

OKKU



Background:

Luxury Japanese restaurant, Okku brings a new style of contemporary Japanese cuisine to the Middle East dining scene. Since its 2009 opening, the two-level restaurant has already scored a number of accolades including 'Best Restaurant of 2009' at the Time Out Best in Dubai awards.

After shooting into the culinary spotlight in Dubai, all eyes are on the Okku team as they look to expand into vibrant cities such as Bombay and Las Vegas.

How will Okku benefit from winning a British Airways' Business Opportunities Grant?

"In today's ultra-connected times one can easily fire off an email, pick up the phone, or video conference a prospective client or business associate. One cannot however, understand the entire dynamic of a world be venue or accurately gauge the potential success of a food and beverage venture from schematical drawings or feasibility reports.

A good operator understands the space he is working with, surveys its locality and tries to offer something unique and memorable that will drive business well into the future.

It is for these reasons that Okku are delighted to have won the Business Opportunities Grant. It has been a difficult year for businesses of all sizes; however SMEs have been hit the hardest. British Airways has given us the opportunity to travel for invaluable face to face meetings, allowing us to nurture current relationships and to try and break new frontiers with our business. This initiative has been greatly welcomed by the whole of the UAE's SME community."

Markus Thesleff, co-founder of Okku.