

# Olympic proportions

Greece has an endless cultural history based in archaic literature, timeless art, and the first Olympians. It lives on today through museums, art galleries and ancient sites

**W**hen studying historically significant cities in Europe, Athens is up there with the pantheon of leaders. With remnants of ancient buildings and history spanning back thousands of years, this city is packed full of culture and art.

To begin with, there are a wealth of art galleries to see in Athens, including CAN,

a gallery curated by Greek art connoisseur Christina Androulidaki, which focuses on new talent in the art scene in photography, painting and mixed media. Eleuthera Tseliou's gallery is unassuming and exclusive, with no grand signage or declarations of its presence. The focus is contemporary Greek art.

The Kalfayan Gallery commemorates Armenian culture and is housed in a glass-box-like building, a piece of architectural art itself. The Acropolis Museum is a must-see on two fronts, with the beautiful reflective building holding an iconic spot as part of the city's skyline. The cultural exhibit reflects on the history of Athens and Greece, with three floors of open plan galleries, including partially glass floors which show the remains of ancient Athens. The Parthenon is also visible from the top floor of the museum.

The Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Centre also holds the position of being full of culturally rich experiences as well as being a beautiful building from the outside. With long glass

panels that reflect the sunlight and the waterfront and a planted roof, this building is one of the more recent additions to Athens.

Of course, the Acropolis is one of the most iconic ancient sites in the city, a network of temples built on a high rock structure, with the Parthenon at the heart of it. The ancient agora and the temple of Olympian Zeus are also nearby the city and worth checking out, as well as the theatre of Herodes Atticus. The Panathenaic Stadium is also close by and is an amazing site to see in relation to the history of the Olympics in Athens and Greece throughout the centuries.

Whether it's art, architecture, culture or archaeology, the city of Athens holds great significance in the country of Greece and provides endless entertainment for tourists and locals alike in its beauty and history.

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**Below: The Acropolis of Athens, Greece, with the Parthenon Temple on top of the hill**

