs of the “Syntagma” station, then we simply get the tactile paving located at the far-left point of the stair as we ascend and we follow it straight ahead, crossing the Syntagma Square in the direction of Ermou Street.]

At the next junction of the tactile paving, with options left and right, we turn right.

Map



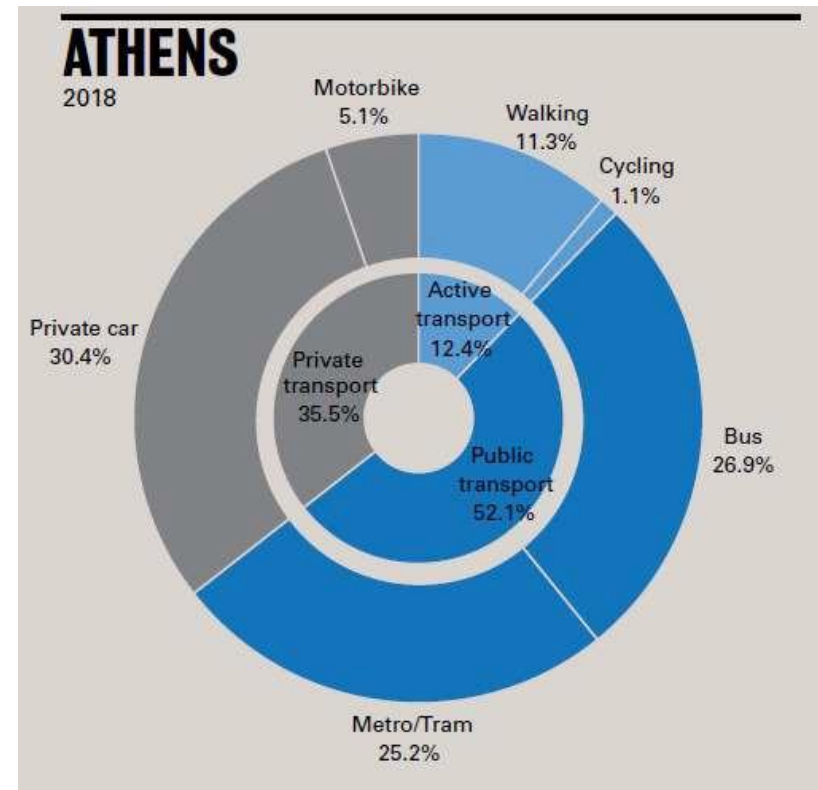
Climate Action Plan: Energy Upgrade

- This year the City of Athens began the replacement of approximately 46,000 light fixtures with dimmable LED bulbs.
- The current annual energy consumption of the existing lights is about 25 million KWH.
- With the installation of the new lights, consumption will be reduced by approximately 15 million KWH - up to 60%.
- The aim is that the annual energy consumption henceforth does not exceed 10 million KWH.
- The investment of 50 million will pay off in less than 8 years.



Accelerate the transition to sustainable and smart mobility.

- There is a nation-wide push for electric cars.
- Athens Urban Transport Organization is buying 1300 new electric, CNG, and hybrid buses within the next 3-5 years.
- The Athens metro is expanding by 16,8km with 15+3 new stations.
- Electric bikes and scooters are almost doubling their sales annually.



Urban revitalization incorporating green and blue infrastructure.

- Creating a cool and walkable city with **blue** and **green** infrastructure
- Innovative new green infrastructure and nature-based solutions with pocket parks.
- Renovation of 34 fountains around the city, the reconstruction of dozens of sidewalks and roads.



Manage and restore ecosystems and biodiversity.

- Preserve the city's "green lungs": Lykavitos Hill, Strefi Hill, National Garden, and many others
- Utilize innovative funding tools and private-public partnerships to expand and maintain them.
- The Double Regeneration is a major spatial and planning intervention creating two supra- local, urban poles of recreation, athletics, and culture for the City of Athens. a new neighborhood that will be built from scratch.
- More than 50% of the total area will be green park.



Prevent and respond to climate risks (reducing hazards & costs).

- In 2021, the Mayor of Athens appointed one of the world's first municipal Chief Heat Officers to help push this agenda.

Athens appoints chief heat officer to combat climate crisis

Greek capital is first in Europe to create role, which will involve finding new ways to cool the city



The New York Times

Extreme Weather · Winter Weather Haroc Expected · Tornado Safety Tips · Climate Change and Tornadoes · Weather Updates

Athens Is Only Getting Hotter. Its New 'Chief Heat Officer' Hopes to Cool It Down.

Eleni Myrivili has been tasked with finding ways to help the Greek capital cope with ever-hotter heat waves that are expected to be part of life for years to come.

Heatwaves are striking Athens more frequently due to the climate emergency. Photograph: Costas Baltas/Reuters

Athens has appointed a chief heat officer to protect people from soaring

Complete the transition to a green and digital city.

- **100%** of all municipal services have been digitalized. A total of **207** services which accounts for more than **194k** users, **246k** requests and **508k** online meetings.
- More than **175.000** citizens have already been registered.
- Over **20** of the city-building authority services are now digital.
- Parking has already been digitized in many central neighbourhoods. More to come in **2023**.
- Novoville, a digital app for urban feedback, has been downloaded more than **120k**, with dozens of suggestions and requests from citizens every day.

*“The issue of climate change is
an issue of democracy”*

KOSTAS BAKOYIANNIS, MAYOR OF ATHENS