

MEDIA RELEASE

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ITALIAN ROYALTY ARRIVES IN BRISBANE AS THE STAR WELCOMES CUCINA REGINA

The Star Brisbane will soon welcome a new dining experience fit for royalty as authentic Italian restaurant, Cucina Regina, opens on The Terrace on Friday 15 November.

Transporting guests to Italy's trattorias with time-honoured recipes from the heart, Cucina Regina promises elevated Italian dining in the heart of Brisbane's newest dining destination.

Taking cues from its sister venues – *Cucina Vivo* on the Gold Coast and *Cucina Porto* in Sydney, the venue is affectionately coined *Cucina Regina* in honour of its prime location within the broader Queen's Wharf Brisbane precinct.

The authentic Italian restaurant brings a sense of old-world charm to Brisbane's evolving culinary scene and is a nod to the beloved '*passeggiato*' where guests wander before or after a meal, socialising and enjoying the company of loved ones.

The Star Brisbane's General Manager Food & Beverage, Dustin Osuch said he was delighted to see the third Cucina venue come to life.

"I have been a long-standing member of The Star family, so it is a special moment to see the Cucina restaurant family evolve from its Gold Coast inception in 2014, into three exceptional venues," Mr Osuch said.

Italian-born culinary connoisseur, Chef Davide Incardona joins Cucina Regina as Executive Chef, with a decorated global career spanning over 20 years. Blending traditional flavours with modern techniques, Chef Davide promises to create an exceptional dining experience for all guests, with a focus on authenticity and seasonality.

"It is an honour to call Cucina Regina my culinary home and create wonderful occasions that are reminiscent of my childhood," Chef Davide said.

"To be able to offer a place of warmth and wonder where locals and visitors can make memories surrounded by Italian flavour, loved ones and friends is truly unique."

Cucina Regina's Italian family table showcases an uncomplicated mix of a la carte antipasti, woodfired pizzas, handmade pastas and a selection of land and sea from the woodfired grill.

From approachable small plates including classic Bruschetta, house made Arancini and soft fried Squid, to crowd favourite pastas and pizzas.

Think Rigatoni Carbonara and slow-cooked Lamb Ragù to Prosciutto pizza with cherry tomatoes, rocket, and shaved parmesan or Gamberetti of garlic prawns, chilli, zucchini, and topped with creamy Stracciatella, the menu is designed for one and all.

Drawing attention to local produce from the woodfired grill, Moreton Bay Bugs are served with a garlic and herb butter, a smokey flatbread, and finished with a soft herb salad whilst a Bistecca Alla Fiorentina heroes a 1.1kg Gold T-Bone steak from Australian beef producers Stockyard. Whilst the venue's beverage menu features approachable Italian wine varietals, the bittersweet joy of a perfectly balanced Amaro Sour to the loved Negroni or zesty Limoncello spritz.

Designed by Australian-based Design Studio Tom Mark Henry, Cucina Regina leans into a neutral palette that speaks to the laidback aesthetic of Brisbane and sets the scene for an effortless transition from day to night.

Catering for up to 160 guests through indoor and al fresco dining, the venue also features a dedicated private dining room which seats up to 18 guests.



Cucina Regina is positioned on The Terrace amongst an enviable selection of globally-inspired restaurants from some of Brisbane's most celebrated restaurateurs, including Black Hide Steak and Seafood By Gambaro, Azteca, LúC LúC, Dark Shepherd, and Pompette, all located on The Terrace at The Star Brisbane with direct access from Neville Bonner Bridge.

Cucina Regina is now accepting bookings to dine from Friday 15 November and will welcome diners for lunch Wednesday through Sunday from 11am to 3pm and dinner daily from 5pm till late.

For more information and bookings, visit: star.com.au/brisbane

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FAST FACTS

- Cucina Regina is the newest and third venue from The Star's Cucina restaurant family, taking cues from its sister venues Cucina Porto in Sydney (opened 2020) and Cucina Vivo on the Gold Coast (opened 2014).
- Affectionately coined Regina – Italian for Queen – in honour of its prime location within Brisbane's \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf precinct, Cucina Regina joins Black Hide Steak & Seafood by Gambaro, Azteca by Potentia Solutions Leisure and LúC LúC by Ghanem Group on The Terrace, Level 4 of The Star Brisbane.

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About The Terrace:

Conveniently positioned at the city-end of Brisbane's newest pedestrian bridge, The Terrace at The Star Brisbane features a growing roster of must-visit restaurants from the who's who of Brisbane's culinary scene. Introducing a range of global flavours, the riverside dining destination is home to The Star's signature Italian family dining experience Cucina Regina, a new iteration of Gambaro Group's Black Hide Steak & Seafood, Potentia Solution Leisure's take on Latin American Azteca, Ghanem Group's newest South-East Asian venture LúC LúC, plus Mediterranean-inspired Dark Shepherd (coming soon) and French champagne bar and restaurant Pompette (coming soon) from local restaurant titan Tassis Group.

About The Star Brisbane

The Star Brisbane is Queensland's newest entertainment hub, positioned at the heart of the 12-hectare Queen's Wharf Brisbane precinct. Commencing its multi-phased opening from 29 August 2024, The Star Brisbane features an array of world-class restaurants and bars, a new five-star luxury hotel The Star Grand, a breathtaking Sky Deck observation deck soaring 100 metres above the city, an expansive open-air Leisure Deck and a state-of-the-art Event Centre. With a steady stream of new restaurant and bar openings confirmed between now and November 2024, The Star Brisbane celebrates the best of the river city to elevate Brisbane to the global stage.

About Queen's Wharf Brisbane

The \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf Brisbane is one of the most significant tourism projects in Australia's recent history. It blends extraordinary contemporary architecture with thoughtfully restored heritage buildings and beautifully landscaped riverside parklands across more than 12 hectares on Brisbane's river edge. Commencing its multi-phased opening from 29 August 2024, Queen's Wharf connects two of Brisbane's largest cultural and lifestyle precincts via the Neville Bonner Bridge. When complete, Queen's Wharf Brisbane will deliver an estimated 1,000 premium hotel rooms across four luxury hotels, more than 50 new food and beverage experiences, world-class entertainment, luxury retail, stunning public artworks, the restoration of nine heritage buildings, 1,500 residential apartments and 12 football fields of public space in the heart of Brisbane's CBD.