

Getting to Greece

Section

3

3.1 Introduction

This section aims to provide researchers with updated and easily accessible information concerning all matters related to their travel to the country. The following information describes the possible alternative ways of traveling and entering in to the country.

3.2 By Air

There are two airlines in Greece. “Olympic Airlines” and “Aegean Airlines”. Olympic Airlines (<http://www.olympicairlines.com>) operates non-stop flights to and from Athens daily from a range of different countries. You can check the following figures in order to find out whether or not Olympic flies to or from your country.

Figure 3. 1 Olympic Airlines International Network



Source: Olympic Airlines

Figure 3.2 Olympic Airlines European Network



Source: Olympic Airlines

In addition, several tour operators run charter flights to Greece from the five continents. For further information contact the Greek National Tourist Organization offices (Working hours: Weekdays 09.00 -19.00, Sat. & Sun: 10:00 - 16:00, Tel.: + 30 210 3310392, +30 210 3310716, E-mail: info_desk@gnto.gr)

Arriving at the Athens International Airport - Transport from the Airport

The Athens International Airport called “Eleftherios Venizelos” (URL: <http://www.aia.gr>), which is a convenient intermediate stop for destinations to five continents, is located 33 km southeast of Athens and can be rapidly accessed via a six-lane motorway and public transport - express airport bus on a 24 hours basis - from Athens center and the port of Piraeus.

- By Bus

Six public bus routes serve exclusively the airport, connecting the greater area of Athens and Piraeus, carrying passengers to and from the airport:

Table 3. 1 Bus routes












<p> X-92 Athens Airport Express - Kifisia: Airport – Attiki Odos – Kifisias Avenue- Kifisia, (average travelling time 45'). URL: www.aia.gr/EN/passenger_information/transportation&parking/by_bus/E92T.pdf  </p>
<p> X-93 Athens Airport Express- Kifisos Coach Station: Airport – Attiki Odos – National Road – Kifisos Avenue – Kifisios Intercity Bus Station, (average travelling time 65'), 24h URL: www.aia.gr/EN/passenger_information/transportation&parking/by_bus/E93T.pdf </p>
<p> X-94 Athens Airport Express - Ethniki Amina: Airport – Attiki Odos – Marathonos Avenue – Mesogeion Avenue – Metro Station “Ethniki Amyna” (<i>Note: Passengers can transfer from the Airport Bus to the Metro this departure point</i>), (average travelling time 45'-50'), from 7.30 to 23.30 URL: www.aia.gr/EN/passenger_information/transportation&parking/by_bus/E95-94T_en.pdf </p>
<p> X-95 Athens Airport Express – Syntagma: Airport – Attiki Odos – Marathonos Avenue – Mesogeion Avenue – Metro Station “Ethniki Amyna” (<i>Note: Passengers can transfer from the Airport Bus to the Metro this departure point</i>) - Mesogeion Avenue – Vas Sofias – Vas Kostantinou – Vas Olgas – Vas Amallias – Syntagma (city centre), (average travelling time 70'), 24h URL: www.aia.gr/EN/passenger_information/transportation&parking/by_bus/E95-94T_en.pdf </p>
<p> X-96 Athens Airport Express - Piraeus: Airport- Varis Coropiou Avenue – Baris-Varkizas Avenue – Alkyonidon - Poseidonos Avenue – Ethnarhou Makariou – Plateia Karaiskaki (Peirais Port), (average travelling time 90'), 24h URL: www.aia.gr/EN/passenger_information/transportation&parking/by_bus/E96T.pdf </p>
<p> X-97 Athens Airport Express - Dafni Metro Station: Airport – Coropiou – Varis Coropiou Avenue - Baris-Varkizas Avenue – Bouliagmeni Avenue – Dafni Metro Station (average traveling time 70') URL: www.aia.gr/EN/passenger_information/transportation&parking/by_bus/E97T.pdf </p>

Figure 3. 3 Bus routes map



URL: www.aia.gr/EN/passenger_information/transportation&parking/by_bus/images/map3.jpg

Table 3. 2 Other Important Information about the ticket

Ticket price	€ 2.90, (all destinations)
Use	- For only ONE trip to or from the airport - For 24 hours from the time of its validation during the first trip - For unlimited number of trips by any other public transport mode
Validate your ticket	- <i>ONLY ONCE</i> , if you start your travel using one of the airport express lines. - <i>TWICE</i> , in case you use one or more public transport lines prior to the use of an airport express line. ONCE when you board on the first line and ONCE when you board on the airport express line.
Where to buy	From the bus driver, all metro stations and public transport ticket outlets. - Passes: The monthly ticket cards are also valid on the above four lines and cost €35,00. For those meeting certain requirements, a discounted monthly card is also available for €17,50.
Penalty	The penalty for not having a validated ticket is € 29.00

