MDD26 Athens

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Photo: SNFCC

MOBILITY DATA DAYS 2026

V 1.00

Useful information, travel guide

Athens, Greece · 24–26 November 2026

Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΔΗΜΟΚΡΑΤΙΑ
ΥΠΟΥΡΓΕΙΟ ΥΠΟΔΟΜΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΜΕΤΑΦΟΡΩΝ

ΟΔΥΣΕΑΣ Οδική Υπηρεσία Συστημάτων Εποπτείας & Ασφάλειας

VERSION 1.0 · NOVEMBER 2026

Welcome to Athens

Dear Participants,

To support your visit to Athens for Mobility Data Days 2026, organised within the NAPCORE-X project, we have compiled a short overview with practical suggestions for your trip. It covers the conference venue, the social programme and the technical visit, plus a few optional tips for exploring the city.

We look forward to welcoming you to Athens!



DATES
24–26 November 2026

CONFERENCE VENUE
Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC), Athens

SOCIAL EVENING · WED 25 NOV
Acropolis Museum guided visit 18:45 · Gala dinner, Royal Olympic Hotel 20:00

TECHNICAL VISIT · THU 26 NOV
ICCS "Test Before Invest" facility, Koropi · coaches back to the airport and Syntagma

HOST
Hellenic Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport – ODYSEAS

FRAMEWORK
NAPCORE-X, co-funded by the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF)

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AT A GLANCE

Programme and coach times

The public conference runs on 25 and 26 November; 24 November is reserved for the NAPCORE Advisory Board and partners (by invitation only). The full programme with session descriptions is on the NAPCORE website.

Day	Time	Activity	Location
Tue 24 Nov INVITATION ONLY	**12:00**	Reception and welcome light lunch	SNFCC
	13:00–16:00	10th NAPCORE Advisory Board meeting	SNFCC
	16:00	Coffee break	SNFCC
	16:30 / 17:15	Parallel strategic sessions (two rounds)	SNFCC
	18:00–19:30	Networking event with Advisory Board members	SNFCC
Wed 25 Nov DAY 1	**09:00**	Parallel sessions A1–A3	SNFCC
	10:45	**Opening plenary**	SNFCC
	12:00	Lunch	SNFCC
	13:30–17:00	Parallel sessions B, C and D	SNFCC
	17:40	Coach departs from the SNFCC	SNFCC
	18:45	Acropolis Museum guided visit	Acropolis Museum
	20:00	Gala dinner	Royal Olympic Hotel
Thu 26 Nov DAY 2	**08:30**	Welcome coffee and networking	SNFCC
	09:00–12:00	Parallel sessions E and F	SNFCC
	12:00	**Closing plenary**	SNFCC
	13:15	Light lunch	SNFCC
	14:15	Coach departs for the technical visit	SNFCC
	15:00–17:00	Technical visit; at 17:00 coaches leave for the airport and for Syntagma	ICCS, Koropi
	14:15	Working-group meetings (in parallel with the technical visit)	SNFCC

Coffee breaks are at 10:15 each morning and at 14:30 on 25 November. All times are local Athens time (EET, UTC+2).

Organised coaches – keep these times handy

17:40
WED 25 NOV
SNFCC → Acropolis Museum

14:15
THU 26 NOV
SNFCC → ICCS, Koropi

17:00
THU 26 NOV
ICCS → Athens Airport
ICCS → Syntagma Square

There is no organised return after the gala dinner, and no coach back to the SNFCC after the technical visit.

WHERE IT HAPPENS

Conference venue

Stavros Niarchos Foundation Cultural Center (SNFCC)

364 Syngrou Avenue, Kallithea 176 74, Athens, Greece

Designed by Renzo Piano, the SNFCC houses the Greek National Opera and the National Library of Greece inside a 21-hectare park by the sea.

From the Lighthouse on its rooftop you can see the Acropolis on one side and the Saronic Gulf on the other.



The Lighthouse on the SNFCC rooftop. Photo: SNFCC

Athens at a glance

Conference venue, social programme, technical visit and how they connect



Schematic map drawn for Mobility Data Days 2026 – approximate positions, not for navigation.

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ARRIVING

Getting to the venue

Most participants arrive at Athens International Airport "Eleftherios Venizelos" (ATH), about 33 km east of the city centre. The simplest route to the conference is in two steps: **airport → city centre (Syntagma)**, then **Syntagma → SNFCC**. Allow about 1 h 15 min to 1 h 30 min in total, more at rush hour.

