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Iconic Washington, D.C., Restaurant Coming to Baltimore Marketplace
Ben's Chili Bowl Has Been Serving Cultural Influencers
From Civil Rights Leaders to U.S. Presidents since 1958

BALTIMORE (Feb. 28, 2020) – Horseshoe Casino Baltimore today announced the nearly \$1 million remake of its Marketplace – a collection of popular quick-serve eateries located on the casino's first level – will include offerings from a longtime D.C. landmark that has been a favorite of politicians, celebrities and everyday residents for more than 60 years.

Ben's Chili Bowl is an inter-generational family business that has served up its world-famous half-smokes and other favorites to U.S. President Barack Obama, civil rights leaders Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X and scores of celebrities ranging from Chris Rock and Jimmy Fallon to Bono and Bruno Mars to Kevin Durant and Serena Williams. More recent celebrity guests include Kevin Hart, Chance the Rapper, and longtime friend Dave Chapelle. The restaurant is so steeped in the nation's culture that it has an official historian and its own archive at George Washington University's Gelman Library.

Ben's Chili Bowl is slated to open its Horseshoe Baltimore location in early March. The restaurant will feature its world-famous Half-Smokes (grilled and served on a warm steamed bun), Classic Chili Dogs (available in four options: Jumbo Beef, Jumbo Turkey, Veggie Dog and Junior Dog) as well as other favorites, including its renowned Angus Beef Burgers, Veggie Burgers, Turkey Burgers, Chili Cheese Fries, Chili Bowls (Con Carne & Veggie/Vegan), and Hand-Spun Milkshakes.

Ben and Virginia Ali opened the original Ben's Chili Bowl at 1213 U Street in Washington, D.C., on Aug. 22, 1958. The ongoing success of the venue compelled the couple and their sons to expand. In 2008, the Ali family introduced Ben's Next Door, located right next door to the original Ben's. Additional outposts were soon added at Nationals Park and FedEx Field. In 2014, a new location was introduced in Rosslyn, Va., and venues have since opened on H Street, Reagan National Airport and Capital One Arena.

"For years, Marylanders have been asking us when we would open a restaurant in their home state," said Virginia Ali. "We're thrilled to now have that opportunity. Joining with Horseshoe Baltimore is a great way to write the next chapter in Ben's Chili Bowl's history. We can't wait to

expand our traditions of great food, great service and active community engagement to Charm City.”

In addition to the many celebrities and dignitaries who consider Ben’s Chili Bowl a favorite, the restaurant’s offerings have been praised by the likes of Zagat and The Daily Meal, the latter of which stated: “The celebrity (and presidential) photos on the wall are clear indications of Ben’s Chili Bowl’s city landmark status, but the continuous lines out the door are evidence that the restaurant’s chili cheese dogs are some of the best in the country. The Half Smoke is so good ... it’s the undisputed best.” Winning the prestigious James Beard Award was another great honor bestowed upon the iconic eatery.

While Ben Ali passed away in 2009, his family – including Virginia – carries on the traditions that have made Ben’s Chili Bowl an institution.

“We couldn’t be more pleased to serve as Ben’s Chili Bowl’s first home in Maryland,” said Horseshoe Baltimore Senior Vice President and General Manager Randall Conroy. “This will be more than just a place to enjoy a great meal. It will be a piece of history that extends a long and proud tradition of excellence and connects Baltimore and D.C.”

Horseshoe Baltimore

The south anchor of Baltimore’s Southern Gateway Entertainment District, Horseshoe Baltimore, developed by CBAC Borrower, LLC, is located on Russell Street extending the city’s tourism footprint. The city-integrated casino is designed to maximize connectivity with existing hospitality operators, neighboring sports venues M&T Bank Stadium and Oriole Park at Camden Yards, and the city’s famed Inner Harbor. The casino is home to world-renowned chefs Gordon Ramsay, Giada de Laurentiis and Guy Fieri — the only casino in the world that houses all three celebrity chefs. Enjoy Gordon Ramsay’s first steakhouse on the East Coast, award-winning Gordon Ramsay Steak; Giada de Laurentiis’ only restaurant outside of Las Vegas, GDL Italian by Giada; and a taste of Guy Fieri’s signature cuisine at Guy Fieri’s Baltimore Kitchen + Bar. Horseshoe Baltimore’s three-level feature bar, 14Forty, official bar of the Baltimore Ravens, raises the nightlife standard within the city, serving drinks around the clock in the center of the casino where guests are always surrounded by 360 degrees of excitement. At Horseshoe Baltimore, guests will find more than 2,200 of the newest, hottest slots, including more than 150 video poker machines with more than 150 table games and a 25-table World Series of Poker-branded poker room amid 122,000 square feet of gaming space. The casino, which opened Aug. 26, 2014, employs more than 1,500 team members. Horseshoe Baltimore is operated by a subsidiary of Caesars Entertainment Corporation (NASDAQ: CZR). For more information, please visit HorseshoeBaltimore.com. Find Horseshoe Baltimore on [Facebook](#) and follow on [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).