



THE STAR

Media Release

CHEF SET TO WOW SELL-OUT AUDIENCE WITH DISH SHOWING HOW IPSWICH PRODUCE CAN CREATE AUTHENTIC TOURISM EXPERIENCES

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A sell-out crowd of residents and businesses from Ipswich and surrounding areas will get a taste of why regional produce is important in creating authentic Queensland tourism experiences during an industry seminar next week.

Fresh crayfish from Tarome and heirloom tomatoes from the Fassifern Valley will be the heroes of an entrée to be created in Brookwater, with the culinary demonstration part of a wider regional roadshow touring Queensland talking about jobs, training, and procurement opportunities with integrated resort company, The Star Entertainment Group.

The company is the lead partner in the Destination Brisbane Consortium, which will deliver the multi-billion dollar Queen's Wharf Brisbane integrated resort development due to open in Brisbane's CBD in 2022.

Treasury Casino & Hotel Executive Sous Chef Stephane Guzzante will present a delectable entrée using fresh crayfish from Tarome; heirloom tomato from the Fassifern Valley; native samphire, which is a type of sea asparagus; avocado; finger lime; extra virgin olive oil; and lime.

Growing up in Switzerland and trained in French-style cooking, Mr Guzzante is looking forward to visiting regional Queensland to show how The Star Entertainment Group uses local ingredients in its menus.

In Queensland, the company operates the Treasury Casino & Hotel in Brisbane, and Jupiters Gold Coast.

"I have worked for various restaurants and hotels in Switzerland and London, including the famous Savoy Hotel where I created dining experiences for people like The Queen of England," Mr Guzzante said.

"I joined Treasury five years ago, and am proud to say the produce we use from regional Queensland competes with the best around the world.

"We seek to find the highest of quality and freshest produce right across the state to highlight in our diverse offerings and a significant portion comes from the Ipswich region, including the succulent crayfish and heirloom tomatoes I'll be using, as well as beetroots and silverbeet from nearby Boonah.

"We know that locals and visitors want to experience high quality, authentic, and local Queensland flavours – that's what creates special memories for them and keeps them coming back.

"This will be so important when Queen's Wharf Brisbane opens in years to come, as it is expected to attract an extra 1.39 million tourists to Queensland each year.

"The development will have 50 new bars, cafes and restaurants, so this is just one of the aspects we want to speak to north Queensland suppliers about: to start the conversation about how they might leverage this opportunity with their locally-grown produce, and to help us meet this demand."

The Star Entertainment Group Managing Director Queensland Geoff Hogg said the roadshow aims to drive awareness and innovation to help create 'quintessentially Queensland' integrated resorts.

“Queensland tourism has a bright and exciting future with record demand coming from Asia, in particular China, and forecasts predicting this will continue to rise strongly in the future,” Mr Hogg said.

“The size and scale of our developments will provide significant jobs, training, and supplier opportunities for Queenslanders – but these do not need to be limited to the south east corner.”

The Queen’s Wharf Brisbane integrated resort will create a world-class tourism, leisure, and entertainment destination, and is expected to generate more than 2000 jobs at peak construction, and 8000 jobs once fully operational.

Meanwhile, Jupiters Gold Coast is currently undergoing a \$345 million transformation including a refurbishment of the existing five-star hotel and the building of a new six-star all-suite hotel.

This investment could potentially increase to around \$850 million with a proposal for a new 700-key hotel and apartment tower.

“We’re really looking forward to starting a conversation across regional Queensland about what will be needed in the form of jobs, training, and suppliers with our developments in the years to come,” Mr Hogg said.

“We want people and businesses to start thinking now about whether they could help contribute to making these developments a great success stories for Queensland.”

The roadshow is being delivered by the Department of State Development, in partnership with The Star Entertainment Group, as part of its annual Major Projects Series.

Following seminars in Brisbane, Toowoomba, the Sunshine Coast, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville, the Wide Bay Burnett region, and Brookwater/Ipswich, the roadshow will continue on to the Gold Coast on 27 October and Cairns on 24 November this year.

The Brookwater/Ipswich event will be held on Thursday 20 October 2016 from 7.15am to 9.30am at Brookwater Golf and Country Club, 1 Tournament Drive, Brookwater.

Although the event has sold out, places are still available at the upcoming Gold Coast or Cairns events. Visit www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/mps to register.

For more information:

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