

# Gorgi Coghlan



“I love winter in Melbourne. To me it's the opera, musical theatre, slow-cooked food and stylish coats.”



Gorgi Coghlan worked as a teacher, reporter and musical theatre star before finding her bliss in a glorious double life, co-hosting *The Project* in Melbourne, and running a farm outside Ballarat. She shares her passion for city and country

**Life in the country balances me and allows me to completely disconnect from the media.**

I never feel like my career is demanding. I now only work on projects and shows that nourish me, and that involve nourishing people. If I'm going to leave my family and my home, it's got to be for a fun, challenging and exciting project.

**An average day starts with the school run and farm jobs in the morning** – feeding the horses, chooks, ducks, geese and the dog! Then I head off to Melbourne and love the country drive while catching up on the day's news. I hit *The Project* office at midday and it's meetings, make-up (such a treat) and organised mayhem until the show goes live at 6.30pm. It's an enormous pleasure and honour to do.

**We'd love to expand our family, so after our recent IVF journey we are surrendering and hoping that the universe looks after us.**

Career wise, I'm keen to do more singing, head back to the stage and I've always wanted to sing in an animated film.

**I feel most at home on the stage, singing.**

That's when I feel like I'm doing what I was born to do. It stirs my soul and I'm completely lost in the moment.

**Being a keen gardener, I love any chance to re-visit the Melbourne Botanic Gardens.**

Jardin Tan is a favourite spot for lunch – Shannon Bennett has nailed the concept for this space and it's wonderful to enjoy a long lunch, followed by a stroll through the gardens for creative ideas and a sense of peace in the city ([jardintan.com.au](http://jardintan.com.au)). I'm also drawn to the Shrine of Remembrance. It's an important space to reflect on the sacrifices that have been made for us ([shrine.org.au](http://shrine.org.au)).

**I love going out for breakfast when I'm in town**, and I really enjoy The Kettle Black, on Albert Road in South Melbourne. Great coffee and a delicious and creative breakfast menu ([thekettleblack.com.au](http://thekettleblack.com.au)).

**Attica is possibly one of the best restaurants I've experienced anywhere in the world**, and deserves all its accolades. Ben Shewry is a genius

and Melbourne should be so proud to be home to his food ([attica.com.au](http://attica.com.au)). I'm an ambassador for The Langham so I enjoy taking my girlfriends there for a cocktail and some city views before we head out ([langhamhotels.com](http://langhamhotels.com)).

**I love going for a run around The Tan**, in Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens ([rbg.vic.gov.au](http://rbg.vic.gov.au)). It reminds me of a mini Central Park in New York – and you have to run up the hill!

**Port Melbourne dog beach is one of my favourite outdoor hangouts.** It's so much fun and the dogs create wonderful entertainment. Dog beaches are important because they encourage people and families to get out and exercise.

**We are so lucky to have such an incredible hub of world-class entertainment.** I'm always amazed at what the programs here offer and I'm never disappointed. The Arts Centre ([artscentremelbourne.com.au](http://artscentremelbourne.com.au)) and the Melbourne Recital Centre ([melbournerecital.com.au](http://melbournerecital.com.au)) are two of my favourite destinations for a night out.

**I've always wanted to dive with the sharks at the Melbourne Aquarium.** Maybe I'll take the plunge this year for my birthday ([melbourneaquarium.com.au](http://melbourneaquarium.com.au)).

**I have a sweet tooth, and the Tivoli Road Bakery in South Yarra is fabulous** – great coffee, delicious sandwiches and incredible treats and cakes ([tivoliroad.com.au](http://tivoliroad.com.au)). It's just around the corner from *The Project* office so we love it. Burch and Purchase in South Yarra is also well worth a visit – they do amazing cakes ([burchandpurchase.com](http://burchandpurchase.com)).

**If I was entertaining visitors I'd whisk them away to Ballarat of course!** We'd eat at Catfish, our local Thai restaurant which was recently awarded a chef hat in *The Age Good Food Guide* ([catfishthai.com.au](http://catfishthai.com.au)), and then head to Mitchell Harris for wine and cheese ([mitchellharris.com.au](http://mitchellharris.com.au)).

**I love winter in Melbourne.** To me it's the opera, musical theatre, slow-cooked food and stylish coats. Melbourne locals are easy to spot. They're dressed in black and carrying a top-notch latte.

**Melbourne is ... less than one hour's drive (from Ballarat)! DV**