

# A Visit to Athens in the Spring

## Springtime in Southeast Tennessee

Springtime in Athens is a beautiful sight. Downtown and throughout the neighborhoods, people are celebrating daffodil days and you can see them blooming from front porches, storefronts, and yards all over.

- Springtime is great visit time for families, outdoorsy people, and history lovers to enjoy the sweet spring season in Athens.



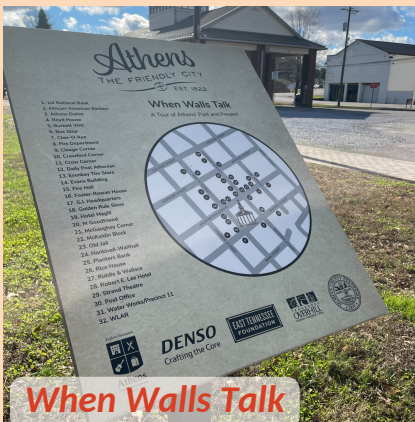
Blue Front Coffee Co.



Angela's Miami Grill



Maddi Mae's



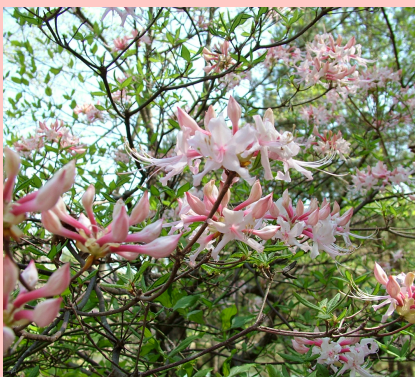
When Walls Talk



Mayfield Dairy Farms



Swift Museum



Gardens at Sunshine Hollow



The Sock Shop



Greek's Bearing Gifts

	Outdoors	Family	History
<b>Breakfast &amp; Morning Activity</b>	<p>Local bakery items from Patriot Cakes &amp; Creamery to go and head to Athens Regional Park to picnic at the lake, fish for rainbow trout, or take a stroll through the many trails throughout the park. Head to the Gardens at Sunshine Hollow to see their native azaleas and beautiful varieties of perennials blooming.</p>	<p>Start the morning with a hearty breakfast from Cracker Barrel with plenty of family seating and options for all appetites. After breakfast head to the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum to learn all about what it was like living in Athens through the ages. This museum has great interactive displays for children! Great local shops throughout the downtown area are a great way to wind down before lunch.</p>	<p>Start your morning with a great coffee and muffin from Blue Front Coffee and follow the When Walls Talk Historic Downtown Walking Tour. Take in all the history of the unique buildings and history of the location of the Battle of Athens. Make sure to check the details on all the downtown murals!</p>
<b>Lunch &amp; Afternoon Activity</b>	<p>Lunch at a local downtown favorite- Maddi Maes and take a stroll downtown following the When Walls Talk Historic Walking Tour and visit the local unique shops.</p>	<p>Grab lunch to go and head to Athens Regional Park. The playground area has plenty of picnic tables and lots of time can be spent between the playground, open space, and splashpad. Before you leave the park, hit the Storybook Trail at the back side of the park, a short ¼ mile loop and great story to end the lunch break.</p>	<p>Angela's Miami Grill has something for everyone in an eclectic bright atmosphere and is best known for their Cuban Sandwich! Finish up lunch and head across the street to the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum. This tour combines the rich local history of Athens along with rotating exhibits!</p>
<b>Must SEE!</b>	<p>The Eureka Trail is a 5.6 mile down and back trail. Packed gravel surface which is great for cycling or walking!</p>	<p>The Mayfield Dairy Farms Visitors Center has tours of the dairy plant, and it ends with its WORLD-FAMOUS ICE CREAM!</p>	<p>The Swift Museum has multiple swift aircrafts on display including prototype #1! At this museum you can see inside the cockpits and be up close and personal with these aircrafts.</p>



## Dinner

*Jenkins Grille & Market is a local favorite serving all the best eats- they are best known for their burgers! They also have outdoor seating if the weather is right!*

*Local restaurants like El Jinete Mexican Restaurant, Gondolier Pizza & Steakhouse, and Michael's Casual Dining offer great spaces for family dining. Following dinner, hit the Athens Amusement Center for some bowling, nerf gun arena, and their selfie studio!*

*The Open Door Cafe is located in the Historic Robert E. Lee Hotel in downtown. The restaurant dining area is in the lobby of what was the hotel and hosts many period quirks of the building and a great menu.*

## Activity

*The Eureka Trail was originally a rail line. Take the trip starting in Athens and notice a few of the original rail markers. When you arrive to Englewood, follow the sidewalk through downtown to check out the Englewood Textile Museum, grab a bite to eat at the Tellico Junction Cafe, and return back to Athens. Etowah & Niota also have historic depots and are within a 15-minute drive from Athens.*

*The Englewood Farm Market is a local farm market located just outside Athens with fresh produce and baked goods.*

## Shopping

*The Sock Shop is home of the World's Softest Socks, made right here in McMinn County. Antique shops.... Athens has so many options throughout town, Warehouse 23, Hot Spot Antique Mall, Junebugs Vintage, Heritage Antiques, and Affordable Used Furniture.*

*Downtown Athens has unique boutique shopping on every block. Within the dozen options, each store has its own offerings. While strolling through the shops, check out the local Blue Front Coffee Shop, Zenful Panda juice bar, and Maddi Mae's rolled ice cream!*

*Starr Mountain Outfitters has all the essentials for the wanderers from clothing to gear. Also, home to Midway Milkshake, a delicious stop for pizza, famous Benton Bacon BLT, or milkshake.*

- Check Angela's Miami Grill's social media for their Live Music schedule on Friday nights!
- National MooFest is June 3, 2023 with 150+ vendors downtown alongside numerous food trucks, activities, and live entertainment. Mayfield Dairy Farms is celebrating 100 Years of Ice Cream this year which will come with extra fun to the festival!