Step 1 · From the airport to the city centre (Syntagma)

Option	How	Journey time	Fare (one way)
Metro line 3 (blue) RECOMMENDED	Follow the signs to "Trains" in the arrivals hall; trains run direct to Syntagma about every 30 minutes, roughly 06:30–23:30	about 40 min	€9 return €16, valid 30 days
Express bus X95	Departs outside the arrivals level; runs 24 hours a day to Syntagma Square (Amalias Avenue)	60–90 min, depending on traffic	€5.50
Taxi	Official taxi rank at Exit 3, arrivals level	35–50 min	Fixed fare to the city centre: €50 (05:00–00:00), €65 (00:00–05:00)

- **Pay by card:** tap a contactless bank card or phone (Apple Pay / Google Pay) at the metro gates and bus validators for the €9 metro and €5.50 bus fares – no need to buy a ticket first.
- **Staying three days or more?** The 3-day tourist ticket (€20) covers one round trip to and from the airport plus unlimited metro, bus and tram travel in the city.
- The standard 90-minute ticket (€1.20) is **not** valid to or from the airport.

Step 2 · From the city centre to the SNFCC

Option	How	Journey time	Fare
Free SNFCC shuttle RECOMMENDED	Departs from Syntagma Square (bus stop at the corner with Ermou Street), stops at Syggrou-Fix metro station and arrives at the south side of the SNFCC Canal, next to the Opera	about 20–30 min	Free
Metro + shuttle	Metro line 2 (red) to Syggrou-Fix, then the free shuttle from the stop on Syngrou Avenue	about 25–30 min	€1.20
Bus 550 or B2	From Syggrou-Fix along Syngrou Avenue; get off at **Onasseio** (southbound) and walk towards the sea	about 20 min + 10 min walk	€1.20
Taxi	Ask for "Kentro Politismou Idryma Stavros Niarchos"	15–20 min	about €8–12

The shuttle runs to a fixed timetable that varies by day; please check the SNFCC shuttle timetable before you travel. Wheelchair users can book the shuttle by phone on +30 216 809 1000.

Airport → SNFCC directly

If you are staying at one of the hotels near the SNFCC (see Where to stay), you can skip the city centre:

- **Taxi:** about 40–50 minutes. The fixed fare applies only to the city centre, so the trip to the SNFCC area runs on the meter; ask the driver for an estimate before you set off.
- **Express bus X96 (Airport – Piraeus):** runs along the coast on Poseidonos Avenue and passes the SNFCC near Faliro (Delta); ask the driver for the nearest stop. About 60–90 minutes, €5.50.

Scan for live travel information

Airport → city
Athens Airport: metro, buses, taxis
aia.gr

Metro & tram
Network maps and timetables (STASY)
stasy.gr

Buses & tickets
Routes, fares and tickets (OASA)
oasa.gr

SNFCC shuttle bus
Free shuttle from Syntagma: timetable
snfcc.org

Directions to the SNFCC
Google Maps route from where you are
google.com/maps

Good to know

- **Traffic** on Syngrou Avenue is heaviest on weekdays around 07:30–10:00 and 16:00–19:00; leave extra time on 25 and 26 November.
- **Strikes** occasionally affect public transport in Athens and are usually announced a few days ahead; check stasy.gr and oasa.gr before you travel.
- The **OASA Telematics** app shows real-time bus arrivals; **FreeNow** and **Uber** work for taxis.
- Keep your ticket or card until you leave the station or bus, as inspectors check on board.

WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER

Social programme

After the afternoon sessions, coaches leave the SNFCC at **17:40** for a guided visit to the Acropolis Museum at **18:45**, followed by the official gala dinner at the Royal Olympic Hotel at **20:00**, a 5–10-minute walk away.

Acropolis Museum visit

The museum sits at the foot of the Acropolis and holds the finds of the sacred rock, including the Parthenon Gallery with views of the monument itself. Glass floors at the entrance reveal an excavated ancient neighbourhood beneath the building.

- **Location:** 15 Dionysiou Areopagitou Street (A on the map)
- **Schedule:** the guided visit starts at 18:45
- **Transport:** organised coaches leave the SNFCC at 17:40
- **Please note:** large bags and backpacks are not allowed in the galleries; a cloakroom is available.

Gala dinner at the Royal Olympic Hotel

The gala dinner follows the museum visit at the Royal Olympic Hotel, which faces the Temple of Olympian Zeus and the Acropolis.

