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Local food stars make shortlist



AWARDS

Two Kilkenny businesses are in the running for awards at this year's Good Food Ireland Awards, which take place in Dublin later this month.

Newpark Hotel has been shortlisted in two categories, while O'Shea Farms in Piltown has also made the final list, giving Kilkenny plenty to cheer about ahead of the awards ceremony on 16 November.

Newpark Hotel is nominated for 4 Star Irish Hospitality Experience of the Year, alongside hotels from across the country, including Maryborough Hotel in Cork, Killashee Hotel in Kildare and Kelly's Resort Hotel & Spa in Wexford.

The Kilkenny hotel is also shortlisted for the Food Lovers' Choice Award - Ireland's Ancient East, where it is up against the likes of Grow HQ in Waterford, Firecastle in Kildare and the Chocolate Garden of Ireland in Carlow.

There's also good news for Kilkenny's food producers, with O'Shea Farms in Piltown shortlisted for the Fruit & Vegetable Producer award.

The family farming business is among seven finalists in the category, which also includes Malone Fruit Farm and Kearns Fruit Farm in Wexford, The Apple Farm in Tipperary and Garryhinch Wood Exotic Mushrooms in Offaly.

Commenting on the nomination, Philip Kelly, Head of Sales and Marketing at Newpark Hotel, expressed his delight at the recognition, highlighting the hotel's longstanding commitment to showcasing the best of Irish food, supporting local producers and championing sustainable sourcing practices.

"We are proud of the relationships we hae built with farmers and artisan producers across Kilkenny and the surrounding region, enabling us to bring the very best of local and Irish produce to our guests and local customers. This nomination is a wonderful recognition of the dedication of our team and the valued suppliers we work with, and we are truly honoured to receive it."

This year is a special one for the awards, as Good Food Ireland celebrates its 20th anniversary.