



Timeless appeal

Jonah's at Whale Beach celebrates 88 years in service

Words: **Erina Starkey**

While Sydneysiders do love their new restaurant openings (does the queue start here?) there is something to be said for the longstanding institutions that have held their own, decade after decade.

None have done so quite as impressively as Jonah's in Whale Beach, which after 88 years in operation, is still at the pinnacle of fine dining in the country.

"We've never been too fussed with food trends or fads. Our focus has always been on creating exceptional food and a beautiful setting. That never goes out of style," says Jonah's executive chef

Logan Campbell.

Back in 1929, Jonah's was a British-inspired roadhouse which catered to the well-heeled guests who could afford a motorcar.

"Dining out was very much a luxury back then and Jonah's was one of the few places that offered the indulgences of fine cuisine and a beautiful remote setting."

In terms of the menu, seafood has always been a key focus, even right from the start, says Campbell.

Although back then it was oyster mornay, prawn cocktails and pasta marinara.

These days it is more likely to be grilled Atlantic scallops with boudin noir, zucchini and goats cheese

cromesqui and spiced apricot vinegar.

Prices were also different. An old Jonah's menu from the 1950s shows that a cold platter of fresh seafood would set you back \$3.25 while a cup of coffee was just 25 cents.

"I think the biggest change to Jonah's has been the addition of our accommodation rooms, which allow guests to stay overnight," says Campbell.

Jonah's has eleven ocean retreat rooms which come with all the trimmings - fluffy bathrobes, luxurious toiletries and sightlines out

to sea. Massages and pedicures can also be arranged in-room for those who really know how to relax.



Fact file

Name:

Jonah's Restaurant & Boutique Hotel

Where:

69 Bynya Road,
Whale Beach

When:

Breakfast, lunch and dinner
7 days per week

BYO or Licensed:

Fully licensed

Phone:

9974 5599

Web:

jonahs.com.au



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