- **Address:** 28–34 Athanasiou Diakou Street (B on the map), 5–10 minutes on foot from the museum
- **Start time:** 20:00
- **Return:** no return transfer is organised. The hotel is in the city centre, within walking distance of Syntagma and Plaka. If you are staying near the SNFCC, a taxi takes about 15–20 minutes.



Schematic map drawn for Mobility Data Days 2026 – approximate positions, not for navigation.

THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER

Technical visit

ICCS “Test Before Invest” facility

After the conference closes, participants can join an exclusive technical visit to the “Test Before Invest” facility of the Institute of Communication and Computer Systems / National Technical University of Athens (ICCS / NTUA) in Koropi. The facility is built for prototyping, testing and demonstrating new technologies in near-real operational conditions, with research areas and event space for live demonstrations and networking.

What to expect

- **Smart sensing and AI applications:** live demonstrations of intelligent monitoring, data processing systems and robotic handling units for experimentation and prototype development.
- **Driving simulation, robotics and AGVs:** driving simulators, autonomous testing platforms, fixed robotic arms, collaborative robots (cobots) and delta robots with edge-processing units.
- **Prototyping and field testing:** guided tours of research labs that validate solutions for real-world operational environments.

Practical information

Location: Koropi, in the Mesogeia area east of Athens, near Athens International Airport.

Schedule: the visit runs from 15:00 to 17:00, after the closing plenary and light lunch.

Transport there: participants travel together by organised coach, leaving the SNFCC at 14:15.

Transport back: two coaches leave the ICCS facility at 17:00 – one to **Athens International Airport** (handy if you are flying home that evening) and one to **Syntagma Square** (city centre). The airport is a short drive away (typically 20–30 minutes, depending on traffic); if you plan to fly the same evening, we suggest a flight departing no earlier than about 19:30.

Registration: pre-registration is required – tick the technical visit box in the online registration form.

Please note: there is no return to the SNFCC after the visit, so please bring your luggage with you if you are heading to the airport.

BEFORE YOU TRAVEL

Registration and where to stay

Registration

All participants must register online at mobilitydatadays2026.imet.gr. To attend the social events and the technical visit, tick the relevant boxes in the registration form; entry is not possible without registration. Registration does not include accommodation.

Where to stay

The hotels below are the closest to the venue and are suggested on the NAPCORE website; please book directly with the hotel. Rates are indicative, per night.

Hotel	Stars	Distance to SNFCC	Rate per night
Gnamma Hotel	3★	350 m	€120–150
Athens Marriott Hotel	5★	450 m	€350–400
AVA Hotel & Residences Athens Riviera	4★	450 m	€170–200
10 Apartments & Suites Athens	4★	500 m	€150
Lacoba Hotel	3★	600 m	€100
The Convo Athens Riviera	3★	800 m	€80
Hilton Garden Inn Athens Syggrou	4★	1.6 km	€150



VISITING ATHENS

Getting around Athens

Athens has three metro lines, a tram line running from the centre to the coast, and an extensive bus and trolleybus network, all run under the OASA umbrella. The same tickets are valid on metro, tram, bus and trolleybus within the city.

You can pay by tapping a contactless Visa or Mastercard (physical or in Apple Pay / Google Pay) on the validators at stations, trams and buses. Tickets and the Athena card are also sold at metro stations and kiosks. Taxis are yellow and can be hailed on the street or booked through apps such as FreeNow or Uber.

Athens metro – simplified map

Main stations for Mobility Data Days 2026 participants. Not all stations are shown.



Simplified diagram drawn for Mobility Data Days 2026. Check the official OASA / STASY maps and timetables before travelling.

For the full network, timetables and any line closures, check the official OASA / STASY maps before travelling. The free SNFCC shuttle shown on the map is a bus, not part of the metro.

GOOD TO KNOW

Practical information

WEATHER
Mild, usually 10–18 °C, with occasional rain – bring a light coat and an umbrella

TIME ZONE
Eastern European Time (EET, UTC+2)

ELECTRICITY
230 V, plug types C and F (standard European two-pin)

EMERGENCY
112 – European emergency number, English spoken

TOURIST POLICE
1571

TAP WATER
Safe to drink throughout Athens

Currency

Greece uses the euro (EUR). Almost every shop, restaurant and taxi in Athens accepts bank cards, and contactless payment is standard. If you need cash, use bank ATMs rather than independent "tourist" ATMs, which charge higher fees. Tipping is not mandatory; rounding up or leaving 5–10% in restaurants is customary.

