

CHRISTMAS MARKETS



16 DAY FULLY INCLUSIVE TOUR

12th December to 27th December, 2026

CHRISTMAS MARKETS and Phine River Croise

SATURDAY 12TH DECEMBER TO SUNDAY 27TH DECEMBER, 2026

Enjoy magical Christmas celebrations on a luxurious Rhine River cruise exploring Europe's most enchanting festive destinations.

Wander iconic Christmas markets, sip warm glühwein, taste traditional gingerbread and shop for handcrafted treasures beneath twinkling lights.

Our journey culminates with a picture-perfect Christmas Day in Zurich.

Join us for a-once-in-a-lifetime celebration!

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Guided tour of Singapore
- Observation Deck
- Singapore Botanical Gardens
- Marina Bay Sands
- Super Tree Grove Light Show
- Gardens by the Bay
- High Tea at Raffles
- Walking tour of Amsterdam
- Welcome and Farewell Dinners onboard the Emerald Astra
- Christmas Traditions in Europe Lecture

- Guided visit to Christmas Market at Ravenna Viaduct
- Walking tour of Duesseldorf with Christmas Markets visit
- Cologne Christmas Markets and Beer Experience
- Orientation Walk of Koblenz with Christmas Markets visit
- Guided tour of Heidelberg with Christmas Markets visit
- o Guided tour of Zurich
- Christmas Lunch with all the Trimmings

CRUISES

- Bum Boat Cruise, Singapore
- Amsterdam Canal Cruise
- 7 nights Emerald Cruises Star Ship

MULTIPLE NIGHT STAYS

- o 7 nights on Emerald Cruises
- 3 nights in Zurich
- 2 nights in Singapore













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. Please check with the office for your savings.

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, you will need to pay the single room supplement surcharge.

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.

PLEASE NOTE

- To maximize your experience in Europe, you will need to be fit and able to navigate the uneven surfaces under foot, e.g. cobblestone paving.
- On the Emerald Astra, beer, wine and soft drinks during meal services of lunch and dinner are included. If you would like to have premium beverages or cocktails throughout your cruise, beverage packages can be purchased.
- O'Shannessy's Quality Tours has a limited allocation aboard the Emerald Astra. Due to the popularity of this cruise date, specific cabin choices will be subject to availability at time of booking. Please secure your cabin as soon as possible.

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Complimentary chauffeur driven transfers. Pick up from and return to your home from Greater Melbourne, Bendigo, Torquay, Ballarat, Geelong, the Bellarine and Mornington Peninsulas, selected areas of Gippsland and Phillip Island.
- International Flights: Melbourne to Singapore, Singapore to Amsterdam and Zurich to Melbourne via Singapore. Economy flights with Singapore Airlines include transfers and taxes. Business Class and Premium Economy Fares on application.
- Tour Director. Dedicated O'Shannessy's Quality Tours Tour Director from Melbourne to ensure your travel experience is memorable.
- Quality Touring Coach. Quality air-conditioned touring coach and local English speaking tour guide, when stated.
- o Luxury Hotel and Cabin Accommodation. Ensuite accommodation each night.
- o **Attractions.** All tours and interest venues as per itinerary.
- o All gratuities for Drivers, Guides and Boat Crew whilst travelling with the group.
- o **Small Tour Group.** Maximum of 25 participants.
- Meals. 13 fully cooked breakfasts, 6 lunches, 1 Christmas lunch, 1 High Tea, 11 dinners, 1 supper and inflight meals and refreshments. Five lunches and one dinner at your own expense as per itinerary.

TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE

- o Items of a personal nature and any optional extras.
- Travel Insurance is mandatory. Part deposit of \$1,000 paid to Emerald River Cruises is non-refundable. Our office can assist you with travel insurance if you wish.

