NSW GOVERNMENT

From docks to destination

The story of the new Sydney Fish Market

January 2026

Message from the Minister

The new Sydney Fish Market is Sydney's latest architectural marvel. An icon on our harbour and a testament to world-class engineering and design.

Welcoming an expected 6 million local and international visitors each year, it will remain one of our city's most loved destinations, showcasing authentic seafood in a truly world-class setting.

Since the late 1800s, the Sydney Fish Market has been part of our city's identity. A place where culture, community, and commerce meet on the shores of Blackwattle Bay.

As we open this new chapter, I am proud to present this booklet celebrating the transformation of one of our most iconic landmarks.

This revitalised market is more than a food and retail precinct. It stands as a symbol of our commitment to sustainability, cultural connection, and the future of the seafood industry. It will continue to serve generations of fishers, food lovers, and visitors from across Australia and around the world.

On behalf of the NSW Government, thank you to the thousands of people who brought this vision to life, the architects, designers, builders, tradespeople, the seafood industry and the community.

I invite you to explore the new Sydney Fish Market and the pages of this booklet and discover the history, vision, values, and voices behind this extraordinary place.

The Hon. Stephen Kamper,
Minister for Lands and Property

Acknowledgement of Country

Infrastructure NSW acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands where we walk, work and live. We pay respect to their Elders past and present.

Messages from the CEOs

Tom Gellibrand, CEO, Infrastructure NSW

The transformation of the Sydney Fish Market marks a significant milestone for our city. This bold and visionary project reflects the best of what we can achieve together.

At Infrastructure NSW, we are proud to have led its delivery in collaboration with government, design and construction teams, local industry and community to bring this ambitious vision to life. The new market is a world-class destination that honours tradition and culture, supports local industry, and opens up Sydney's stunning waterfront.

Thank you to everyone whose hard work made this vision a reality. We look forward to seeing the new Sydney Fish Market thrive as a vibrant space for generations to come.

Daniel Jarosch, CEO, Sydney Fish Market

The new Sydney Fish Market will be world-class, and a proud masthead for the Australian seafood industry, showcasing spectacular produce to the world. More than a seafood market, people can experience where their seafood comes from, discover fishing history, and enjoy the wonderful diversity.

From an oyster masterclass at the Sydney Seafood School to fish and chips by the harbour, the market delivers a next-level destination that locals and visitors will want to return to time and again.

Front cover image: New Sydney Fish Market

History of the Sydney Fish Market

1872

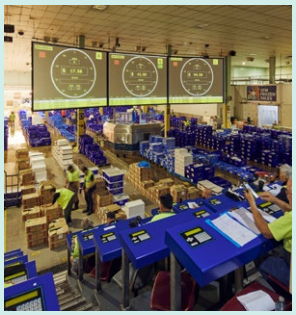
First fish market opens at Forbes Street, Woolloomooloo and relocates to Haymarket in 1914.

1966

Operations move to Blackwattle Bay and begins public seafood sales. Sydney Fish Market is a wholesale fish market operated by the Fish Marketing Authority.

1989

Sydney Fish Market at Blackwattle Bay opens. A computerised Dutch auction system opens to improve the efficiency of seafood sales. Sydney Seafood School opens.



1994

NSW Government privatises seafood marketing forming Sydney Fish Market Pty Ltd.

2001

Launch of online seafood trading system, SFMlive.

2004

State-of-the-art digital video projectors enhance auction clocks.

2016

NSW Government announces new market at Blackwattle Bay.

2020

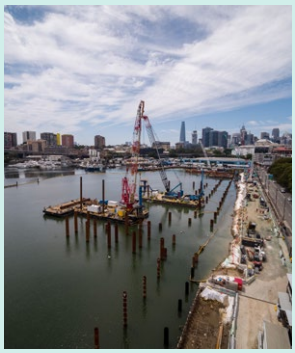
Demolition of former concrete plant. Construction of the new Sydney Fish Market begins.

"Our family has been fishing out of Sydney for over three generations, since my father first arrived from Italy in the 1950s. The fish market has always been more than a place of business for us – it's part of our daily life, our community, and our story. Seeing the new Sydney Fish Market take shape is incredibly special. It honours the past and will hopefully inspire a new generation of fishers." **Diego Bagnato, Sydney fisherman**

The evolution of a new Sydney icon

2021

Over 400 marine piles installed; cofferdam construction begins. The cofferdam 4m below sea level provides a dry, safe zone for workers to start basement works.



