

# Fact Sheet



## WAKUDA

### Introduction

Jointly presented by celebrity chef Tetsuya Wakuda and award-winning restaurateur John Kunkel of 50 Eggs Hospitality Group, WAKUDA Singapore offers an approachable and artfully modern take on Japanese cuisine inspired by the seasons. A perfect harmony of art, cuisine and culture, WAKUDA redefines the conventional Japanese dining experience with its vibrant setting and dishes presented in Chef Tetsuya's renowned culinary style.

Launched in 2022, WAKUDA transports diners through a multisensory gastronomic journey, from à la carte style dining in elegantly designed communal spaces to inventive Japanese mixology at the bar, and a refined 13-course sushi omakase in a private dining enclave. Savour an extensive menu ranging from appetisers, sashimi, sushi, tempura, and yakimono (grilled items) such as the *classic saikyo yaki*, to rice bowls and sobas such as the *cold soba with truffles, botan shrimp, shaved mushroom, caviar*, in addition to an exquisite selection of desserts. Chef Tetsuya skillfully translates Japanese flavours steeped in culinary tradition with prized produce such as the Tasmanian ocean trout and ora king salmon from New Zealand, as well as the umibudo (sea grapes) and mozuku (seaweed) from Okinawa which are exclusive to WAKUDA Singapore. The dining experience is elevated with WAKUDA's remarkable collection of close to 100 different sake labels, including the *Isojiman, Junmai Ginjo W for Wakuda*, which is specially brewed for WAKUDA in Shizuoka, Japan. Cocktail lovers will also delight in Japanese-style handcrafted cocktails created by 50 Eggs Hospitality Group's beverage team, and over 380 selections of wines.

Inspired by traditional Japanese architecture, WAKUDA's exceptional design by Rockwell Group embraces Chef Tetsuya's culinary philosophy and traditional craftsmanship interspersed with elements of urban Tokyo's modernity. Kumiki, a time-honoured Japanese wood joinery craft, is featured throughout the restaurant, including the majestic up-lit wood façade on its exterior. Upon entry to the restaurant, diners are greeted with a glowing, arched backlit main Bar, while expansive floor-to-ceiling windows in the Main Dining Room draw the eye to a picturesque Japanese maple tree symbolising great harvest and abundance. Japanese artist Jun Inoue has also created two original ceiling artworks for WAKUDA, namely *The Ingredients That Arrived*, a vast, immersive canopy reminiscent of a bamboo forest in the Main Dining Room created with infinity mirror panels and LED lights, as well as *In His Hands* – a mural featuring liberal brush strokes with bold crimson touches.

### The Team

#### Tetsuya Wakuda

Chef Tetsuya Wakuda grew up in the Japanese town of Hamamatsu. At the age of 22, with only a very limited grasp of English, his adventurous spirit led him to Australia. In 1982, Chef Tetsuya arrived in Sydney, with nothing more than a small suitcase and a love of food. From his humble beginnings as a kitchen hand, it did not take Chef Tetsuya long to discover he had a flair for cooking.

In 1989, he opened his first restaurant, Tetsuya's, in a tiny shopfront in Sydney. The popular restaurant flourished and Chef Tetsuya's reputation grew. Always fully booked, Tetsuya's relocated to a larger space in 2000 and has consistently been included on the S.Pellegrino's World's 50 Best Restaurants list, as voted for by the culinary world's top food critics and chefs. Considered by many as Australia's finest chef, he ventured into Singapore in 2010 and has won critical acclaim for Waku Ghin since then. Chef Tetsuya was also recipient of the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award by Asia's 50 Best

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Restaurants 2015. In April 2022, Chef Tetsuya debuted WAKUDA Singapore – his second restaurant at Marina Bay Sands – in partnership with 50 Eggs Hospitality Group. A second WAKUDA opened at The Venetian® Resort Las Vegas in June 2022.

## John Kunkel (50 Eggs Hospitality Group)

John Kunkel is the founder and CEO of 50 Eggs Hospitality Group, a globally acclaimed restaurant group known for its game-changing concepts, critically acclaimed chef partners, and signature warmth hospitality. Named Restaurant Hospitality Magazine’s “Coolest Multi-Concept Companies in the Land,” the group focuses its efforts on developing cutting-edge brands that deliver unparalleled dining experiences throughout the United States and abroad, with 12 successful restaurants in its current portfolio and several more brands and location expansions on the horizon.

Signature concepts include the James Beard Foundation Award-nominated Yardbird; CHICA, a collaboration with Celebrity Chef Lorena Garcia; two concepts at The Venetian Resort® Las Vegas, namely Spritz Restaurant & Bar as well as Capri Pool Restaurant & Bar; as well as the group’s fast-casual Spring Chicken concept at Miami International Airport and Las Vegas’ Allegiant Stadium. The group’s award-winning restaurant concepts continue to expand throughout the United States and internationally, with the addition of its newest concept, WAKUDA in Singapore and The Venetian® Resort Las Vegas.

## Fast Facts on WAKUDA

- WAKUDA Singapore is located at the lobby of Marina Bay Sands Hotel Tower 2.
- WAKUDA is open for lunch, dinner, and drinks daily. The opening hours are as follows:

<p><b>Lunch</b> Daily: 11:30am – 2:30pm (last seating)</p> <p><b>The Bar</b> Daily: 11:30am – 11:30pm (last seating) Bar Bites are available by the Bar &amp; Lounge from 3pm onwards</p>	<p><b>Dinner</b> Sunday – Wednesday 5:00pm – 9:30pm (last seating)</p> <p>Thursday – Saturday 5:00pm – 10:30pm (last seating)</p> <p><b>Sushi Experience (13 or 15 course)</b> Tuesday – Saturday 5:00pm – 9:00pm (last seating)</p> <p><b>Private Omakase Experience</b> Upon requests only; please contact restaurant for further details.</p>
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- For reservations, visit [marinabaysands.com/restaurants/wakuda-singapore.html](https://marinabaysands.com/restaurants/wakuda-singapore.html). Follow the conversations on social [@wakudasingapore](https://twitter.com/wakudasingapore).
- WAKUDA’s accolades include:
  - Listed in Tatler Dining Guide 2023 and 2024
  - World Culinary Awards – Singapore’s Best Hotel Restaurant 2023
  - Wine Spectator 2023 Awards – Award of Excellence
  - Michelin Guide Singapore 2022 Selection
  - Honeycombers’ Love Local Awards 2022 – Best New Restaurant in Singapore (Silver)