



Maras lauds food 'resurgence' in Adelaide's East End

Updated 1 November 2013

The East End of Adelaide has seen a significant resurgence in its dining sector during the past six months according to the precinct's champion, Steve Maras.

The Maras Group MD notes with Adelaide being named as one of the world's top 10 cities to visit by leading guidebook publisher and global travel authority, Lonely Planet, the East End had special mention as the "Mediterranean-influenced Rundle Street".

He says 2013 has seen "many outstanding additions" to the East End food scene including the East End Providore on Ebenezer Place, the Burger Theory restaurant diner on Union Street and the uber Exchange Specialty Coffee house on Vardon Avenue. The three businesses, opened in the past few months, "have become instant hits".

"Rundle Street favourite, Felici, has just had a colourful and green-enthusiased makeover and has introduced a fresh new Middle Eastern-inspired menu which has seen people flocking to try all the delicious new delicacies on offer," Steve says.

"In mid-November, former head chef of Magill Estate, the charming Jock Zonfrillo, will open his new two-pronged wine bar and restaurant in the former Universal Wine Bar building at 285 Rundle Street. Currently undergoing a major transformation, Adelaideans are in for a real treat with STREET ADL, an accessible, energetic wine bar and dining experience on the ground floor – and ORANA, a small, intimate 30-seat restaurant on the upper level offering more complex dishes revolving around native Australian ingredients and indigenous culture. This is going to really shake the Adelaide dining scene."

"The new calibre of food operators taking residence in the East End is extremely exciting and it's bringing the East End back to its heady days of the 1990s where Rundle Street came to be one of Australia's most popular dining strips. We are seeing a mix of the old favourites, coupled with the introduction of some cutting edge establishments adding to the overall appeal and allure of the precinct.

"With the city undergoing so much change and improvement, we are especially pleased with how the East End is continuing to evolve and lead the way as a well-oiled, fully functioning, mixed-use precinct."

Other fashionable eateries joining the East End landscape in recent years include Hey Jupiter, SAD Café, San Churro's, Le Carpe Diem, Kishi Sushi, Est Pizzeria and Andre's Cucina & Polenta Bar.

"These all complement some of the longer term favourites including Eros Ouzeri and Eros Kafe, Lemongrass Thai Bistro, Sosta Argentinian, The Stag Hotel, Cocolat, Belgian Beer Café Oostende, Chopstix on Rundle, Amalfi's, Scoози and the Botanic Restaurant," Steve says, hinting "there are more exciting dining developments in the pipeline".

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