

LOCAL RESTAURANT ROW

GLOBAL FLAVORS. LOCAL FAVORITES.

ALL FOR FAMILY AT ATHENIAN GRILL

GUEST RESTAURANT PARTNER
SINCE JULY 2018

Growing up, Ilias Pappas, was no stranger to the kitchen. He was always at his grandma's side, helping her prime the clay oven, making fresh pasta, baking their favorite bread and preparing fresh phyllo dough. To this day, that love for fresh, flavorful authentic food drives everything he does at **ATHENIAN GRILL.**



“Aramark’s partnership has been instrumental to our growth and success.”

ILIAS PAPPAS, CHEF/OWNER



Today, Ilias’ vision of partnering with local farms and businesses to bring fresh, authentic Greek food to Lexington, Kentucky is supported by a dedicated, hardworking and growing team.

Together they serve up quality food that hungry Lexingtonians can truly enjoy and feel good about.

“Athenian Grill was the first local partner to take the leap of faith into our program. Ilias has not only excelled in making the program successful but has quickly become the face and role model for our local restaurant partners.”

ARAMARK RESIDENT DISTRICT MANAGER



“We do what we love. Making fresh, authentic homemade meals for our guests.”

ILIAS PAPPAS, CHEF/OWNER

Pappas believes the main thing guests embrace about Athenian is their strong family ties. Guests are greeted as family (usually in Greek) right as they walk through the front door. He says their company is able to maintain this connection to guests by thoughtfully training each new team member on the passion and love for the great food they serve.

Aramark has used their expertise to help Athenian master menu development, supplier relations, and building infrastructure.

This partnership has helped Athenian Grill become a regional Mediterranean brand powerhouse with locations at Clemson University, Purdue, and more.

Even as Athenian Grill expands, they're staying true to their humble, family-centric roots.

Seeing families, young children and hungry students return time after time for the beloved freshly carved meats, Greek stews, moussaka and handmade baklava brings the Athenian Grill team joy and reminds them of the vibrant mark they've made on the community.

