



BENDIGO EASTER



5 DAY FULLY INCLUSIVE TOUR

2nd April to 6th April, 2026

BENDIGO EASTER *Festival*

THURSDAY 2ND APRIL TO MONDAY 6TH APRIL, 2026

Nestled in the heart of Victoria's goldfields, the Bendigo Easter Festival is more than a holiday celebration — it's a beautifully woven tapestry of heritage, culture and fun. Each Easter, Bendigo comes alive with colour and tradition. From the majestic Chinese dragon Dai Gum Loong winding his way through the streets, to the serene lantern displays and vintage fairground charm, there's something timeless in the air.

Stroll beneath the autumn leaves, take in art at the historic Bendigo Art Gallery, or sip regional wine as brass bands play in the gardens.

We hope you can join us this Easter!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- The Stokes Collection, Forest Glade Gardens
- Rotary Arts & Craft Market
- Rochester Silo Art
- Guided tour of Bendigo
- Buda Historic Home and Garden
- Pud for All Seasons
- Torchlight Lantern Procession
- Easter Gala Parade
- Bendigo Pottery
- Bendigo Joss House Temple

RAIL

- Vintage Talking Tram

MULTIPLE NIGHT STAY

- 4 nights in Bendigo



COACH



TRAIN



STAY PUT



SMALL GRP

As a thank you for travelling with O'Shannessy's Quality Tours, you will automatically receive a saving on the total tour price for your second and subsequent tours.

O'Shannessy's Quality Tours will match single travellers who wish to twin share with another single traveller of the same gender. However, if this is not possible, in most cases you shall be provided with single accommodation at the twin share fare (no additional cost).

If you are willing to twin share but are a smoker, have a CPAP machine or snore, you will need to pay a single supplement for a sole use room.



TOUR INCLUSIONS

- **Complimentary Chauffeur Driven Transfers.** Victorian passengers from Greater Melbourne, Bendigo, Torquay, Ballarat, Geelong, the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsulas, Phillip Island and selected areas of Gippsland will be picked up and returned home in a private chauffeured vehicle by one of our professional drivers. For passengers not within this pick up zone, or our interstate passengers, a quote can be provided for home pickup in extended areas.
- **Luxury Touring Coaches.** Our full size, 3 axle luxury coaches have only 32-36 passenger seats allowing you even more personal space and extra leg room. Our coaches are fitted with comfortable reclining seats with aisle arm rests, foot rests, seat belts, panoramic windows with blinds, refrigerator for passenger use, restroom, climate control air conditioning and Road Cam monitors which display the road ahead in real time. Each coach has a second door for easier entry and exit and touchless hand sanitizer dispensers at each entry to help keep everyone safe. Our coaches have full air suspension delivering a smooth and quiet ride which also allows us to lower the coach closer to the ground, making boarding and disembarking even easier.
- **Tour Directors.** Dedicated O'Shannessy's Quality Tours coach crew (tour directors) on board to ensure your travel experience is memorable.
- **Best Available Quality Accommodation.** Ensuite motel accommodation each night.
- **Attractions.** All tours and interest venues as per itinerary.
- **Meals.** All full cooked breakfasts, morning teas and lunches most days, and two course restaurant dinners daily. One lunch at your own expense as per itinerary.
- **No Hidden Extras.** O'Shannessy's Quality Tours are fully inclusive.

TOUR COSTS

Twin Share Room First Tour:	\$2,895 per person
Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 2 - 10 Tours:	\$2,870 per person
Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 11 - 20 Tours:	\$2,845 per person
Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 21+ Tours:	\$2,820 per person
Single Room Supplement:	\$ 420 per person





DAY 1

Thursday 2nd April, 2026

MELBOURNE TO BENDIGO

Welcome to our 5-day **Easter tour to Bendigo!** With chauffeured pickup from home, we are transferred to meet our **O'Shannessy's Quality Tours** coach and crew. We begin our journey travelling to **Mount Macedon**, where we enjoy our morning tea break. Nearby, we can explore the renowned **Stokes Collection**, located in the heart of the stunning **Forest Glade Gardens**. This remarkable collection is a testament to the life-long passion of Cyril Stokes and his love of beautiful decorative arts. Each piece reflects years of research and travels to art auctions and estate sales around the world. After a memorable visit, we enjoy lunch before continuing to **Bendigo**, where we'll immerse ourselves in the vibrant Easter long weekend celebrations.

