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Lifestyle

Burleigh's Oskars restaurant are undergoing an interior overhaul — set to rival the beachfront views

Gold Coast **Bulletin**



Construction has commenced on the \$1.5 million renovations to the Burleigh Beach Pavilion, which sits in prime, absolute beach front positioning on Goodwin Terrace on the Burleigh Point headland. Oskars Restaurant owner Kieran Daly Photo: Kit Wise

BEACHFRONT views at Oskars are set to be rivalled by an interior overhaul as the iconic oceanfront eatery goes full luxe.

Owner Kieran Daly says the Burleigh Heads restaurant will be transformed both inside and out, with the kitchen getting a tweak too.

Kieran says with the Burleigh beachfront the hottest restaurant address in town, it was important to keep up with the neighbours.



Oskars Restaurant owner Kieran Daly and Rackley Swimming's Heath Rackley and General Manager Jay Clarke. Photo: Kit Wise

“It’s great to see so many top-level restaurants around us now — places like The Fish House and Rick Shores. Yes, they are our competitors but we’re also neighbours — although we all want to have the best house on the best street,” says Kieran.

“We’re lucky that Oskars has such a great, longstanding reputation, but we can’t sit on our laurels.

“We want our local community to think of us as their go-to fine dining venue, we want to know our diners by name, cater to every requirement and provide the ultimate experience.”

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Kieran says the renovation will draw on the eatery's French flavour, but the focus will be very much seaside-inspired and sophisticated.

“We're starting on our bar area first and the soft furnishings. The refurb will have a sort of French West Indies theme, very beachside luxe.

“We're still going through the concepts for what will be our new outdoor area, which will be called the O Terrace, but we want it to have the sort of vibe that you just want to sit out there all day and drink cocktails.”



Oskars is going under the hammer! Gorgeous interior is set to rival the stunning beach views. Photo: Kit Wise

Kieran says the terrace will not be the only outdoor space getting some attention.

While most of the work in the restaurant will be cosmetic, he's hoping to make a structural difference across the road.

“The biggest thing on my wish list is a new parking lot,” he says.

“We're going to be talking to the Gold Coast City Council about a parking area nearby that's really under-utilised.

“It's the curse of our own popularity here; I know the other restaurants are interested in finding more parking too. It's something we'll be trying to work on together.

“Too many times we have people call up having to cancel their reservation because they've been driving around for 20 minutes unable to find a park.”

Kieran says, in keeping with the five-star standard at Oskars, he's hoping to make even parking a more luxurious experience.

"I'd love to be able to offer valet parking on Saturdays and Sundays, so people could just show up, be looked after and not worry," he says.



Oskars fancy menu won't be missing out on the overhaul fun... new food is on it's way. Photo: Kit Wise

While stage one of Oskars' renovations is set to begin shortly, Kieran says some fresh changes to the menu are already underway.

The kitchen will be focusing on as much organic produce as possible, starting with slow-cooked lamb.

"This is my new favourite dish. It's 600 grams of organic lamb, slow-cooked for six hours and served as a share plate. It's amazing," he says.

"We're also in talks with a bunch of local farmers to provide as much as possible straight from their paddocks — and as much organic as they can.

"We're still keeping that slight French feel to our food, but really we're very much modern Australian. Or even modern Gold Coast.

"It's amazing to see how high the bar has been set for restaurants on the Coast. It's a great time to be in the game, it's exciting that we constantly need to innovate to stay at the top."


Kieran says stage one of Oskars' renovations should be completed within two months, with no disruption to diners.

He says stage two will encompass the O Terrace and begin straight after.


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