



MEDIA INFORMATION

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KOBE – STEAKING CLAIM IN HORSFORTH -NEW BAR AND RESTAURANT OPENS-

Leeds based, independently owned bar and restaurant operator, Arc Inspirations launches its eighth venue, Kobe on New Road Side in Horsforth on Friday 23 May 2008, following a £1million refurbishment of the former Fat Franco's building. The new bar and restaurant, which takes its name from the legendary kobe beef from the Wagyu cattle which are totally pampered in a quest to produce the most tender beef, will bring 60 new jobs to the area.

Designed by Horsforth based architects, Kilmartin Plowman & Partners, whose brief was to create a luxurious setting where guests feel pampered, the new bar and restaurant features a blend of warm cream, beige and dark brown leathers mixed with rich purple carpet and velvet striped fabrics. These rich textures and colours are complemented by dark timber screens and furniture to create a refined and relaxed atmosphere. Elevated curved leather seating booths, sit against a back drop of purple velvet walls and pendants over, provide the perfect setting for more intimate moments. The curved timber and leather bar in a stainless steel structure, frames the stone back bar, which features inset plasmas and a mix of colour changing display shelves.

With seven hugely successful, award winning bars and restaurants already within its stable in Headingley, Chapel Allerton, Roundhay and Harrogate, the opening of Kobe will see Arc Inspirations strengthen its position as one of the most innovative, independently owned operators in the country. Furthermore, the company, which has just won best 'multiple bar operator in the north' at the Theme Bar & Restaurant awards, is currently investigating potential opportunities in Leeds city centre, with plans to launch a riverside operation as soon as an appropriate site is located.

Named after the beef from the Wagyu cattle, which are totally indulged with daily sake massages and regular beer breaks, Kobe's signature dishes of course include the Kobe burger, which is fork tender and full of flavour plus the finest Chateaubriand, the ultimate treat for two to share. The main menu consists of comforting breakfasts, gourmet burgers, innovative grills, deli sandwiches, salads and 'share and share alike' meze platters.

Kobe offers a specialist range of Far Eastern drinks with the Asian beer listing featuring bottled Asahi and Kirin Ichiban beer. In a tribute to the Japanese perfection of distillation and fermentation, Kobe will also offer one of the country's finest selections of award winning whiskeys including Nikka.

Commenting on the opening of Kobe, Arc Inspirations' managing director, Martin Wolstencroft said: "We are absolutely delighted to be announcing the opening of our eighth bar and restaurant in as many years, particularly in the current economic climate. We are confident that our customers, both old and new will be impressed by our latest venture in Horsforth.

"Horsforth is an area we have been looking at for quite some time after identifying a demand for an independent and individual bar and restaurant concept. Fortunately we have found the right location and team to deliver a mix of enticing drinks, mouth-watering food in vibrant and appealing surroundings."

Kobe, 106 – 108 New Road Side, Horsforth, Leeds LS18 4QB is open Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 10:00am to 11:30pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 10:00am to 12:30am. For further information visit www.arcinspirations.co.uk or call Kobe on tel: 0113 2588439.

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For further information contact:

Ellie Mayers at EPM Communications on tel: 07771 682 060 or ellie@epmcommunications.co.uk

Notes to editor:

Arc Inspirations was formed in 1999 by Martin Wolstencroft, managing director and Chris Ure, chairman.

Martin Wolstencroft, formerly of Whitbread and Chris Ure, chairman of Headingley based property company, Associated Tower Cinemas, joined forces to launch a new student bar concept in Headingley.

The Arc was launched in September 2000 and was quickly followed by The Box in November 2001, Trio Bar & Grill in April 2002 and then in 2003, Zed was opened, the first in Chapel Allerton. In December 2004, The Hub, the second bar in Chapel Allerton was opened. Then in November 2006, Banyan Bar & Kitchen in Harrogate was launched. In October 2007, Napa Bar & Kitchen was launched in Roundhay. May 2008 will see the opening of Kobe in Horsforth, the company's eighth venture.