



Benjamin Berg – Founder

Born in New York City, Berg has been in the restaurant business for over 17 years working for upscale steakhouses in key markets including Las Vegas, Mexico City and his hometown. He began his career as an in-house butcher with a proud family heritage rooted in the restaurant business. His great-grandfather was a kosher butcher in Chicago, his grandfather owned the iconic Orange Julius juice stand in Los Angeles and his brother is a well-known chef who has an impressive resume working for restaurateurs such as Daniel Boulud and Andrew Carmellini.

In June 2015, Benjamin Berg opened his first concept, B&B Butchers & Restaurant, an upscale steakhouse and traditional butcher shop on Washington Avenue, to rave reviews from critics, celebrities and Houstonians. In December 2017, he purchased Carmelo's Ristorante Italiano, a traditional, family-owned and operated restaurant located in Houston's Energy Corridor since 1981. Now named Carmelo's Cucina Italiana, Berg along with his brother and Executive Chef, Daniel Berg, are serving fresh, rustic Italian-American food in an approachable, neighborhood setting with first-class service. After successfully opening a second location of B&B Butchers & Restaurant in Fort Worth, Texas in January 2018, he formed Berg Hospitality Group, which also includes Benjamin, a namesake restaurant inside The Star, a luxury apartment building in downtown Houston that was formerly the Texaco building, along with more concepts to come.

Prior to his career in restaurants, Berg worked for The Point, a luxury hotel company voted the #1 small hotel in the country at the time. He began as a bellman and worked his way up, learning every detail of the different facets of the hospitality business. He brings this same, service-oriented mindset to his restaurants. Berg received a Master of Hospitality Management from Cornell University and a B.A. in Art History from Tulane University.

Highlights of the awards and honors Berg has received include:

- Named "Honorable Mention" in the Houston Business Journal 2016 40 Under 40 Awards
- Recipient of the Preservation Houston 2016 Good Brick Award for the rehabilitation of the former Dittman Bakery Building into B&B Butchers & Restaurant
- Recipient of the Houston Business Journal 2018 40 Under 40 Awards
- Named a "Hurricane Hero" by Houston CityBook, KPRC-NBC 2, Houston Chronicle and PaperCity Houston for his charitable efforts after Hurricane Harvey
- Named a "Leader and Legend" in 2018 by Houston CityBook