Language

Greek is one of the oldest recorded languages in the world, with its own alphabet in use for almost 3,000 years. English is widely spoken in Athens, especially in hotels, restaurants and shops. Here are a few words to get you started:

English	Greek	Say it
Hello (formal / informal)	**Γεια σας / Γεια σου**	*YAH-sas / YAH-soo*
Good morning / Good evening	**Καλημέρα / Καλησπέρα**	*ka-lee-MEH-ra / ka-lee-SPEH-ra*
Thank you	**Ευχαριστώ**	*ef-ha-ree-STOH*
Please / You're welcome	**Παρακαλώ**	*pa-ra-ka-LOH*
Cheers	**Στην υγειά μας / Γεια μας!**	*steen ee-YA mas / YA mas*
Yes / No	**Ναι / Όχι**	*neh / OH-hee (careful: "neh" means yes!)*

Some facts and sights we recommend

Athens is one of the oldest continuously inhabited cities in the world. People have lived here for over 3,400 years, and the city is widely seen as the birthplace of democracy, philosophy and theatre in the Western world.

The Acropolis and the Parthenon

The rock of the Acropolis and its 5th-century BC temples are a UNESCO World Heritage Site and the symbol of the city. Go early in the morning or late in the afternoon to avoid the crowds; you will already see the finds from the rock during our visit to the Acropolis Museum.

Plaka and Anafiotika

The old neighbourhood below the Acropolis is full of narrow streets, neoclassical houses, cafés and tavernas. Anafiotika, at its top, looks like a Cycladic island village in the middle of the city.

The Ancient Agora and Monastiraki

The Agora was the heart of public life in ancient Athens, where Socrates once walked; the Temple of Hephaestus there is one of the best-preserved Greek temples. Next door, Monastiraki Square and its flea market are lively at any time of day.

The Panathenaic Stadium

Built entirely of marble, it hosted the first modern Olympic Games in 1896 and is still the finishing point of the Athens Marathon.

Changing of the Guard at Syntagma

In front of the Parliament, the Evzones guards in traditional uniform change every hour; the full ceremony with the band takes place on Sundays at 11:00.

The National Archaeological Museum

One of the world's great museums of ancient Greek art, home to the Mask of Agamemnon and the Antikythera Mechanism, often called the first computer.

Lycabettus Hill

The highest point in central Athens; walk up or take the funicular for the best sunset view over the city and the sea.

Greek inventions and firsts

Beyond democracy, the Greeks gave the world the Olympic Games, theatre and the foundations of geometry, medicine and astronomy; even the words "technology", "mechanism" and "telematics" have Greek roots.

OPTIONAL · ENJOYING ATHENS

Local food and drink

Be ready for Greece, be ready for the olive oil! Greeks consume more olive oil per person than almost anyone else in the world, and it goes into nearly every dish, alongside fresh vegetables, herbs, cheese and grilled meat or fish. Meals are made for sharing: order several plates (*mezedes*) for the table and take your time.

Wine has been made in Greece for more than 4,000 years. Look out for local grape varieties such as Assyrtiko (crisp white, from Santorini), Moschofilero (aromatic white, from the Peloponnese), Agiorgitiko (smooth red, from Nemea) and Xinomavro (bold red, from Naoussa).

There is no doubt that you will be offered ouzo or tsipouro at some point. Ouzo is an anise-flavoured spirit that turns cloudy white when you add water or ice; tsipouro is a grape brandy, served with or without anise. Both are sipped slowly with meze, never on an empty stomach. Coffee lovers should try a Greek coffee, or the local summer-and-winter favourite, the iced *freddo espresso*.

Some foods we recommend trying

- ***Moussaka*** – layers of aubergine, minced meat and béchamel, baked in the oven
- ***Souvlaki / Gyros*** – grilled meat skewers or slow-roasted meat, often wrapped in pita with tzatziki
- ***Horiatiki*** – the real Greek salad: tomato, cucumber, onion, olives and a slab of feta
- ***Tzatziki*** – yoghurt dip with cucumber, garlic and olive oil
- ***Spanakopita*** – spinach and feta pie in crispy filo pastry
- ***Dolmadakia*** – vine leaves stuffed with rice and herbs
- ***Gemista*** – tomatoes and peppers stuffed with rice and herbs
- ***Fava*** – creamy yellow split-pea purée, topped with onion and capers
- ***Saganaki*** – pan-fried cheese
- **Grilled octopus** – a classic of the seaside taverna
- ***Loukoumades*** – small fried dough balls with honey and cinnamon
- ***Baklava*** – filo pastry layered with nuts and syrup
- ***Galaktoboureko*** – semolina custard in filo pastry with syrup
- Treats to find in shops: *pasteli* sesame bars, *loukoumi*, Greek honey and thyme honey