- By Metro 

The Airport is accessible via Metro Line 3: "Athens International Airport - Monastiraki"

The metro stations from Athens International Airport to Monastiraki station are:

- Athens International Airport
- Doukissis Plakentias (connection with Suburban Rail)
- Chaladri
- Ethniki Amina
- Katehaki
- Panormou
- Ambelokipi
- Megaro Mousikis
- Evagelismos
- Syntagma (connection with Metro Line 2: Sepolia - Agios Dimitrios, "Alexandros Panagoulis")
- Monastiraki (connection with Metro Line 1: Piraeus - Kifisia)

The journey time from Athens International Airport to Syntagma is 27 minutes and to Piraeus 60 minutes.

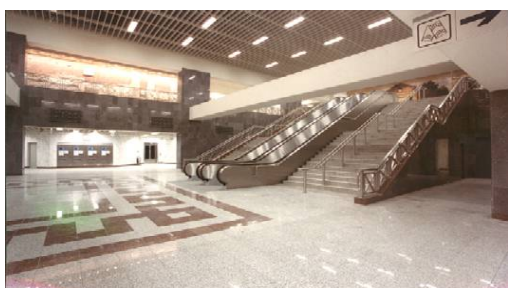
Table 3. 3 Metro Fares

Single fare	€6
Return ticket (within 48 hours)	€10
Single fare for 2 persons (flat ticket)	€10
Single fare for 3 persons (flat ticket)	€10
Teens (under 18 years), Students	€3
Senior Citizens (65+ years)	€3
Mobility impaired	€3



Metro line 3 is connected to:

- **Metro line 2**: Sepolia - Agios Dimitrios, Alexandros Panagoulis at Syntagma station
- **Metro line 1**: Piraeus - Kifisia: at Monastiraki station
- **Suburban Rail**: Larissis Station - Athens International Airport at Doukissis Plakentias Station



- Tickets are sold at the automatic ticket machines installed at all METRO stations, as well as at the ticket booths.
- Ticket Validation should be done before heading the platforms at the validation machines.

Source: ATTIKO METRO
 URL: www.ametro.gr

- By Suburban Rail

Athens International Airport is connected via the Suburban Rail to Larissis Station (Athens Central Railway Station). The railway stations from Athens International Airport to Larissis Station are:



- Athens International Airport
- Koropi
- Kantza
- Pallini
- Doukissis Plakentias (Connection with Metro Line 3)
- Kifisias
- Nerantziotisa (Connection with Metro Line 1)
- Iraklio
- Aharnes Railway Junction (S.K.A)
- Larissis Station (Connection with Metro Line2)

The estimated journey time from Athens International Airport to Larissis Station is approximately 30 minutes.

Fares

Zone 1 - Piraeus - Acharnai Railway Center	€0,7
Zone 2 - Acharnai Railway Center - Neratziotissa - D. Plakendias	€0,7
Zone 3 - D. Plakendias - Koropi	€3
Fixed price for all zones	€6

Pricelist

Destination	Fixed	Discounted	the return ticket, (valid 1 month)	for a team (>2 person)
ATHENS IRAKLEIO NERATZIOTISSA	6	3	10	5 per person
KIFISIAS PLAKENTIAS	6	3	10	5 per person
PALLINI KANTZA	4	2	7	3,5 per person
KOROPI	3	1,5	5	2,5 per person

ATHENS-AIRPORT

	Athens	Iraklio	Neratziotissa	Kifisias	Plakendia	Pallini	Kantza	Koropi	Airport (arrival)
First trains	06:06	06:17	06:20	06:22	06:26	06:30	06:33	06:39	06:44
	06:36	06:47	06:50	06:52	06:56	07:00	07:03	07:09	07:14
07:00- 19:00			:05 *	:07	:11	:15	:18	:24	:29
	:06	:17	:20	:22	:26	:30	:33	:39	:44
			:35	:37	:41	:45	:48	:54	:59
	:36	:47	:50	:52	:56	:00	:03	:09	:14
Last trains			20:05	20:07	20:11	20:15	20:18	20:24	20:29
	20:06	20:17	20:20	20:22	20:26	20:30	20:33	20:39	20:44

*The 1st train from Athens International Airport to Athens departs at 06:50 & the corresponding to Nerantziotissa at 07:05

Source: [Suburban Rail](#)

- By Taxi

The airport is accessible by taxi on a 24-hour basis. The indicative taxi charges are presented in the following table