OVERNIGHT: Quality Lakeside Hotel, BENDIGO ★★★★★

DAY 2

Friday 3rd April, 2026

GOOD FRIDAY

For anyone who wants to join into any local church services or simply relax over a leisurely breakfast. Meeting up again we visit the **Rotary Art and Craft Market***. where you can browse an array of handmade goods, unique treasures, local produce, and much more. You'll have time to explore before we head to the Beechworth Bakery – Bendigo for lunch. We then spend the afternoon discovering some off the amazing Silo art this area has to offer. Heading to **Colbinnabbin** where artwork features across six silos. Artist Tim Bowtell's work depicts five different scenes from varying times through the town from the early 1900s to the 1980s. Then in the small town of **Rochester**, we discover more Silo Art, by Jimmy Dvate. We'll be mesmerized by the endangered Squirrel Glider and radiant Azure Kingfisher with its blue head and body. And keep an eye out for the elusive Platypus, one of the most unusual and interesting animals in the world, which can be found at various locations along the Campaspe River. We then return to Bendigo.

OVERNIGHT: Quality Lakeside Hotel, BENDIGO ★★★★★

MORE OF BENDIGO AND CASTLEMAINE

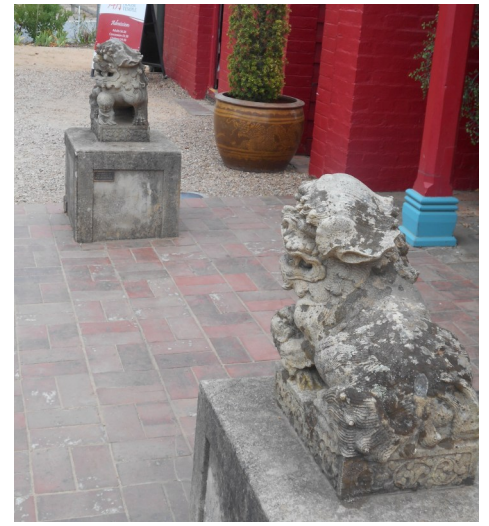
Bendigo boasts one of the most impressive collections of Victorian-era architecture among Australia's inland cities. This morning, a **local expert** joins us on the coach for a guided tour of some of the city's architectural highlights, including the iconic Shamrock Hotel and the majestic Sacred Heart Cathedral. After farewelling our guide, we travel south to **Castlemaine** to visit the **Buda Historic Home and Garden**. This beautifully preserved residence offers a superb example of Victorian colonial architecture and provides a fascinating glimpse into the area's refined past. Enjoying lunch, we then pop into **Pud for all Seasons**, renowned supplier of the tastiest gourmet puddings, and chocolate delicacies for all occasions! Then returning to our hotel, we have time to relax before an early dinner, as later this evening, we head out once more to experience the enchanting **Torchlight Lantern Procession and Fireworks**. This spectacular event lights up Bendigo's streets with illuminated floats from local emergency services, community groups, and the Bendigo Chinese Association—culminating in a dazzling fireworks display over Rosalind Park.

OVERNIGHT: Quality Lakeside Hotel, BENDIGO ★★★★★

**“... Dance, drums, Lion teams and
100,000 crackers are all part of
Awakening of the Dragon,
as Bendigo celebrates its Chinese heritage
at the Dai Gum San Precinct...”**

www.bendigoeasterfestival.org.au





DAY 4

Sunday 5th April, 2026

EASTER SUNDAY GALA PARADE

This morning we time exploring the main **Easter Festival Precinct*** of **Rosalind Park**. Here we can enjoy lively entertainment, pop up stalls and much more before time to purchase lunch before we take our places along the parade route for the highlight of the Bendigo Easter Festival, the **Easter Gala Parade***. Enjoy the colour and excitement as bands, dance groups, sporting clubs, and cultural organisations make their way through Bendigo's historic streets. Watch out for **Dai Gum Loong**, the world's longest Imperial Dragon, as he winds his way through the crowd in a magnificent display. This afternoon we visit **Bendigo Pottery** where we enjoy self-guided tour of the Interpretive Centre. Here, we'll step back in time to learn about the evolution of pottery making - from its beginnings in 1858 through to modern times.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Quality Lakeside Hotel, BENDIGO ★★★★★

**PLEASE NOTE: At the time of this publication, the programme for the 2026 Easter Festival has not been finalised and activities mentioned are only an indication of what may be available.*

DAY 5

Monday 6th April, 2026

HOMEWARD BOUND

We enjoy a relaxed final morning in Bendigo, beginning with a scenic round-trip ride on the **Vintage Talking Tram**, where we'll take in the city's wide streets and majestic architecture while learning about its goldfield history. Next, we visit the **Bendigo Joss House Temple**, a historic Chinese place of worship. Here, we explore Chinese beliefs and learn about the immigrants who came to Bendigo in search of gold, a fascinating and vital part of the region's cultural heritage. Then we farewell this beautiful historic city and commence our journey home. Enjoying lunch along the way the arrive in Melbourne where our chauffeurs will be waiting to take us to our very doors, bringing our Easter adventure to a close.

PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION POLICY

Receipt of payment of funds will be taken as acceptance of O'Shannessy's Quality Tours conditions of travel for this tour. Prices include GST and all taxes. Deposit is fully refundable until **46 days** prior to departure date. Balance due on invoice.