OPTIONAL · ENJOYING ATHENS

Where to eat and drink in central Athens

Mobility Data Days takes place in late November, when evenings in Athens are cool and can be rainy. We have therefore chosen **places with indoor seating**, most within a 10–15-minute walk of Syntagma or Monastiraki. Greeks eat late: lunch is usually 14:00–16:00 and dinner rarely before 21:00. Please book ahead for dinner and ask for a table inside.

Tavernas and modern Greek cooking

Place	Area / address	Why go
To Diporto	Sokratous 9 & Theatrou, near the Central Market	Basement institution with a short daily menu and barrel wine
Ta Karamanlidika tou Fani	Sokratous 1 & Evripidou, Central Market	Meze restaurant and deli with Asia Minor cured meats, cheeses and wines; Mon–Sat 12:00–23:00, closed Sunday
Manari	Agion Theodoron Square 3, historic centre	For meat lovers: lamb chops and slow-braised dishes
Dopios	Skouleniou 1, historic centre	Playful modern meze by chef Christoforos Peskias
Thomas 1971	Dimitrakopoulou 18–22, Koukaki	Family taverna since 1971, home-baked sourdough and soutzoukakia; close to the Acropolis Museum
Dodeka Piata	Odyssea Androutsou 36, Koukaki	Contemporary taverna known for its handmade gyros and dolmades
The Greco's Project	Mitropoleos 5, near Syntagma	All-day Greek and Mediterranean kitchen with daily cooked dishes; about €15–20 per person
Ateno	Aiolou 52 & Miltiadou, off Ermou	Modern Greek cooking in a neoclassical corner building, with an upstairs dining room and a deli on the ground floor; about €25–35 per person without wine

Quick lunch: souvlaki

Place	Area / address	Why go
Bairaktaris	Monastiraki Square, corner of Mitropoleos	Souvlaki institution since 1879; a full taverna rather than a counter, so you can sit down for gyros, kebab and souvlaki
O Thanasis	Mitropoleos 69, Monastiraki Square	Famous for its kebab in pita since 1965; indoor seating on two floors and quick service

Most classic souvlaki shops in the centre are tiny counters with little or no seating, so they are best for a quick takeaway.

Sweets and coffee

Place	Area / address	Why go
Choureal	Ermou 18 & Diomeias, near Syntagma	Choux pastry shop: profiteroles assembled to order and freshly baked éclairs
Lukumades	Aiolou 21 & Agias Irinis, historic centre	Modern loukoumades with sweet and savoury toppings

Cocktail and wine bars

Place	Area / address	Why go
The Clumsies	Praxitelous 30, historic centre	One of Europe's best-known cocktail bars, with an experimental menu
Baba au Rum	Klitiou 6, historic centre	Rum bar with a huge selection; known for Mai Tais and daiquiris
7 Jokers	Voulis 7, near Syntagma	Small, unpretentious bar loved by bartenders, good music
Odori Vermuteria di Atene	Skouleniou 2, historic centre	Vermouth bar with wood-fired pizza
Pairidaeza	Parnassou 3, Karytsi Square (near Syntagma)	The square's oldest bar (since 2003), with good cocktails and a small loft overlooking the square
Bless Me Father	Karytsi Square 2 (near Syntagma)	All-day bar in an elegant retro room: coffee by day, signature cocktails in the evening
By the Glass	Souri 3, near Syntagma	Upmarket wine bar hidden in an arcade; a good place to try Greek wines

The famous rooftop bars with Acropolis views are mostly open-air; in November, check whether they are enclosed or heated before you go.

At the SNFCC

For a special evening without leaving the venue, Delta at the SNFCC holds one Michelin star in the 2027 Michelin Guide Greece; book well in advance. For a quick coffee or snack between sessions, there are cafés inside the SNFCC buildings.

Good to know: many tavernas bring bread and water to the table with a small charge. Opening hours change, so check before you go.

Hotels, restaurants and bars are listed for participants' convenience only. The organisers have no affiliation with these businesses and do not endorse them; prices and opening hours are indicative and may change.

We look forward to welcoming you to Athens!