Table 3. 4 Taxi charges

Taxi Charges	Euro
Start of the meter	€0.75
Rate per km inside City limits	€0.26
Rate per km outside City limits	€0.50
Radio Taxi simple call	€1.30
Radio Taxi appointment	€2.20
Night Tariff (24:00 - 05:00)	€0.50
Minimum Fare	€1.50
From and to Airports	€2.00
From Sea Ports, Railways and Coach stations	€0.70
Waiting time per hour	€7.10
Baggage over 10 kg each	€0.29

Receipt

According to the Greek Legislation, taxi drivers are obliged to provide a receipt for the amount paid for transportation services upon request. The receipt should also indicate the taxi registration number and the driver's name. (*Source: Athens International Airport*)

- By Car

The main corridor providing access to and from Athens International Airport is Attiki Odos, a high-speed toll motorway, connecting Eleusina, Athens' western gate, with the airport through the followings junctions:

- "Mandra" junction (connection to Thivon Avenue)
- "Magoula" junction (connection to Magoula)
- "Aspropyrgos" junction (connection to Aspropyrgo)
- "Egaleo Ring Road" junction (connection to Egaleo Ring Road)
- "Filis Avenue" junction (connection to Filis Avenue)
- "Dimokratias Avenue" junction (connection to Dimokratias Avenue)
- "Athens-Lamia" junction (connection to Athens-Lamia National Road)
- "Iraklio" junction (connection to Irakleiou Avenue)
- "Kimis Avenue" junction (connection to Kimis Avenue)
- "Kifissias Avenue" junction (connection to Kifissias avenue)
- "Pentelis Avenue" junction (connection to Pentelis avenue)
- "D.Plakedias Avenue" junction (connection to D.Plakendias Avenue)
- "Anthousa" junction (connection to Anthousa)
- "Marathonos Avenue" junction (connection to Marathonos Avenue)
- "Leodario" junction (connection to Ymitos Ring Road)
- "Kantza" junction (connection to Kantza)
- "Peania" junction (connection to Peania)
- "Airport" junction (connection to Airport and Varis-Koropiou Avenue)

All the south-eastern suburbs of the Athens (i.e. Ilisia, Zografou, Vyronas, Kesariani, Papagou, Holargos, Ag. Paraskevi) have access from and to the airport through the Ymitos Ring Road. Users can choose between the following junctions to reach the airport:

- "Katechaci Avenue" junction (connection to Katechaci Avenue)
- "Papagou" junction (connection to Papagou)
- "Dimokritou" junction (connection to Cholargos)
- "Ag. Paraskevi" junction (connection to Ag. Paraskevi)
- "Glyka Nera" junction (connection to Glyka Nera, Lavriou Avenue)

Toll free access from and to the airport can also be obtained through Lavriou Avenue and other primary roads. Driving to the Southern suburbs or Piraeus, you can find your way from the airport avoiding tolls via Possidonos Avenue or Vouliagmenis Avenue, Varis-Koropoiou Avenue and finally Attiki Odos motorway using the airport junction

Car Rental at the Airport

Six car rental companies currently operate at Athens International Airport with offices located at the Arrivals level. The car rental area is within walking distance from the Main Terminal Building, located at the northern side of the building.

Arriving passengers with pre-booked rentals or wishing to rent a car should proceed to the respective operator's booth at the arrivals level. (*Source: Athens International Airport*)

- By Limousine

Limousine services are provided upon request at the inner curbside of the Arrivals Level between doors 3 and 4.

3.3 By Sea

There are several big ports in Greece accommodating sailings of passenger ships, cruise ships and freighters. The ports including Piraeus, Patras, Thessaloniki and Heraklion, are all convenient embarkation points to set sail on a Mediterranean cruise or ferry to Italy, Israel, Egypt or the Black Sea.

Further information can be found at: www.yen.gr

3.4 By Rail

Updated information about trains, rail stations and timetables can be found at the official website of the Hellenic Railway Organisation (OSE)

URL: www.ose.gr

Tel: +30 210 5297002

Email: press@osenet.gr

3.5 Automobile

There are two different alternatives for those who wish to enter Greece by driving a vehicle. The first one is to ferry their vehicles across to one of the country's major ports or, while the second one is to enter the country overland.

Furthermore, the major points of country's entrance are the following:

- Yugoslavia - Evzoni, 550 kms From Athens
- Yugoslavia - Niki, 633 kms from Athens
- Bulgaria - Promahonas, 736 kms from Athens
- Turkey - Kastania, 985 kms from Athens
- Turkey - kipi , 892 kms from Athens.