Cancellation 45 to 31 days before tour departure date

20% Refund of Tour Cost

Cancellation within 30 days of tour departure date

No Refund

On or after tour date departure

No Refund

If a tour is cancelled for any reason by O'Shannessy's Quality Tours before the departure date, all passengers will be offered the option of transferring to another tour of their choice, hold the funds in trust for a future tour or a full refund. There is no time limit as to when this must be used. If a lockdown is implemented while a tour is in progress, our first priority is the safety and wellbeing of our passengers and ensuring that we get each and every one of them home safely, and therefore we treat every situation individually. The Australian Government (see www.smarttraveller.gov.au) recommends all travellers no matter where you are going, obtain comprehensive travel insurance from a reputable provider. It may enable you to claim back the cost of your tour if you are unable to travel or have to cancel at late notice. Always read the PDS provided, to ensure the cover meets all of your needs. We are able to provide travel insurance through Nib Insurance. If you would like a quote please call our office toll free on 1800 354 352.

CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL

These terms and conditions form the basis of the contract between You and O'Shannessy's Quality Tours (O'Shannessy's Quality Tours "We", "Us", or "Our" contract). It is important that You read the complete list of terms and conditions provided to you upon invoice carefully and that you understand your rights and obligations. A complete list will be provided upon invoice, alternatively they are available upon request via phone, mail, email or on our website. By agreeing to participate in a tour arranged by Us, You are deemed to have accepted these terms and conditions in full.

Any special requests, dietary/personal must be notified to Our office at the time of booking. All efforts will be made to accommodate any special requests. It is your responsibility to advise O'Shannessy's Quality Tours of any pre-existing medical conditions that may affect your ability to participate on the tour. No passenger will be permitted to embark on or continue the tour while their physical or mental condition is, in the opinion of any representative of O'Shannessy's Quality Tours, such as to render them incapable of caring for themselves, or whereby they become objectionable to other passengers or they become a hazard to themselves or other passengers. Passengers rotate seats in the coach daily to ensure fairness to all passengers. No exceptions will be made. The information presented in any printed publications, itineraries, brochures or touring programs is to the best of our knowledge correct at the time of publication. The itinerary may be subject to change without notice. Whilst every effort is made to adhere to the itinerary provided, O'Shannessy's Quality Tours reserves the right to alter the touring and attractions as dictated by circumstances and conditions outside the company's control. Alterations may be made to ensure the smooth running of the tour. O'Shannessy's Quality Tours cannot be held responsible for printing or typographical errors arising from unforeseen circumstances.

O'Shannessy's Quality Tours representatives/crew or any associated carrier, reserves the right at its discretion to exclude from a tour or to terminate the travel arrangements of any person during the course of the tour, without refund, of anyone who: Presents on the day of the tour departure as ill or unwell in any way, including but not limited to: cough, runny nose, sneezing, vomiting or temperature above 37.5 deg C, Is incapable of caring for themselves without a minder/carer, Is unable to cope with the requirements of the tour or who may need or require services or facilities that are not available, Fails to comply with the reasonable instructions of O'Shannessy's Quality Tours crew, Engages in undesirable behaviour or interferes with the enjoyment of other passengers, Is a hazard to themselves or other passengers and/or is likely to become objectionable to other passengers, O'Shannessy's Quality Tours staff and or third party suppliers. Anyone so excluded will be required to disembark at a safe public location, transport from which will be wholly their responsibility. However, if and where possible, O'Shannessy's Quality Tours staff may assist in obtaining transport. You agree that O'Shannessy's Quality Tours is released from all liability for You and You agree not to hold O'Shannessy's Quality Tours responsible for termination of Your travel arrangements.

UPCOMING TOURS *Available*

Lightning Ridge Expedition - May 2026

O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat - June 2026

Whitsunday Experience - July 2026

Travelling with like-minded, mature aged travellers means you'll experience a casual and relaxed atmosphere, where fellow travellers become new found friends.



KEEP IN TOUCH

Be sure to visit our website oshannessys.com.au where you'll be able to stay up to date with information, tour inspiration or simply enjoy sharing your travel experiences with us. You can also subscribe to our eNewsletter so you'll be the first to find out about our additional tours that pop up throughout the year.

You can find us on Facebook and excitingly also on Instagram.

We would love to see your tour pictures exploring Australia or travelling the world with O'Shannessy's Quality Tours and tag us in your travels.

#oshannessys #friendstotravelwith

O'Shannessy's Quality Tours reserves the right to make any alterations to this itinerary as necessary. O'Shannessy's Quality Tours will endeavour to notify you of any significant changes prior to your departure.

This itinerary supersedes all previous itineraries for this tour.

***O'Shannessy's Quality Tours is Covid Clean accredited.
Details available on our website oshannessys.com.au***



Toll Free: 1800 354 352
O'Shannessy's Quality Tours



www.oshannessys.com.au

2121 Point Nepean Road, Rye Vic 3941
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enquiries@oshannessys.com.au