PLEASE NOTE

- Passports. A valid national passport is needed for all international travel, with a minimum validity of 6 months after return. Please ensure our office has a copy of your valid passport.
- Entry to Singapore. Australian citizens require a Singapore Arrival Card to be completed within three days of arrival to Singapore. O'Shannessy's Quality Tours can assist with this process on behalf of our travellers. Contact our office for more information.
- Entry to Europe. Australian citizens require an ETIAS Travel Authorisation. The fee has been included in the costing. Once again, our office can assist with this process.

FLIGHT INFORMATION

Singapore Airlines allows 25 kilos of checked luggage for economy passengers and a maximum of 7 kilos hand baggage per person.

If anyone wishes to upgrade to Business Class or Premium Economy, please ask our office staff for a quotation and seat availability check.

Travellers can join Kris Flyer should they wish to have free wifi on the aircraft. We can add Kris Flyer accounts to their flight bookings. We recommend passengers hold their boarding passes until their points show on their statement upon return.

EMERALD ASTRA

The 5 Star Emerald Astra is the newest vessel in the fleet, being launched in May 2026.

Length: 443ft (135m)

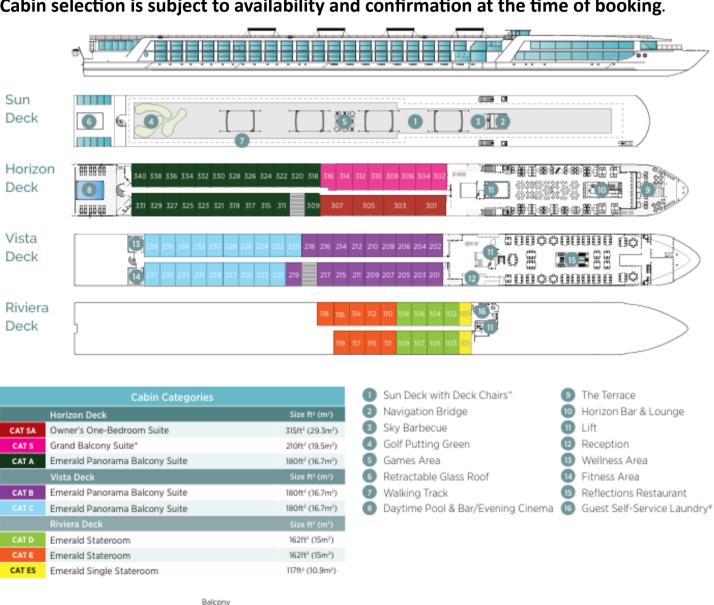
Guests: 180 Cabins: 91

Crew Members: 52

All decks are serviced by a lift; the boat has Fitness & Wellness areas as well as a guest self-service laundry.

Port taxes of \$650 per person are included in the price.

Cabin selection is subject to availability and confirmation at the time of booking.













Owner's One-Bedroom Suite 315ft2 (29.3m2)

Grand Balcony Suite 210ft2 (19.5m2)

Emerald Panorama Balcony Suite 180ft2 (16.7m2) CAT A CAT B CAT C

Emerald Stateroom 162ft2 (15m2) CAT D CAT E

Emerald Single Stateroom 117ft2 (10.9m2) CAT ES

TOUR COSTS WITH ECONOMY AIRFARES (PREMIUM AND BUSINESS CLASS FARES ON APPLICATION)

Category A: \$20,895 per person twin share

\$ 8,275 single room supplement

Category B: \$20,795 per person twin share

\$ 8,170 single room supplement

Category C: \$20,695 per person twin share

\$ 8,030 single room supplement

Category D: \$19,695 per person twin share

\$ 7,025 single room supplement

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.

Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 2 - 10 Tours: Less \$100 per person

Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 11 - 20 Tours: Less \$150 per person

Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 21+ Tours: Less \$200 per person



O'Shannessy's Quality Tours:

- o Advises the airline reserves the right to amend their schedule and airfares without notice.
- Advises price is effective for the dates specified but may be subject to change without notice.
- Advises passengers require a current Passport to travel overseas with minimum validity of 6 months after return.
- o Advises non-Australian Passport holders to check re-entry Visa requirements.
- o Reserves the right to vary the itinerary in any way at any time deemed necessary.
- Accepts no responsibility for damage or loss of personal belongings and suggests that suitable Insurance be effected for protection of the same.
- Accepts no responsibility or liability for delays, accidents, injury, irregularity or damage caused by other transport/touring companies used as part of this tour.
- o Reserves the right to change accommodation at any time without notice.

