The consumption of raw or undercooked food such as eggs, shellfish and/or meats can greatly increase your chance of contracting a foodborne illness.
Dear Patrons,

Welcome to Samuel Beckett’s Irish Gastro Pub. I hope that your time with us is both enjoyable and memorable. We have taken a great deal of time and effort to try to create an authentic Irish pub experience. Please take your time to walk around and take in the artifacts and paintings we have gathered from Ireland. As you look through our menu you may think “this is not the Irish food that I am used to seeing?” Our menu is a collaboration of items from old Ireland and modern Ireland. We are trying to present to you an example of what we loved to eat growing up in ‘the auld sod’ and what is now popular from some of our favorite haunts back home. We promise to offer you the freshest produce and source as much as we can from local suppliers. The staff at Beckett’s is a mixture of local talent and staff that we have brought over from back home. We would like you to think of us as your stepping stone to Ireland. Our ambassadors will try and answer all your questions on Ireland while serving you great comfort food and premium drinks in a warm environment.

So why Samuel Beckett’s you might ask? I was trying to find a local connection when thinking of a name for the pub and while walking down Campbell Street it was there staring me in the face: the theatre was my link! Shirlington Village is very much an artistic neighborhood and Signature Theatre is one of the best in the country. Upon doing more research I discovered that Signature Theatre has performed several of Samuel Beckett’s plays. I have attached a bio below for those who are interested in learning more of our beloved Irish man.

Selfie!
Mark A. Kirwan
Owner/Publican

Samuel Beckett
Born Samuel Barclay Beckett, at Coolrinnagh house in Foortock, County Dublin, Ireland on 13 April, 1906; the second of two sons of middle-class Protestant parents. In 1919 Beckett entered Portora Royal School, at the age of thirteen, where he first began to study the French language and became very active and successful in the athletic program. It was during his second year at Portora that the Government of Ireland Act 1920 was passed in order to create two self-governing territories, and later in 1922 that Ireland separated from the United Kingdom and became the Irish Free State. In 1923 Beckett entered Trinity College in Dublin, at the age of seventeen, choosing French and Italian as his subjects. Samuel Beckett graduated from Trinity College in 1927.

In 1928 Beckett moved to Paris and took a job as lecteur d’anglais at the École Normale Supérieure. Later in 1928, Beckett met James Joyce; the two became close friends almost immediately and began working together on Work in Progress, later to be titled Finnegans Wake. Joyce asked Beckett to contribute to Our Exagmination Round His Factification for Incamation of Work in Progress for which Beckett wrote his first published piece, “Dante… Bruno. Vico… Joyce,” and defended Joyce’s work against allegations of lewd and ambiguous writing. In 1930 Beckett published “Horoscope,” which won him a small literary award.

Samuel Beckett returned to Dublin in late 1930 to lecture at Trinity College. He began writing a series of short stories that would later become More Pricks than Kicks. His battle with symptoms of deep depression, as well as feelings of frustration with the profession of teaching, drove him to resign his position at Trinity College in December of 1931. Beckett returned to Paris in 1912 where he completed his first novel: Dream of Fair to Middling Women. After several failed attempts at publishing his novel, Beckett returned to Dublin. Shortly after, he traveled to London for a brief time, where he composed the main body of his novel: Murphy. In 1935, Beckett then travelled to Germany in 1936 where he met and associated with many painters in Hamburg. While in Germany he solidified his negative perceptions of the Nazi Party, filling several notebooks with writings depicting his disdain for the savagery of the party. Partially due to these sentiments, Beckett left Germany to move permanently to Paris. It was soon after that Samuel was stabbed, nearly fatally, by a notorious Parisian pimp after refusing his solicitations. While recovering from this attack he published Murphy. In 1938 he met Suzanne Deschevaux-Dumesnil, his true love, whom he later married. Beckett and Suzanne joined the French resistance group Glória SMH. In 1942 they fled the Gestapo raids in Paris and moved to Roustillon in the south of France. The couple returned to Paris after the Germans were defeated in 1945 where he continued his writing and completed Mercier et Camier, “La Fin; “Lespute; “Le calmant” and “Premier amoure.” In 1947 he wrote the play Eleutheria as well as the bulk of his novel. Malby which would later be followed by Malone Dies and The Unnamable. During the time period of 1948-1949 he wrote En Attendant Godot (Waiting for Godot) which was visually inspired, at least in part, by a Canova David Friedrich painting. En Attendant Godot was produced for stage by Roger Blin in 1953 and brought Beckett widespread notice. In 1956 he wrote Act Without Words and in 1958 Krapp’s Last Tape was written. His radio play, Embers, written in 1959, was broadcast on BBC; he then began work on Comment c’est that same year. Later that year Beckett received an honorary doctorate from Trinity College. Samuel married Suzanne in 1961; during that same year he completed Happy Days, Words and Music, and Cascando. In 1965 Beckett completed Imagination morte imaginaire and Come and Go. He then wrote Eh Joe, his first work composed with the intention of being performed on television. Among other later works, Beckett composed “Breath” in early 1969 as a part of the theatrical revue Oh! Calcutta!, an extremely short play consisting of 25 seconds of recorded visceral human sounds, which were interpreted to be of sexual nature in the first production. Beckett was publicly outraged by this “travesty” but later dropped the matter because it “wasn’t worth the argument.”

Samuel Beckett was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1969.

Between 1972 and 1976, Not I, Still, That Time, Footfalls, and Ghost Trio were all written. Throughout the 1970s and beyond, Beckett refused to allow any of his works to be performed before segregated audiences in South Africa. He also supported and expressed sympathy for many victims of oppressive regimes within, but not limited to, Eastern Europe.

Throughout his adult life, Beckett continually manifested a great deal of empathy for those he saw as suffering, often causing his friends to feel it necessary to protect him from those who might prey upon his generosity. Beckett’s health declined steadily throughout the early 1980’s. After being diagnosed with emphysema in 1986, he moved into his Tiers Temps nursing home. While staying there he completed his final work, a poem entitled “What is the Word”.

His wife, Suzanne, died on 17 July, 1989 and Samuel followed her on 22 December, 1989. They are entombed together at Cimetière de Montparnasse in Paris.