

MEDIA RELEASE

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THE STAR BRISBANE RELEASES DATE AND FIRST OPENING PHASE

The Star Brisbane has released a list of attractions, cultural, culinary and entertainment hot spots that will open on **Thursday August 29, 2024,** as part of the first phase of the highly anticipated, multi-phased reveal of the \$3.6 billion Queen's Wharf Brisbane precinct.

The Star Brisbane Chief Executive Officer Daniel Finch said from late August into September and throughout the remainder of 2024, a steady stream of new restaurants, bars, public spaces and destinations will begin opening, enlivening the previously underutilised 12 hectares of river's edge.

"Like the rest of Brisbane, I am excited for this game-changing development to invigorate the CBD, including our nighttime economy and we will soon announce more exact dates for the diary," Mr Finch said.

"Fittingly, public spaces will be among the first areas to be opened and that includes the viewing platform on Sky Deck, Miller Park, and of course the Neville Bonner Bridge linking Queen's Wharf to South Bank.

"We are thrilled to be commencing our phased opening to coincide with Brisbane's biggest party, Brisbane Festival however the transformed grassed public areas along the river including The Landing and Finger Wharves will open after Riverfire."

"The incredible artworks throughout the precinct including the signature piece from home-grown, internationally recognised artist Lindy Lee will be installed," he said.

"The Event Centre is ready to host a full calendar of events and conferences from early September.

"And we are preparing at full throttle to welcome our first guests to the five-star The Star Grand with bookings to open very soon."

A collection of dining and leisure experiences have already been announced including LiveWire, a new live entertainment venue.

"We welcome the announcement from Premier Steven Miles earlier this month that a Night Life Economy Commissioner will be appointed," Mr Finch said.

"LiveWire will be one of our first venues to open, supporting and enhancing the growth of Brisbane's nighttime entertainment economy.

"LiveWire will be a safe and vibrant venue bringing the soundtrack of Brisbane to life with a lineup of music, comedy, live acts, special events and late-night entertainment."

Mr Finch said the opening will be a planned and phased roll out over many weeks and in numerous stages.

"We want to ensure our team members are prepared, our facilities have been tested, our processes are right and importantly our guests have an exceptional experience that they will talk about and come back to experience again," he said.

"Not everything will open all at once on day one.

"That also means returning guests will find something new to experience, not just here at The Star but also across both sides of the river."

The Star Brisbane has previously announced venues such as the sprawling Sports Bar, a reimagined Fat Noodle restaurant by celebrity chef Luke Nguyen, Japanese stand-out Sokyo and Cherry which will all open from day one.

A growing list of restaurants and bars across the precinct including on Sky Deck, and at The Terrace, where the pedestrian bridge connects to the city are under final fit outs and will open progressively.

"Brisbane is building a well-deserved reputation as a world class city and we are working hard to contribute to the tourism and cultural fabric that will make locals proud, provide thousands of jobs and attract global attention."

Mr Finch also highlighted he is equally as focussed on The Star's remediation plan to transform its culture, governance, technology and operations.

"We are subject to regulatory and government approvals and as such our remediation is crucial and will ensure we deliver the best possible outcomes," Mr Finch said.

"We have a responsibility to our community, our guests and our team members to be better and provide the safest environment possible across the entire business."

Areas to open progressively from August into September and throughout the remainder of 2024 as part of the first phase of a multi-staged opening. *Not all will open on Thursday 29 August 2024

- Public Areas: 7.5 hectares of public space including Neville Bonner Bridge, upgraded Bicentennial Bikeway, Miller Park, Sky Deck viewing platform, Leisure Deck on Level Seven
- Newly created green space The Landing to open after Riverfire
- Sky Deck: Trio of restaurants will open progressively during first phase
- The Star Grand: 340 hotel rooms including four penthouses, three swimming pools, Sokyo restaurant (Japanese)
- Event Centre: 1,440 seat ballroom with pre-function bar, outdoor terrace and views to the Story Bridge
- The Terrace Dining, Level Four: restaurants will open progressively during first phase
- Level Five & Six: LiveWire, Sports Bar, Fat Noodle (South-East Asian), Food Quarter, Cherry, Main Casino Floor and Premium Gaming Rooms
- Leisure Deck: Gymnasium, more food & beverage outlets

Areas to open as progressively as part of the next phase of a multi-staged opening.

- Dorsett and Rosewood hotel tower
- Velo Café end of trip facility
- Luxury Retail destinations
- · The Terrace Dining, Level Four: Ice-creamery, Asian dining and more geographical themed dining
- Heritage buildings: Activated with experiences, retail and food & beverage

For more information, visit the <u>thestarbrisbane.com.au</u>