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BY AMY GRAHAM ON OCTOBER 22, 2015

FOOD & DRINK, FOOD & DRINK NEWS, WHAT'S NEW



Most people have memories (or in some cases, little memory) of nights at The Stag. On the corner of Rundle Street and East Terrace, the iconic hotel has always held a special place in the hearts of Adelaideans. So it was a little sad to see the historic and quality establishment close its doors earlier this year...

But be sad no more Adelaide because The Stag Hotel is back - but this time it is different! Although as you can see, they have kept the same name. The Stag didn't put on any pounds and become The Fat Stag.

Last night saw the much anticipated re-launch of The Stag Hotel and it is clear the new owners have made massive changes to the original hotel that we once knew. All for the better though...

It is all class, elegance and simplicity, with large, open-plan bars serving Brewery Fresh tank beers and a large selection of fine wines (our fave). An artistically designed champagne bar upstairs serving Moet and Veuve Cliquot will keep the bubbly lovers happy. You know that includes us.

A special mention has to be made about the absolutely divine espresso martinis. On. Tap. Yes! It is like all our prayers have been answered.

If we weren't already losing it a little about the fact that there are espresso martinis on tap, then came our excitement over the food. The Stag's restaurant, Vardon, named after the buzzing Vardon Avenue which it backs onto, is beautiful and sophisticated. Head Chef Camillo Crugnale, who spent a decade at Assaggio, likes to call it "the new bistro". They still have amazing steaks, but the smaller menu is European with modern Australian influence. Last night we were treated to Breaded Zucchini Flowers, Wagyu Sliders, Arancini, to name a few, and finished with Panna Cotta and Passionfruit and Lemon Curd Tarts. Y-U-M,

The staff were warm, enthusiastic and attentive. Heading the team is Abdulla Daher, formerly an owner of Pranzo, who is renowned in hospitality circles for providing outstanding service. Well last night was no exception as he gave each and every guest a warm welcome as they entered the doors.

With a welcome-back party like that, the future is exciting for new Stag Hotel and Adelaide's East End.









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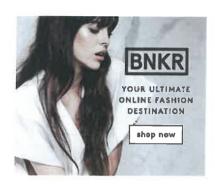
















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