Athens Strike Leaves Garbage Piling Up

TRAVEL UPDATE

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ATHENS (Reuters) — A four-day strike by Athens municipal workers has left 5,000 tons of uncollected garbage on the streets of the Greek capital, posing health risks because of high temperatures, officials said Thursday.

Athenians and thousands of tourists were forced to dodge piles of rotting garbage piled up on pavements, outside cafés and at the entrances of museums and archaeological sites. Temperatures went as high as 30 degrees centigrade (86 Fahrenheit.)

"If the Athens municipality does not take the appropriate measures to declare the strike illegal in line with existing laws then we will do it," said Deputy Interior Minister Lambros Papadimas.