



**FOOD AND DRINK** 

# NOLA ADELAIDE: BRINGING THE DEEP SOUTH TO THE EAST END

Words by Anna Mazzone October 29, 2015

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We've been hearing whispers for months of a New Orleans inspired, craft beer and whiskey bar coming to the old stables building in the East End of Adelaide. Having seen the line-up of 16 beer taps being anchored ourselves, we can happily confirm that **NOLA Adelaide** will be opening its saloon doors this November.

Four guys, motivated by the colourful sights and sounds of New Orleans, Louisiana (where the abbreviation NOLA comes from), are combining traditional creole and cajun food with an extensive list of craft beer and whiskeys, focused on supporting small independent brewers.

In the lead up to the opening, NOLA reached out to the community through their crowd-funding campaign, *Tipping for Taps*, to give local and independent breweries a chance to be part of their rotating beer stock. "One of the exciting things about our venue is we are determined to support the little guy. We want to give them a unique venue to sell their product. We feel it's a mini revolution for craft brewers," says co-owner **Oliver Brown**.

"It's about giving people ownership of the space," he says. "Traditionally in big pubs, large beer companies will purchase tap space and lock it out for one to two years, which shuts out a lot of local smaller producers. Getting the community to pitch in early means we can keep the taps open and these smaller local guys can get their beers on tap more often."



A new second level is part of the NOLA space's top-to-bottom fitout

Pairing creole cuisine with refreshing beer was no mistake either. "It's pretty good beer-drinking weather down in the south too, and those spicy foods definitely lend themselves to drinking beer, rather than wine, which can get lost in the intense flavours."

Boasting a list of over 70 whiskeys and grained based spirits from all over the world, there's something for the whiskey lovers too. "It's always been a big part of American history. There's a lot of interesting whiskey history that dates back to before prohibition, when Irish settlers first started making whiskey in the states."

The rustic fit-out has been designed to integrate American heritage with some of our very own South Australian history. Housed in the historic stables off of Rundle Street, designer **Matiya Marovich** of Sans-Arc Studio came on board as Nola's

designer.

"At first we weren't going to use a designer," says Brown. "But the best decision we made was to get someone in to fill out the space. And they've done a pretty awesome job. The old South Australian heritage of the stables, which were originally built around 1903, has been woven in with American South heritage, and we've matched that by weaving in American and Australian whiskeys too."

And you'll need a drink to put out the fiery spices of the deep south, with items on the menu like gumbo, jambalaya, po' boy and of course fried chicken.

NOLA Adelaide is set to open in November, for more information head to their Facebook page.



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## **PHOTOGRAPH:**

Walter Marsh

#### WHAT

**NOLA Adelaide** 

#### WHERE

293 - 295 Rundle Street

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