

MEDIA RELEASE

21 November 2023

THE STAR BRISBANE SETS THE BAR SKY-HIGH WITH THREE SKY DECK VENUES REVEALED

Locals and visitors will have the opportunity to experience Queensland's capital from a brand-new perspective when The Star Brisbane's striking new Sky Deck – one of Australia's most anticipated dining destinations – opens in 2024.

Soaring 100 metres above the \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf precinct, three highly distinct venues will call Australia's newest sky-high playground home, including The Star's latest **signature restaurant Aloria**, where dry-aged beef and Queensland's world-class seafood are the stars of the show; **Babblers**, a relaxed dining experience bringing together thoughtful handcrafted food with brave flavours; and **Cicada Blu**, an open-air bar buzzing with the spirit and energy of the city.

With unparalleled views, Sky Deck's 250-metre seemingly-suspended rooftop runway will showcase the best of Brisbane and Queensland's inimitable outdoor lifestyle, while having the added allure of dining under the open sky.

Sunsets and sunrises stretching from the CBD to Moreton Bay will also be on the menu, with Sky Deck open to the public 24/7 throughout the year.

The Star Brisbane General Manager Food & Beverage, Dustin Osuch, said Sky Deck's three unique venues were destined to become one of Brisbane's top tourist attractions.

"We have gone above and beyond to consider every detail of each venue and how the trio seamlessly integrate to serve up unforgettable moments in the sky. **Aloria** is destination dining redefined; **Babblers** brings a sense of familiarity through its warmth and charm; and **Cicada Blu** is the magnetic centre that brings the three together," Mr Osuch said.

"From a breezy brunch or long relaxed lunch swapping stories with friends, to sunset soirees, intimate dinner dates or celebrations that continue late into the evening, Sky Deck will deliver endless opportunities for locals and visitors to choose their own adventure."

Sky Deck's exquisite **Aloria** is where European elegance and ease meets Australian charm in an elegant yet relaxed dining experience that revels in Queensland's spectacular sunsets. An open kitchen brings depth of flavour to the table with a seasonal menu focused around time-honoured woodfire and grill techniques, coupled with the freshest produce sourced from the nation's top growers.

Aloria's beverage offering will set a new standard for Brisbane as the official 'cellar in the sky', showcasing the city's best and brightest cellar of wine, and a dedicated Martini menu that celebrates the cocktail in its simplest and truest form to the Marguerite, Martine, Martigny, Martina, Martineau and the Bradford à la Martini.

Flying high on the eastern end of Sky Deck, all-day dining venue **Babblers** is set to become a bustling institution for its warm and welcoming vibe. Created especially for those in search of a more relaxed, social experience, Babblers will plate up shareable crowd pleasers, perfectly imperfect handcrafted flatbreads topped with seasonal produce, and Australian craft beer and wines. Affectionately named after the gregarious Babbler bird family, Babblers has its own unique charisma, designed for flowing conversation as friends and family enjoy dining delights.

Taking centre stage on Sky Deck, **Cicada Blu** is a captivating day-to-night destination that moves to the rhythm of the city. Boasting breathtaking sights and electrifying entertainment, Cicada Blu is sure to beckon both locals and travellers with its exotic elixirs and bold botanical infusions - perfect for pre-dinner aperitifs, post-dinner rendezvous or to simply toast the high life.

THE STAR

As the sun sets, the beats will rise and Cicada Blu's enigmatic lighting installation will pulse and glow – inspired by ever-changing cloud formations and electrifying summer storms.

Designed by QUT Alumni and specialist hospitality design director Paul Kelly, to celebrate Queensland's fresh beauty, The Star Brisbane Sky Deck venues present Brisbane at its best.

"Guests will no doubt visit for the views, stay for the experience, and come back for the memories," Osuch said.

For more information, visit thestarbrisbane.com.au

ENDS

FAST FACTS

- Soaring 100 metres above the \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf Brisbane precinct, The Star Brisbane's highly anticipated Sky Deck will be Australia's newest sky-high playground. The observation deck will be **open to the public year-round**.
- **Signature Restaurant Aloria** is The Star Brisbane's pinnacle dining experience; a place where dry-aged beef and Queensland's world-class seafood are the stars of the show. Guests can sip on a bespoke martini or settle in with a bottle from Aloria's cellar in the sky. Aloria is positioned on the western end of Sky Deck.
- **Babblers** offers **all-day dining** for those in search of a more relaxed experience, bringing together thoughtful handcrafted food with brave flavours. Babblers is located on the eastern side of Sky Deck.
- Taking centre stage on Sky Deck, **Cicada Blu** will be an **open-air bar** that buzzes with the spirit and energy of the river city. With its exotic elixirs and bold botanical infusions, Cicada Blu will be perfect for pre-dinner aperitifs, post-dinner rendezvous or to simply toast the high life.
- Venue bookings are expected to launch in early 2024.

The Star Brisbane

Positioned at the heart of the Queen's Wharf Brisbane precinct, The Star Brisbane will deliver four future world-class hotels, a myriad of new restaurants, bars and entertainment experiences, luxury retail, and a thrilling new era of events to Brisbane's CBD. Not to mention The Star Brisbane's striking Sky Deck showpiece, a 250m rooftop runway of restaurants and bars floating 100m above the Brisbane River and the resort's Leisure Deck, a 12,000sqm open-air oasis which delivers two football fields of public space. From a selection of Brisbane's grandest hotels to delectable dining, spectacular sky-high views and unique experiences for locals and tourists alike, The Star Brisbane promises to celebrate the best of our river city.

Queen's Wharf Brisbane

Set to commence a staged opening from April 2024, the \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf Brisbane development blends stunning contemporary architecture with thoughtfully restored heritage buildings and beautifully curated landscaped riverside parklands across more than 12 hectares on Brisbane's river edge. It is expected to attract an estimated 1.4 million additional visitors each year once open and will provide a pedestrian link between two of Brisbane's largest cultural and lifestyle precincts, connecting South Bank to Queen's Wharf and The Star Brisbane via the Neville Bonner Bridge. Queen's Wharf Brisbane is being delivered by Destination Brisbane Consortium – a joint venture led by The Star Entertainment Group alongside its Hong Kong-based partners, Chow Tai Fook Enterprises and Far East Consortium.

Media Contacts:

Nicole Barclay, Marketing Communications Manager, The Star Brisbane, Nicole.Barclay@star.com.au

Karryn Wheelans, Head of Media, The Star Entertainment Group, Karryn.Wheelans@star.com.au

Graham Witherspoon, Head of Communications, Destination Brisbane Consortium, gwitherspoon@destinationbrisbane.com.au