



Media Release

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AUTHENTIC ITALIAN EXPERIENCE SET FOR BARANGAROO SOUTH

A little slice of Italy is coming to the Sydney foreshore with *Mercato e Cucina* food and wine emporium set to open its doors at Barangaroo South in early 2016.

Fresh, artisanal and with a distinct Italian influence, *Mercato e Cucina* ('market and kitchen') was founded by Vanessa Martin of *Il Piave* fame. After the successful launch of its first provedore in Gladesville last year, it is expanding its presence to the new harbour food-lovers precinct in Sydney, Barangaroo South.

Commenting on the announcement, Head of Retail, Investment Management for Lend Lease, Gary Horwitz, said Lend Lease has been busy sourcing the best local and international retailers to offer a distinctive retail offer to Sydney. "We are delighted to welcome the *Mercato e Cucina* team and their genuine Italian hospitality to Barangaroo where we know they will create a superb experience within their provedore."

The store will occupy a 700 square metre site in the same precinct as other much-loved Sydney favourites such as Gelato Messina and Bourke Street Bakery. Once completed, more than 23,000 office employees will work at International Towers Sydney and approximately 1,500 residents will call Barangaroo home.

Visitors will be able to pull up a seat at the Panini bar, explore imported and local wines at a walk-through cellar, browse the finest fresh produce in Sydney, or choose a wide range of exciting take-away foods from the international delicatessen and the fresh bakery and patisserie. For those who want to impress elsewhere, an extensive selection of home-cooked 'Nonna-worthy' readymade meals are available for take-away, with lasagna, pastas, pies and desserts all presented in beautiful enamel bake ware.

Enthusiastic head chef Vanessa Martin believes it is their commitment to sourcing and using the highest-quality in fresh produce which sets their offer apart from the rest. "Mercato e Cucina brings the best of Italian style food and produce under the one roof, while still holding onto the simplicity of Italy's culinary traditions. We are really excited about introducing our store and unique concept to the CBD – a place where visitors will be able to escape to Italy seven days a week."

For interview opportunities with Lend Lease or Vanessa Martin from Mercato e Cucina, please contact:

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