

Crystalbrook Vincent kickstarts culinary and beverage revitalization with two new appointments

Brisbane, Queensland – 5 April 2022: Crystalbrook Vincent continues its sustainable and ever-evolving culinary and beverage journey with two new appointments and exciting menu developments. Andrew McCrea joins the hotel as Executive Chef, and Rene Taleb as Food and Beverage Manager.

Andrew's accomplished career has seen him in some of the most spectacular venues and hotels in Australasia, hatted restaurants, and most recently; Queensland Parliament House, where he was awarded the distinguished Queensland Parliament Clark's Award for Excellence. A continuation of the hotel's commitment to offering locally sourced and #ResponsibleLuxury sustainable dining, McCrea's new menus will heavily focus on seasonal and local produce from within a 3-hour drive of the hotel, a personal passion project for Andrew.

Rene Taleb has recently joined the Crystalbrook Vincent team to head up Food and Beverage. With experience in top-end and hatted venues, including hotel neighbor Stanley Restaurant, Rene brings a focus of creating high-end dining and drinking experiences into his role, with a passion of utilising local beverage partners and crafting memorable experiences.

"I am thrilled to have Rene and Andrew on board with us to create a new way of dining and drinking for hotel guests and Brisbane locals to experience" says Jeremy Nordkamp, General Manager of Crystalbrook Vincent.

Andrew and Rene will work on developing new food and drink menus in the hotel's rooftop bar, Fiume, and Italian restaurant Polpetta, as well as a new in-room dining program for hotel guests. The team will launch a new range of meeting and events packages, targeting at bringing brave and bold experiences to Brisbane, as well as highlighting the hotel's impressive #ResponsibleLuxury sustainability initiatives.

Editor's Notes - What's in a name? Well, all of our love, sweat and tears as we see our family of hotels grow. Please note, Crystalbrook hotel names should not be shortened or altered.

E.g. Crystalbrook Vincent should not be referred to as The Vincent or Vincent.

Correct hotel names:

- Crystalbrook Albion
- Crystalbrook Bailey
- Crystalbrook Byron
- Crystalbrook Flynn
- Crystalbrook Kingsley
- Crystalbrook Riley
- Crystalbrook Vincent

– ENDS –

About Crystalbrook

Crystalbrook is one of Australia's leading sustainable and innovative independent hospitality companies. Each hotel in the portfolio carries an authentic expression of its location, a passion for responsible luxury, considered design and a twinkle of fun for a uniquely enriching experience.

Crystalbrook's portfolio includes:

- Crystalbrook Riley, Cairns, Queensland
- Crystalbrook Albion, New South Wales
- Crystalbrook Byron, Byron Bay, New South Wales
- Crystalbrook Bailey, Cairns, Queensland
- Crystalbrook Flynn, Cairns, Queensland
- Crystalbrook Kingsley, Newcastle, New South Wales
- Crystalbrook Vincent, Brisbane, Queensland

The Group also owns and operates a collection of ten restaurants, three spas, Crystalbrook Superyacht Marina in Port Douglas along with Crystalbrook Station and its subsidiary pastoral businesses.

Responsible Luxury

[Responsible Luxury](#) and sustainability is at the forefront of the way Crystalbrook thinks and operates.

At a glance:

- Operating a single use plastic free environment. No plastic straws, water bottles or single use bathroom amenity bottles (in the past two years the Group has saved over three million plastic bottles from entering landfill)
- Farming their own beef
- Sourcing at least 80% of produce from within a three-hour drive of each hotel
- Use of technology, such as in-room iPads and mobile check-in to create paperless environments and experiences
- Use of recycled and upcycled materials. Examples include key cards made from recycled wood, coat hangers made from recycled paper and toothbrushes made from sugar cane and cornstarch

Crystalbrook Collection and Ghassan Aboud Group

Crystalbrook Collection is part of Ghassan Aboud Group promoted by international entrepreneur and philanthropist Ghassan Aboud. The group is a multi-business conglomerate engaged in automobiles, real estate, hospitality, FMCG, food, retail, bespoke catering, media and logistics. In business for more than two decades, the group operates from its global headquarters in the United Arab Emirates with offices in Australia, Belgium, Jordan and Turkey.

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