2022

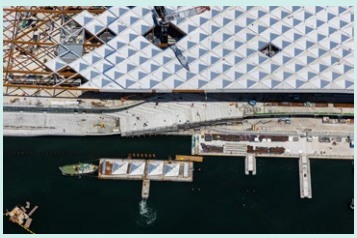
Cofferdam works continue. High-voltage power and utilities to the site installed.

2023

Major structural work begins within the cofferdam; roof cassette assembly begins on Glebe Island.

2024

Structure takes shape, 200m-long roof installed. Cofferdam rewatered, submerging 300 artificial coral panels and seawalls to support marine life in Blackwattle Bay.



2025

Final roof cassette installed, bringing the total roof weight to nearly 2,500 tonnes; landscaping is complete with 5 creative installations, 13,000 native plants, 90 native trees and recycled timber furniture.

2026

The new Sydney Fish Market opens.

New state-of-the-art facilities installed, including ice-making systems capable of producing 51,000kgs of ice daily, automated crate wash system that cleans up to 900 crates per hour, and live crustacean tanks, positioning the market for global seafood trade.

Honouring the site's rich history

The site's cultural and historical storytelling is integrated into the public domain through five major creative installations that honour the area's First Nations heritage and the site's industrial past.

Among these is Saltwater People Stories, three bronze sculptures celebrating enduring presence and fishing traditions of local Aboriginal communities:

The Nawi

A traditional bark canoe by Uncle Steven Russell (Bidjigal Elder, Dharawal-Wodi-Wodi and Birpai Nations).

***Birrang Narrami* (Star Net)**

A traditional woven fishing net by Nadeena Dixon (Gadigal, Yuin, Dharawal, Dharug and Wiradjuri Nations).

***The Call of Ngura* (Country)**

Eel-like forms representing the Dreamtime journey of the great Creator Gurangady by Leanne Tobin (Dharug Nation).

Alongside these sculptures will be:

Land of the Giant Pippies

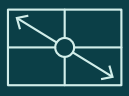
An interactive water play area by Alison Page (Dharawal and Yuin Nations).

Coal Loader Palm Grove

An interpretation of the historic coal loader built in 1926 sitting within Daranggara palms, by Mike Hewson.

Leanne Tobin, Nadeena Dixon, Uncle Steven Russell, Mike Hewson and Alison Page.

Construction in numbers



20,000m^2

of roof area
(around 4 football fields)

407

roof cassettes

400

lights connected by more than 4km of cabling embedded on the roof

594

glulam timber beamss
(each beam spans up to 32m in length and weighs over 7t)

200m

long roof canopy

2,500t

approximate weight of the roof (equivalent to six large yachts)

34,000m^3

of concrete poured (nearly 14 Olympic swimming pools)

6,000t

of steel reinforcement

481

marine piles to support the building structure, wharfs and promenades

1,700

glass louvre panels used for façades

100

million litres of seawater drained to build cofferdam 4m below sea level

1,000

steel sheets and tubular piles, driven up to 22m into the seabed for the cofferdam

New Sydney Fish Market

Design and architecture

The new Sydney Fish Market is designed by 3XN/GXN Architects, in association with BVN and ASPECT Studios and built by construction partner Multiplex.

Sydney's skyline changed forever with the crowning glory and defining feature of the new Sydney Fish Market.

"With the new Fish Market, our goal is to preserve the authenticity and spectacle of a working market while opening it more fully as a catalyst for community life. Central to this vision is a commitment to achieving the highest standards of sustainability and a celebration of the unique Sydney Harbour setting. Our hope is that the new Sydney Fish Market becomes a place where both Sydneysiders and tourists gather all year round."

Fred Holt, Sydney Partner, 3XN/ GXN Architects

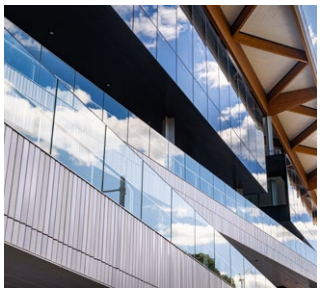
"The new harbour landscape at Sydney Fish Market reclaims a vital moment on the foreshore walk, creating a green necklace of open space around Blackwattle Bay and a vibrant world-class destination for the community and visitors to gather, connect, and enjoy the iconic Sydney Harbour."

