

MEDIA RELEASE

29 August 2024

QUEENSLAND SHINES BRIGHT AS THE STAR BRISBANE UNVEILS A NEW ERA OF LUXURY AND ENTERTAINMENT

Brisbane's skyline shines brighter as The Star Brisbane officially opens its doors, ushering in a transformative era for tourism and entertainment in Queensland.

Anticipation has reached fever pitch as thousands of locals and visitors are set to explore the resort's unparalleled attractions and be amongst the first to see inside the \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf Brisbane transformation – almost a decade in the making.

Soaring 100 metres above the city, the breathtaking **Sky Deck** tops the bucket lists of opening day revellers – literally – while the luxurious **The Star Grand hotel**, fully booked for opening weekend, is set to welcome eager guests who have long awaited this moment.

Culinary enthusiasts will delight in the first wave of The Star Brisbane's highly anticipated dining experiences, each crafted to tantalise the senses and celebrate global flavours with a quintessential Queensland flair.

From 29 August, guests can embark on a gastronomic journey with venues that are destinations in their own right.

Celebrity chef Luke Nguyen's celebrated **Fat Noodle** will serve up a symphony of dynamic South-East Asian flavours in a reimagined, vibrant contemporary setting, while the nearby **LiveWire** live entertainment venue will pulse with Queensland's brightest music acts late into the night.

Sports fans can catch all the action in The Star's purpose-built **Sports Bar**, boasting 100sqm of mega LED screens and private booths that fit an entire football team.

The Star's signature five-star hotel, **The Star Grand**, will welcome a full house on its opening night, filling all 340 luxurious rooms, including 60 suites and four ultra-luxury Skyline Penthouse Suites. Capacity occupancy continues right across the weekend, coinciding with the festive excitement of the Brisbane Festival and the dazzling Riverfire celebrations.

As the sun sets, the spotlight will be on The Star's cutting-edge Japanese restaurant **Sokyo**, where Australia's acclaimed 'Sashimi Florist' Alex Yu will welcome his first guests. Diners can look forward to an exquisite fusion of traditional and modern Japanese cuisine, guaranteed to captivate even the city's most discerning palates.

Meanwhile, 100 metres and one million miles above it all, the excitement will soar to new heights as The Star Brisbane's iconic **Sky Deck opens**, inviting sunset chasers to ascend to this sky-high playground for awe-inspiring views and an atmosphere that sparkles above the city lights.

Taking centre stage on Sky Deck and setting the bar high for what's to come, The Star will unveil **Cicada Blu** – the first of its sky-high Sky Deck venues - from 5pm today. Boasting breathtaking sights and electrifying entertainment, Cicada Blu will offer exotic elixirs and bold botanical infusions and become a captivating day-to-night destination that moves to the rhythm of the city.

The Star Brisbane Chief Executive Officer, Daniel Finch, said the highly anticipated opening was a landmark moment.

"Today is a historic occasion not just for Brisbane, but all of Australia. Our incredible team of nearly 3,000 dedicated individuals have poured heart and soul into creating a resort that will redefine entertainment and hospitality standards in our city," Mr Finch said.

"We are thrilled to welcome everyone to experience the magic and momentum of The Star Brisbane, a destination that has been years in the making and is set to elevate our city onto the global stage."

The opening weekend promises an array of entertainment, with live performances and dynamic acts across the resort from Thursday 29 August to Sunday 1 September. Saturday night is poised to be especially exhilarating, as The Star Brisbane becomes the epicentre of celebration with the *Battle of Brisbane* Dolphins vs. Broncos home game live and loud at **Sports Bar** and the dazzling Brisbane Festival's *Riverfire* lighting up the skies above the resort and precinct.

This grand unveiling is just the beginning. The Star Brisbane's phased opening ensures there's always something new on the horizon with a steady stream of new restaurants and bar openings.

All-day dining venue **Babblers** and elevated dining destination **Aloria** are expected to join Cicada Blu in the coming months, while confirmed openings from September to November include The Star's dynamic dining destination **The Terrace**, comprising authentic Italian family dining **Cucina Regina**, Ghanem Group's newest South-East Asian venture **Lúc Lắc**, Potentia Solution Leisure's take on Latin American **Azteca**, a new iteration of Gambaro Group's **Black Hide Steak & Seafood**, plus Mediterranean-inspired **Dark Shepherd** and French champagne bar and restaurant **Pompette** from local restaurant titan Tassis Group.

Once fully operational, The Star Brisbane and Queen's Wharf Brisbane are expected to attract approximately 1.4 million additional visitors to Queensland each year.

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.

For more information, visit star.com.au/brisbane

ENDS

Media Contacts:

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

Katie Scanlan, Marketing Communications Executive - The Star Brisbane, katie.scanlan@star.com.au

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 August and November 2024, The Star Brisbane celebrates the best of the river city to elevate Brisbane to the global stage.

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.

Notes for the Editor:

Opening Day Schedule, 29 August 2024

- **Early Morning** – Neville Bonner Bridge, William Street and George Street entrances open to the public
- **10am** – **The Star Brisbane officially opens**
- **2pm** – Fat Noodle, Sports Bar, LiveWire, Cherry, Food Quarter and Main Casino floor open (18+)
- **3pm** – first leisure guests check-in to The Star Grand
- **5pm** – Sokyo first service begins
- **5pm** – Sky Deck viewing platform opens

Venues and experiences now open:

- **The Star Grand Hotel:** The Star's signature 5-star hotel comprising 340 luxury rooms
- **Event Centre:** The Star Brisbane's state-of-the-art Event Centre, anchored by Brisbane's largest hotel ballroom
- **Sky Deck:** The Star Brisbane's seemingly suspended observation deck soaring 100 metres above the Brisbane River
- **Cicada Blu:** The Star Brisbane's day-to-night destination, an open-air bar taking centre stage on Sky Deck
- **Sokyo:** The Star Brisbane's cutting-edge Japanese restaurant helmed by Australia's Sashimi Florist, Chef Alex Yu
- **Fat Noodle:** Celebrity chef Luke Nguyen's celebrated South-East Asian restaurant delivering a reimagined experience (18+ venue)
- **Sports Bar:** Brisbane's new home of sport boasting 100sqm of mega LED screens and stadium-like sound (18+ venue)
- **LiveWire:** The Star Brisbane's dedicated live entertainment venue offering a dynamic rotation of live acts and late-night entertainment (18+ venue)
- **Cherry:** The Star Brisbane's lively cocktail bar located at the heart of Brisbane's newest entertainment destination. (18+ venue)
- **Food Quarter:** A one-stop Brisbane-inspired café perfect for a laidback lunch or late-night bite (18+ venue)
- **Neville Bonner Bridge:** Brisbane's new 320 metre pedestrian bridge connecting Brisbane's largest two precincts