

Culinary Famil Auckland

14 tour guides joined Sharron Hickman on Friday, May 2 to explore the hospitality scene at Auckland's CBD.



First up was a Middle Eastern restaurant, founded by Israel-born Yael Shochat (ph. 0272916589)

Ima Cuisine

53 Fort Street Auckland 1010, ph 09 377-5252

<https://www.imacuisine.co.nz/>

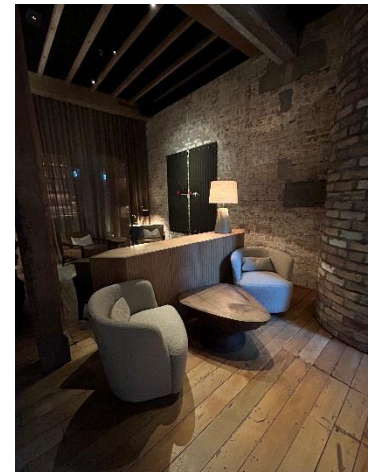
The Eastern Mediterranean food offering is made fresh from scratch; daily and onsite. It includes bread, pastries, cured meats and fish. All produce is local, sustainable and ethically sourced. The restaurant is suited for groups. Just get in touch with Yael. We enjoyed delicious Israelean and Palestinian mezze to be ready for our next adventure:

Kingi

Tuawhiti Lane, 29 Galway Street, Auckland 1010, ph 09 300 9596

<https://www.kingibritomart.com/>

Located on the ground floor of The Hotel Britomart, Kingi is designed to “celebrate New Zealand’s oceans, rivers and land through a menu built on ethical sourcing”. The restaurant offers several private dining spaces (the Libraries, Kingi private) which suits all kind of groups. The ambience is classy, with kauri tables and shimmering fish-scale chandeliers, made of recycled bottles. A glass-boxed ‘larder kitchen’ gives diners glimpses of chefs preparing seasonal dishes.



On our way to the waterfront, we stopped and had a look at a revamped corner bar:

The Perch

23 Galway Street, Auckland 1010, ph. 09 309 5529

The bar, also located in the Britomart District, offers plenty of vegetarian and gluten-free food options at their so-called 'Wholefood BBQ'-style menu. Across the road we stopped again at



Queens Rooftop & Wineshop
Level 21/1 Queen Street, Auckland 1010,
ph 021 161 8430

www.queensrooftop.co.nz

Queens Rooftop and Wineshop is a new restaurant and bar in the heart of the city with a 270-degree view of the Waitemata Harbour. The entry is a bit tricky as you have to go through the wineshop on Ground Level and make sure not to block the entrance to the lift.



We also had a look at hotel at MSocial Hotel

MSocial Hotel

196 - 200 Quay Street Auckland 1010, ph 09 377 0349

msocial.auckland@millenniumhotels.co.nz

MSocial Hotel is a quirky lifestyle hotel blending contemporary design with spaces for work and play, located on Auckland's Viaduct Harbour. The hotel offers private dining and breakfast, from 6.30 for groups even if you do not stay at the hotel at Beast & Butterflies, a restaurant which features a bar/lounge and a terrace.

Across the road on Princess Wharf, we enjoyed time at the Hilton Hotel



Bellini Bar, Hilton Hotel

147 Quay Street, Auckland 1010, ph 09 978 2000

<https://bellini.co.nz/>

Every Friday, the bar offers Opera Fridays from 6.30 to 7.30 in collaboration with champagne Pommery and Piano Traders. Opera Fridays are free of charge with no reservations required. We were delighted to listen to professional opera performances, while enjoying our drinks.

However for NZ\$ 158 up to six guests can enjoy a live opera performance, including a bottle of Pommery Champagne, paired with a cheese and charcuterie platter. For this option reservations are recommended.

Our last stop was at the Ferry Building

Harbourside Ocean Bar Grill

Level 1, 99 Quay Street, Auckland, ph 09 3070556

<https://www.harbourside.co/>

Harbourside Ocean Bar Grill is an institution in Auckland's restaurant scene and first opened in 1988 before being purchased by Good Group Hospitality in 2013 and undergoing a multi-million-dollar refurbishment to make it what it is today.

It was an interesting, invigorating and inspiring tour thanks to our excellent leader Sharron. Many thanks and looking forward to our next trip. Feel free to contact ProGuides with ideas.

