

## The Star Sydney welcomes Middle Eastern-inspired venue to growing roster of diverse food offerings

**24 February 2019– SYDNEY, Australia:** The Star Sydney is proud to announce the opening of its new Middle Eastern-inspired venture, Bar Tikram\*, on 12 March 2020. Led by Executive Chef of BLACK Bar & Grill, Dany Karam, Bar Tikram has been inspired by Dany's rich Lebanese heritage and will bring new energy to the Pyrmont Harbour-facing space.

Bar Tikram will be The Star Sydney's first casual bar and dining concept that will celebrate the vibrancy and culture of the Middle East. Bringing life to Karam's vision through bold flavours, bright colours and a welcoming electric atmosphere, Bar Tikram is the ideal spot for after work drinks and weekend catch ups.

Taking inspiration from his mother's recipes and cooking techniques, Karam's moreish mezze-style food has been expertly curated to feature bold and fresh flavours, and is designed to bring together friends, family and colleagues.

The central wood-fired oven will serve staple homemade flatbreads perfectly paired with delicious dips and fiery small plates. The warming menu is set to lure in passers-by with its delicious aromas from a menu featuring hummus bi tahini, labneh, fattoush and 9-hour braised lamb shoulder. Karam's house-made pickles will also be served with every dish to complete the mezze fare experience.

The outdoor bar will serve up fresh cocktails, mocktails and drinks focused on infusing punchy herbs and spices into the mix. Guests will be able to enjoy the alfresco space with unique cocktails specially curated by award-winning Bar Manager and mixologist, Behzad Nvaziri. Highlights on the cocktail menu include the Turkish Delight with rose water, coconut and vodka, and the Anaar made from Cachaça, pressed pomegranate, sumac and citrus to entice the taste buds.

Dany said creating a new Middle Eastern-inspired menu for Bar Tikram, was an exciting opportunity to bring his heritage and culture to a completely new concept at The Star, while adding a personal twist.

"The dishes on the menu have been created for sharing and their style has been influenced by the traditional way my mother prepared and cooked dishes in Lebanon. I'm excited to bring 35 years of inspiration to Bar Tikram and hope it will be a place people come to share time and experiences together," he said.

"Coming from a family where food brings us together and recipes are passed down, I have a great appreciation for food and communal dining, so we designed the space to create a feeling that's like being welcomed into someone's home to share food and drinks, stories and good times. Our aim is for everyone to leave feeling far better than they did when they arrived."

Damian Quayle, Chief Operating Officer at The Star Sydney, commented:

“The Star Sydney is proud to reflect the cultural diversity of our community and city through our people as well as our bars and restaurants.

“We are excited to introduce this new Middle Eastern-inspired venue as part of our on-going plans to reinvigorate Pyrmont as Sydney’s most vibrant dining and entertainment destination for locals and visitors.

“Having Dany lead the venture has brought authenticity to the concept, from the design, to the food and drink offering, which we hope will create a welcoming space for guests to experience a vibrant cultural and culinary experience.”

Set to open on 12 March 2020, Bar Tikram will sit 130 guests, with indoor and outdoor seating options. Open from midday to late, Tuesday to Saturday, Bar Tikram will be a vibrant, urban oasis designed to engage the senses as guests indulge in bold flavours.

Bar Tikram will bring new energy to the former PizzAperta site and will join The Star’s existing line-up of standout culinary attractions including CHUUKA, Sokyō, BLACK Bar & Grill, Flying Fish and Momofuku Seiōbo.

*\*Tikram: An Arabic response to a thank you – a thoughtful and welcome gesture such as ‘you’re welcome’ or ‘with pleasure’.*

Website: <https://www.star.com.au/sydney/eat-and-drink/bars-and-club/bar-tikram>

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**About The Star Entertainment Group**

The Star Sydney is Australia’s premier place to play. A sip of sparkling. A dozen freshly shucked oysters. Crisp white sheets and red carpet. Diamonds and spades. Gucci and gastronomy. The day begins with luxury – where it ends is up to you. At The Star, we have just one mission — to thrill. That’s why we have all star chefs and restaurants, luxurious accommodation and high-end fashion, a sumptuous day spa, an amazing nightclub, and, of course, the world-class casino. It’s all yours for the taking, so will you? Come and play at The Star.