

A commutative Banach algebra whose unit ball isn't norm compact.

The unit ball of $C([0, 1])$ is not compact with respect to the supremum norm, since if $p_n(x) = x^n$, then $\|p_n\| = 1$ and (p_n) has no convergent subsequence.

It's well-known that a normed space Y is finite dimensional iff $\{y \in Y; \|y\| \leq 1\}$ is compact (cf. [Ker, Theorem 2.5-5]). $C([0, 1])$ is infinite dimensional, hence its unit ball is not compact.

Ref.

[Ker] E. Kreyszig, Introductory functional analysis with applications, John Wiley & Sons, 1978.