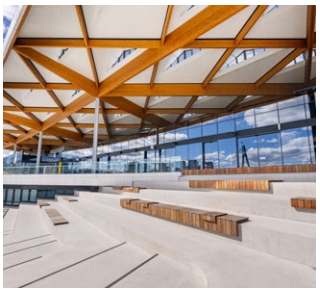
Sacha Coles, Global Design Director, ASPECT Studios

"The new Sydney Fish Market is more than a building — it's a celebration of food, place and people. BVN are proud to have helped create this civic landmark that brings them together."

Catherine Skinner, BVN Principal

Sustainability





Green Star rating

The building is aiming for a 5 Star Green Star rating, aligning with the NSW Government's net zero 2050 goal by:

- using energy efficient systems and designs, maximising on-site renewables
- improving water efficiency with a target of 45% reduction in potable water use
- minimising waste via separation, recycling and reuse of materials
- using low-impact materials in building design and construction
- being a climate-resilient building design
- maximising the building's indoor environmental quality for comfort and air quality
- supporting sustainable transport options to and from the site.

In the bay

Healthy marine habitats in Blackwattle Bay are being restored through the installation of rock reefs, seawall tiles, bio shelters, and fish-attracting devices to enhance biodiversity and improve water quality.

5 Seabin™ units have been deployed as part of the Smart City Program, filtering over 4.4 billion litres of water and capturing approximately 4.1 million plastic items.

A taste of Sydney

The new Sydney Fish Market will showcase a curated mix of local seafood traders, specialty food retailers, and diverse dining options, from casual takeaway to premium waterfront restaurants, celebrating Sydney's rich culinary culture. Beyond food and beverage, the market will also feature a selection of specialty retailers, adding to its dynamic and diverse atmosphere.

GetFish

"The magnificent new Sydney Fish Market is going to be the best fish market in the world, making it the perfect place to grow our family seafood businesses. GetFish will be a seafood lover's paradise, featuring premium seafood retail, a casual dining restaurant, and an incredible 9-metre-long hot display of freshly cooked seafood. We can't wait to welcome guests from all over the world to experience what we have to offer." – **Tony Muollo, GetFish**

Doltone Hospitality Group are partnering with chef Luke Nguyen again to create **Lua Restaurant & Bar**

Leyrd

"The new Sydney Fish Market is a vibrant celebration of the ocean, fresh seafood, and a sustainable lifestyle. We're proud to bring the taste of Vietnam, with our banh mi and coffee with a twist, to this iconic home of food and culture." – **Hailey Nghiem, Leyrd**

Cow and the Moon

"Our family is thrilled to be serving our gelato at the iconic, revitalised new Sydney Fish Market. It's a beautiful blend of heritage and progress... celebrating both the past and the future. Sydney's in for something truly special!"
–**Samuel Crowl, Cow and the Moon**

Mayfarm Flowers from Central West region of New South Wales

"Mayfarm Flowers, being of the land... are excited to develop the world's most beautiful botanical apothecary at a place that celebrates the bounties of the sea."
–**Chris May, Mayfarm Flowers**

Touch_wood

"As local operators, we're honoured and excited to be involved in Sydney's newest iconic harbourside precinct. We look forward to welcoming locals and visitors alike to experience this world-class destination as we showcase great local seafood."
–**Tyson Rowsell, Touch_wood & Little Red**

Looking ahead: more than a market

The new Sydney Fish Market will be a vibrant hub for food, culture, learning and community.

Events and celebrations

- Iconic events like the 36-Hour Seafood Marathon and Blessing of the Fleet.
- New spaces support food festivals, live music, art, and cultural celebrations.
- Family-friendly, inclusive spaces with stunning views of Blackwattle Bay.

Book a tour

Immersive tours

- Behind-the-scenes: auction floor access and market operations.
- Tasting tours: sample fresh seafood and vendor specialties.
- School tours: focus on sustainability and marine education.
- Private/VIP tours: tailored for groups and events.

Sydney Seafood School

- Upgraded, waterfront venue with flexible spaces.
- Hosts private, corporate, and tourism cooking classes.
- Combines tours with hands-on culinary experiences.

Book an experience

The NSW Government would like to thank the local community and neighbours for their support throughout the project.

For all enquiries, please reach out directly to Sydney Fish Market at www.sydneyfishmarket.com.au

This project was delivered by Infrastructure NSW on behalf of the NSW Government.