

THE INSIDE GUIDE TO BEING OUTSIDE IN MELBOURNE

IN SUMMER, MELBOURNE OPENS HER DOORS AND STEPS OUT INTO THE SUNSHINE ONTO THE TERRACES, COURTYARDS AND ROOFTOPS SCATTERED ACROSS THE CITY. TAKE A TABLE ON A BALCONY OVERLOOKING THE BAY IN ST KILDA. HAVE A JUG OF PIMMS SERVED BY TENNIS PROS ON A ROOFTOP. WATCH CULT CINEMA BY MOONLIGHT HIGH ABOVE THE CITY, OR SIP BELGIAN BEERS IN A LEAFY COURTYARD. GET OUT AND ABOUT AND LOSE YOURSELF AMONGST ALL THE EXCITEMENT.

THE COCKTAIL HOUR

Start off at **Riverland**, an outdoor bar and beer hall built into the underside of the old bluestone Yarra bridge. The BBQ is going constantly cooking up gourmet snags. It's the perfect place for a cold beer on a warm day.

Madame Brussels' terrace is a kitsch paradise. The waiters dress like tennis pros, the grass is fake, the indoor furniture is outdoor furniture and the drinks are mostly pink. Plus, the homemade sausage rolls are heaven.

The lavishly decadent **Emerald Peacock** has drinking and dining tables downstairs, and a rooftop courtyard upstairs, join the hustle and bustle of **Degraves Espresso Bar** for a caffeine break, or check out the **Rooftop** on the top level of **Curtain House** for a quick game of croquet, whilst sipping a fine,

foaming ale in the noonday sun. Then stick around into the evening as Rooftop turns into a cinema under the stars.

A TABLE WITH A VIEW

Summer is the perfect time for dining al fresco. **Southbank** has plenty of gorgeous spots overlooking the river. Try **Rockpool** for seriously fine seafood, **Giuseppe Arnaldo & Sons** for simple Italian done perfectly, or head further along to the Docklands for Moroccan at **Mecca Bah** overhanging the dock.

In **St Kilda** reserve a table on the terrace at **Donovans**, or on the balcony at the **Stokehouse**, both immediately overlooking the beach, both with serious pedigrees in the Melbourne food scene.

Still in **St Kilda**, but a little more low-key, the new Japanese pub **Ichi Ni** at the **Espy** has great views over Port Phillip Bay, and tasty Japanese bar snacks and beers.

Finally, if all the action gets too much, you can cool down in the basement at **Coda**, Melbourne's latest foodie favourite.

FASHION TO FLAUNT

The laneways and arcades are the places to start. **Flinders Lane**, home of the Melbourne rag trade, is the abode of Deco dazzler the **Nicholas Building**, housing the quirky and cultish **Lenka** and **Alice Euphemia**, and milliner **Serena Lindeman**. Further down the lane you'll stumble across **Incu** for very cool guy threads, or head down to the basement to consult **Christine**, the goddess of accessories.

The covered laneway at **Howey Place** has some unique labels, as well as favourites like **Alannah Hill**. For something more classic try **Block Arcade** or **Lt Collins St**, and **GPO** has **Belinda**, **Akira**, **Wayne Cooper** and **Zimmermann**.

