

Words by Natali Lekka
Photos courtesy of
Anastasia Adamaki



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MY ATHENS

Anastasia Adamaki is a Greek photographer specialising in interior spaces, hotels, architecture, food, and commercial products. Born in northern Greece, she moved to Athens at the age of 19 to study the art of photography at the Leica Academy. Adamaki loves photographing familiar things and turning them into something unexpected. 'Everything around us can be considered art,' she says, 'as long as we're prepared to see them from a different perspective.' She loves the historical centre of Athens because it's a beautiful contrast of Neoclassical and modern buildings. Here are some of her favourite places in the city.



Acropolis Museum

The Acropolis Museum was built to house the artefacts found on the rocky hill and surrounding slopes during the many excavations that have taken place in the area. It consists of two buildings: one old, one new. The new building, designed by French-Swiss architect Bernard Tschumi, opened to the public in 2009 and exhibits more than 4250 objects in an area measuring 14,000 square metres. It offers breathtaking views of the Acropolis as well as the nearby mountains and urban environment. Its glass floor reveals the ruins of an ancient Athens neighbourhood.
Dionysiou Areopagitou 15;
theacropolismuseum.gr

National Garden

A small oasis in the centre of Athens, the National Garden is officially designated as a historical landscape. It's open to the public from sunrise to sunset and features a wide range of flora and fauna, ponds, a small zoo, a botanical museum, a café, a children's library, a playground, lots of shade for picnics, and also a few ancient ruins. This former royal garden reflects the style of a 19th-century English garden. You'll find it right behind the Hellenic Parliament building.
Vasilisis Amalias 1

Kombrai bookstore

Open since 2022, *Kombrai* is a small, independent bookstore right in the centre of Athens. The friendly owners Dimitra and Victoria have developed the cosy space into a favourite meeting place for book lovers with a penchant for literature and literary essays. Their book presentations and music parties attract a particularly loyal crowd. Fresh coffee is also always on offer.
Didotou 34; kombraibookstore.gr

Cherchez la Femme

You'll find this café-restaurant in the heart of the historical centre, next to the Metropolitan Cathedral of Athens. The simple, laid-back space has an amazing selection of seafood, mains, desserts, and good wine. It's got an 'old Athens' feeling to it, harking back to the traditional *kafenio* scene of yore. Here you'll find the best *kok* (chocolate cream puffs) in the city.
Mitropoleos 46, cherchezlafemme.gr