



Australia's 2012 Award Winning Restaurants AGFG Chef Hat Awards Announcement <http://www.agfg.com.au/guide/awards/>

Thursday, 12 January, 2012: It's a new year and we are proud to announce the **Australian Good Food and Travel Guide Chef Hat Award Winners for 2012**. [AGFG Chef Hats](#) have been awarded to discerning chefs since 1982 (See: [Our History](#)).

A total of **517 restaurants were awarded Chef Hats for 2012**, with many of the best restaurants continuing to distinguish themselves; however, for some the past year proved to be too arduous resulting in shock closures and significant changes for others.

In spite of what was generally considered a difficult year for restaurants, 2011 did provide some cause for celebration with the introduction of **several exciting new establishments that have definitely raised the bar**.

[See AGFG 2012 Chef Hat Awards info and the food critic debate available online >>](#).

As has been the case in previous years [Sydney](#) and [Melbourne](#) remain at the forefront of Australia's culinary hierarchy in 2012, but a noteworthy number of deserving restaurants have opened in [Brisbane](#) over the past twelve months. [Adelaide](#) and [Perth](#) too have no problem satisfying even the most fussy of connoisseurs, while other award winning restaurants can be readily found in [Hobart](#), on the [Gold Coast](#), [Sunshine Coast](#), in [Canberra](#), and even [Darwin](#)

Naturally these cities attract a fine dining culture, but don't discount the regional areas if your focus is what's on the plate. **Some of the country's most highly awarded and commendable restaurants can be found throughout regional Australia, meriting a special journey.**