



NOMINATIONS

Restaurants, pubs, bakeries and caterers make national shortlist

Firms up for food award

RESTAURANTS, food suppliers, pubs, bakeries and caterers from Leicestershire have made the shortlists for the Food Awards England.

A black tie awards ceremony announcing the winners will take place at The Mercure Manchester Piccadilly Hotel on Sunday.

The awards, now in their second year, celebrate the best in England's food sector.

Finalists were selected based on a public vote, for categories from Best Street Food to Restaurant of the Year.

Sapori Restaurant Bar, an Italian Restaurant in Anstey, has made the shortlist in two categories – Midlands Restaurant of the Year and Best Italian Establishment in the Midlands.

BY SAMANTHA FISHER

Owner Luigi Riccardi said: "It is amazing. It has been rewarding somebody is appreciating our cuisine. We are thrilled.

"We are the only Italian in Leicestershire on the list.

"We can't wait to go to Manchester on Sunday."

Sapori Restaurant Bar opened four years ago.

Luigi said what made the

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Luigi Riccardi

restaurant special was that everything was made there, including the pasta.

Rocksalt Bistro, in High Street, Market Harborough, is a finalist in the Best Seafood Establishment in the Midlands category.

Ryan Cobly, a supervisor at the bistro, said: "All the staff are very happy. We are very grateful we are finalists and people voted for us.

"I think it is because we do something different, that is why we are in the final.

"It is all fresh everyday, too, and we try to use local produce as well."

The Bistro opened in December.

Ryan said: "We are very proud we have achieved this in less than a year. This is very good for our business."



PICTURE: MIKE SEWELL
LEMS20151103D-003

THRILLED: Head chef Andrea Scarpati and Cristina Riccardi with their 17-month-old daughter Viviani and manager Luigi Riccardi

Street Food: Big Daddies Diner, Leicester

Dessert Outlet: Heavenly Desserts, Leicester

Frozen Food Provider: Crowndale, Wigston

Ambient Food Manufacturer: Blueberry Foods, Melton

Restaurant, Midlands: Sapori, Anstey

Gastro Pub, Midlands: Reservoir Inn, Thornton

FINALISTS

Hotel Restaurant, Midlands: Stapleford Park; Scafford Hall Hotel, Melton; Sketchley Grange Hotel, Burbage

Caterer, Midlands: The Dimblebee Catering, Leicester

Italian Establishment, Midlands: Sapori, Anstey

Mediterranean Establishment, Midlands: Anatolia, Leicester

Oriental Establishment, Midlands: Kuru Kuru Sushi, Leicester

World Cuisine, Midlands: Natterjacks, Leicester

Vegetarian Establishment, Midlands: Sharmilee Sweet Mart, Leicester

Seafood Establishment, Midlands: Rock Salt Bistro, Market Harborough; Lighthouse, Kibworth Beauchamp; Barnacles, Hinckley