



Navala: JBM brings famed Brisbane restaurant site to life

QUEENSLAND-BASED shop-fitting and project management company, JBM Projects, has reinvigorated one of Brisbane's most iconic riverside restaurant sites, completing a \$1.5 million installation of Brazilian-themed Navala Churrascaria.

Navala Churrascaria is a stylish new 300-seat Brazilian restaurant on the former site of the famed Michael's Restaurant at Riverside Quarter in the Brisbane central business district.

In only 12 weeks, Jason McRostie from JBM and his team installed all fixtures, fittings and features of the stunning restaurant, including a large-scale glass kitchen that showcases slow roasting meats in the foyer, private booth seating, indoor and outdoor barbecues, vertical gardens, impressive bar showcasing luxury beverages, staging and audio-visual equipment and an outdoor dining area overlooking the Brisbane River.

Other special features of the restaurant include custom-built extraction systems and fans, imported and hand-painted tiles, rustic timber and brickwork, Carrara marble and fully operable partitioning to zone the restaurant for functions.

"We chose JBM Projects to work on Navala due to the work they had done on similar projects and our confidence in their ability to deliver," said Navala owner Daniel Fujimoto.

"What we got was a lot more. They quickly became part of our team and worked with us to overcome numerous engineering and design challenges that we faced due to the unique nature of our restaurant."



"During the tendering process, Jason from JBM gave us a personalised approach. He put in a lot of effort to get the job. Once the project was underway, that service continued. Nothing was too much trouble, the boys worked well with our centre management who appreciated their communication and adherence to our site rules and they found solutions as problems arose."

"We are very happy with how they built the restaurant, their attention to detail and the finished product," Mr Fujimoto said.

The approach of Navala has been to create a unique and atmospheric experience that makes the most of one of Brisbane's best outlooks, directly over the river and Story Bridge. JBM Projects' challenge was to extend the site's potential into a venue and experience not seen in the city before.

"Navala is much more than a restaurant, it is an experience," JBM Projects director Jason McRostie said.

“We have created different zones to appeal to the widest number of potential patrons as well as corporate groups, mid-week diners and functions. Patrons get real value for money with the ‘unlimited degustation’ offering.

“We are confident that Navala will be a very successful venture due to the versatility of its business model. It was a pleasure to work with the Navala team to bring their vision and this new concept to life,” Mr McRostie said.

Navala was a new interpretation of a dining experience in Brisbane, Mr Fujimoto said, reacting to a changing marketplace and an opportunity to secure a unique location.

“The economy in recent years has created a shift in the restaurant market forcing many high end restaurants to close,” Mr Fujimoto said.

“Our offering provides value to customers. For \$53 diners can enjoy unlimited degustation. Traditional barbecue side dishes are brought to the table along with the best Australian beef, pork, chicken, fish and sausage that is carved on request at the table.

“Overall, with JBM’s assistance, we have created an exciting new venue with ancient and traditional cooking methods from Brazil combined with modern elements to have the best mix of old and new.

“Our new restaurant offers something unique in Brisbane. Guests can enjoy a meal or drinks overlooking the river, our Brazilian live music and dancers, gourmet meals based on ancient cooking methods, and private or corporate functions,” Mr Fujimoto said.

With design, construction, installation and project management capability and operations throughout Australia, JBM Projects is also a Queensland Leaders Alumni member.

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