



McLeod's – the luxury retreat

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FANS can now wake up in their very own *McLeod's Daughters* adventure in the Barossa Valley.

And the South Australian Tourism Commission is hoping the popular TV drama's global audience will turn into international visitors to our state.

Five years after the final episode of the Channel 9 show went to air, the iconic Kingsford Homestead will today open its doors to the public as a luxury retreat. The 90ha property featured in the show as Drovers Run. *McLeod's Daughters* screened in 200 countries, from the US to Switzerland.

Tourism Minister Gail Gago will today officially open Kingsford Homestead with an announcement of \$300,000 in SA Tourism Commission grants.

"Kingsford Homestead now offers a new experience for visitors to the Barossa and it is expected it will have an enormous appeal to interstate and overseas visitors to South Australia," she said.

"It will also encourage visitors to stay overnight in the Barossa rather than returning to Adelaide."

Stefan and Leanne Ahrens bought the property for an undisclosed sum in 2009 and turned it into a luxury resort. It sold for \$1,555,000 in August 2008.

The Ahrens plan to upgrade the shearing sheds, add more accommodation and provide facilities adaptable for corporate and private events within local, interstate and international markets.

The homestead was built in 1856 and is on the western edge of the Barossa Valley, near Gawler.

GALLERY
See stunning images of the refurbished mansion
24-hour news
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TOURISM DRAWCARD: The refurbished Kingsford Homestead and, right, two of *McLeod's Daughters* stars, Michala Banas and Simone Jade Mackinnon.

Main picture: SATC