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Good Weekend

# Good Weekend's 52 Weekends Away: Great Victorian getaways

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Contemplate the world from a 64th-floor infinity pool, within a five-star converted prison, surrounded by wildlife: if you're looking for a new way of seeing things, Victoria's serving up some fresh perspective.

## Kyneton Springs Motel

101 Piper Street, Kyneton; (03) 5422 1098.



The updated Kyneton Springs Motel embraces 1960s Americana design elements. DAVID WHITE

**THE LOCATION** The historic town of Kyneton, an hour's drive northwest of Melbourne, is a handy place to explore local wineries, the famous Hanging Rock and the gardens of the Macedon area. The hotel is on the Campaspe River end of Piper Street, known for its dining and drinking establishments and a cluster of antique shops.

**THE PLACE** The Californian-style, pink and blue neon street sign is the first hint this is not a normal motel. The Mirage Wing has nine updated original rooms and, across the carpark, the Riviera Wing has eight new rooms (king or twin) and two king-bed suites. All are decorated by owner Catherine Foote and Kyneton-based agency Good/Hands in a retro style that blends 1960s-era Americana and The Great Australian Road Trip. Each room has a television, bar fridge, toaster, kettle, microwave and private bathroom.

**THE EXPERIENCE** Foote says guests often request particular rooms – which makes sense, as they are so wildly different. One has pictures of Marilyn Monroe, for example; another a more blokes-and-cars approach. It's perfect for a group weekend away, but also for a family: it's beautifully nostalgic for adults, while kids will delight in the breakfast hatches (there are interconnecting rooms for families).

**DON'T MISS** On a sunny day, it's hard to go past lunch at Mount Towrong Vineyard, a 25-minute drive south. Book an upstairs table for a view of the vines.

**FROM \$150 a night.** *Melissa Fyfe*