



Where to Feast in Sydney This Lunar New Year

Ring in Chinese New Year on February 5 with an elaborate, auspicious meal.



1/21
The Fight



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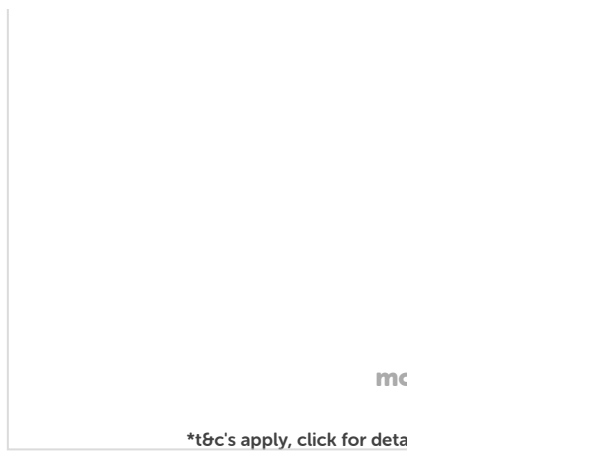
In February, people of Chinese heritage throughout Sydney and across the world will welcome the lunar year of the pig. To some that means yet another excuse to eat pork. In China, pigs are also regarded as auspicious animals – sources of income and even cheer. Accordingly, the year of the pig is thought to bring both wealth and happiness (as well as plenty of piggy eats). Here's where to get your fix both of feast and fortune.

Ho Jiak

Festive favourites are the centrepiece of a special à la carte New Year menu at Ho Jiak's Haymarket outpost. There's a range of dishes to choose from, such as *yee sang* (Cantonese-style raw fish salad), lobster longevity noodles and abalone *lap mei fan*. Other highlights include chef Junda Khoo's grandmother's favourite dish, *Teochew*-style golden pomfret, as well as pipis cooked in an aromatic garlic and ginger-infused oil, and drunken tiger prawns. *Until Sun Feb 24*

Spice Temple

Spice Temple is putting on a nine-course banquet menu to bring health, wealth and happiness in the spirit of Chinese New Year. Neil Perry and executive chef Andy Evans will be serving dishes made with symbolic ingredients, such as egg-shaped roma tomatoes for fertility, long noodles for longevity, and coin purse-shaped pipis for prosperity. The menu costs \$99 per person, with matching wines an additional \$55 per person. *Fri Feb 1 to Sun Feb 10*



Market City's 1909 Dining Precinct

We asked author, TV host and chef Adam Liaw, who is also ambassador for Haymarket's Market City, to pick one must-eat pork dish for the new year. "My most-eaten pork dish at Market City's 1909 Dining Precinct is not even Chinese," he says.

"Shoga-Yaki pork, which is the ginger pork lunch-set at Yayoi, is great. It's a very popular dish in Japan and was one of my favourite lunches when I was living there."

For a more traditional feast, Beijing Impression is offering four different banquet menus with dishes specifically selected for good fortune, like kung pao-style sautéed prawns or braised pork with Chinese yam. At The Eight there will be a selection of regional Chinese specialities, including braised pig tongue with dried oyster, black moss stir-fried *e-fu* noodles and steamed whole fish.

Mr Meng Chongqing Gourmet, meanwhile, is offering diners who spend more than \$10 a free plate of dumplings on the eve and day of lunar new year. If you're after a pork dish here, order Chongqing spicy noodles with pork ribs, deep-fried spring rolls or crisped-up pork.

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with sweet-and-sour sauce, seafood and kimchi pancake *jeon*, Kurobuta pork wontons and Wagyu *sukiyaki teishoku*. Of course, pig will play a big part.

Mon Feb 4 to Tue Feb 19

Bodhi

While pork won't be on the menu at vegan institution Bodhi, it is serving a New Year menu all month long. There's the lunch yum cha set menu (\$35), which features snow pea dumplings, and an evening menu (\$60) of traditional long noodles for love and longevity.

On February 5 the restaurant is throwing a dinner party with lion performers and a \$60 set menu. Choose from a mixed basket of vegan dumplings, crisp "chicken" skewers, roasted teriyaki cauliflower salad or Bodhi's Peking "duck" for your feast. Five dollars from every booking will be donated to Little Oak Sanctuary in support of rescued farmed animals.

Until February 28.

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