

Most Friendly Country Pub – Southern NSW

Stumbling upon such sweet spots for time out from the everyday hustle and bustle is something that all of us need, and, these days, authentic Irish pubs can seem few and far between. However, there's one gorgeous gem that we've got our eye on. Here we learn more from Michael Ward, Owner of The Boorowa Hotel Restaurant, as it wins this prestigious and exciting award.

The Boorowa Hotel was originally built in 1880 by Irish entrepreneur, Michael O'Dwyer, and it has grown more popular, and adored, ever since. At this point in time it was known as The Royal Standard Hotel, and it was a place for people to go to rest and recuperate. In 1905, a brand new second level was built upon the hotel, so that it could host even more guests. Then, 1953 saw The Royal Standard renamed as The Boorowa Hotel, and its name has built a legacy.

In 2012, Boorowa Hotel changed hands again. A dedicated husband and wife duo took over the hotel to create a safe haven for those looking to stay close to, or simply experience, traditional Irish roots.

Boorowa Hotel's owners tell us, "Boorowa was settled by the Irish from Tipperary, all the original settling families of Boorowa are still present to this day with 5th to 8th generations on all the surrounding farms. Families such as Ryan's, Corkhill's, Corcoran's, Dwyer's, McGrath's, are all still major landholders in the district."

Not only did Boorowa Hotel's owners fall in love with the property's history, but they wanted to celebrate their own heritage. Michael tells us, "With family originating from Cork in Ireland, my ancestors were offered passage to Australia in 1778 courtesy of the British Government. After 84 years in Australia, my great, great grandmother who had 9 children, fled with her one surviving child from the '1862 Diphtheria Epidemic' in Melbourne."

They remained close to Irish traditions to stay true to the history of the hotel, and their heritage, and this has become the lifeblood of what the country pub is today.

Spreading cheer and happiness within its walls, Boorowa Hotel Restaurant influences the world as people walk out with a new view on life. Its positive and laid-back attitude is infectious, and people flock to it to experience it all.

By day, The Boorowa Hotel Restaurant offers a delicious menu at its café. Providing breakfast, brunch, and a sumptuous lunch, Boorowa Hotel Café satisfies all our cravings. By night it transforms into a sophisticated restaurant area with a charming atmosphere. Serving all kinds of food from squid to potato wedges, tempura prawns to spring rolls, classic Irish garlic cheesy chips, and much more, this restaurant has a lot to offer.

Both the café and the restaurant approach dietary requirements with respect, and accommodate all – from vegetarian to gluten free, and any other requirements, they guarantee satisfaction for the whole family.

The staff forge friendships with customers on a daily basis. Michael says, "We treat our customers as our own friends and guests and accord them that same friendship and respect that you would attribute in your own home! It is the same with our staff, we regard ourselves as part of the Boorowa Hotel family." These unwavering relationships keep people coming back for more – and the word just keeps spreading.

With its ongoing mission to "fill the earth with the light, warmth, and laughter of great hospitality," Boorowa Hotel has become the finest pub to be within New South Wales. The Boorowa Hotel Restaurant has now been crowned with Most Friendly Country Pub, Southern NSW, and its future couldn't be any brighter!

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