



Architectural specifier: Franklin Architectural Design
Building contractor: Mudgeway Builders
Client: Brian Hogan
Interior designer: Picturebook Interiors



Blacksmith Bar & Eatery

Takanini Village

 Resene Bullseye

This new bar and restaurant was to be built in a new development in Auckland. The base build contractors completed the shell to plasterboard stage and the client took over from there. This design and build created many challenges, including the vision of the developers and the restrictions of spaces already determined by the base, which were overcome without compromise to the project. The Blacksmith Bar and Eatery were the only clues given in the brief. Picturebook Interiors had previously worked on another project for the same client so the trust had already been established. "I will leave it up to you, but we have a limited budget" were his words, so the process began.

This is a new and up and coming area with an eclectic mix of people, from all backgrounds, professions and family units, so with that in mind the design had to make each person feel comfortable in some area of the space.

With a name like the blacksmith, it immediately brought to mind dark, moody, industrial, fire, soot and coal and with those thoughts in mind the design process began.

The jumping off point was the mural, designed in conjunction with Sign Max. The mainly monochromatic base of the mural, with touches of 'fire' and 'hot coals' is where the design process began. The mural filled a difficult space, which was very high and reached from the ground floor up to the roof of the mezzanine floor where the main restaurant is situated. It needed to link the two spaces together but not be so dominant that it intruded on the people space.

There was a desire to bring in a fiery colour that balanced off the greys selected to be the main colour palette. After many attempts the perfect coral/red to imitate the fire and embers was found in **Resene Pirate**. This brought the warmth required in such a large space through one main wall downstairs and two recessed areas up in the main dining area.

The battle of the greys then began. **Resene Silver Chalice** was chosen as the base grey, for its more pure grey properties, which worked with the bare metal piping for the sprinkler system and cable trays for the lighting. **Resene Half Silver Chalice** was used on the ceilings and full **Resene Silver Chalice** on the walls in the main bar area. To contrast this, **Resene Fuscous Grey** was the obvious choice. It gave the depth required without turning an unwanted colour. This was then used on the panelling and on the units behind the bars and all internal doors. This was then outlined on skirtings and dado rails in **Resene Black**, which was also used on the bar front. Woodwork throughout is finished in **Resene Alabaster**. With highly polished concrete floors, which had a black oxide colour added, these colours simply pulled the entire scheme together.

The bathrooms are an important part of any bar. The ladies' bathroom feature partitions in Laminex Jalapeno with the doors finished in Laminex Energy Stream, both mimicking the **Resene Pirate**. The vanities are made from Laminex Seasoned Oak and finished with white bowls and simple chrome tapware.

The main walls were coated **Resene Truffle**, being a softer more feminine grey, which worked with the wallpaper feature from the Organza collection 45240 and the industrial style mirrors.

The men's bathroom demanded something a little more grounded, so blackened line wood from Laminex was chosen for the vanity tops with white basins and chrome tapware to finish. The partitions were specified in Laminex New Graphite with the doors in Laminex Hydra Mesh and to complement this, **Resene Kensington Grey** was the chosen grey.

The overall look is industrial with the edges softened, a comfortable but somewhat strong interior to match the very nature of the blacksmith industry by which it's named.