Emerald Cruises:

- Full terms and conditions are contained in the 2026 Emerald Cruises Europe River Cruising brochure. All bookings are subject to Emerald Cruises full terms and conditions, please refer to emeraldcruises.com.au.
- Deposit: A <u>non-refundable deposit of \$1,000 per person</u> is required within 7 days of booking. Final Payment: Balance of the Tour Price is payable no later than 100 days before the Tour Departure Date. If Your booking is made 100 days or less before the Cruise Departure Date, You must immediately pay the Cruise Price in full when You book.
- Tour and Cruise Maps: Maps or tour depictions contained in this flyer are intended as an indication only and should not be relied upon as the actual route taken during the Tour. Itinerary is subject to change.



MELBOURNE TO SINGAPORE

Welcome to our fabulous tour to the **Christmas Markets along the Rhine River**. But first, we break our long journey with a stopover in fascinating **Singapore**! After we are collected by our chauffeurs, we are transferred to Melbourne International Airport where we meet our Tour Manager and fellow passengers, ready to board our direct flight to **Singapore**. On our arrival, we are welcomed by our local English-speaking guide and transferred to our lovely accommodation, conveniently located on the Singapore River. We'll meet up for a light dinner this evening and have an early night to be fresh for our touring tomorrow.

Inflight meals and refreshments

OVERNIGHT: Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, SINGAPORE $\star \star \star \star \star$

DAY 2

Sunday 13th December, 2026

EXPLORING SINGAPORE

This morning, we embark on a sightseeing tour of Singapore. We can observe the rich cultural and historical heritage through the sights and sounds of the bustling ethnic enclaves. Along the streets of **China Town**, **Kampong Glam** and **Little India**, religious monuments nestle amidst quaint shop houses. Contrasting with the modern shopping malls, there are serene gardens and sleek skyscrapers. We also visit the Singapore Botanic Gardens and **National Orchid Garden**. The Botanic Garden is a 156-year-old tropical garden located at the fringe of Singapore's main shopping belt and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Providing a place for 60,000 orchid plants - consisting of 1000 species and more than 2,000 hybrids - are the three hectares of carefully landscaped slopes. We now have time for our lunch break before we hop in one of the **bumboats**

for a cruise along the Singapore River. Commonly known as Twakows and Tongkangs, these hardy little vessels were once extensively used for transport purposes along the Singapore River. Later today, get ready for a wonderful dining experience at **Rise Restaurant**. Following dinner, we visit the **Super Tree Grove** where we can see the world from a different perspective on the OBC Skywalk. As night falls, we will be treated to the amazing **sound and light show** throughout the Super Tree Grove — this is one of the highlights of any visit to Singapore.

Lunch own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel,

SINGAPORE ★★★★







DAY₃

Monday 14th December, 2026

MORE OF SINGAPORE, FLIGHT TO AMSTERDAM

We continue our sightseeing this morning with a visit to **Gardens by the Bay** located at the edge of Marina Reservoir. Spanning a huge area, this award winning horticultural attraction houses over 250,000 rare plants with two unique conservatories being the **Flower Dome and Cloud Forest**. Returning to our hotel, we have some free time to start packing, freshen up and relax before our next outing - and it is special! This afternoon, we enjoy **High Tea** at the **Raffles Hotel**. We head back to our hotel for the last time as we have a guaranteed late check-out at 6pm. After freshening up, we transfer to the airport to connect with our late night direct flight to Amsterdam.

Dinner at own expense and arrangements / Refreshments inflight

OVERNIGHT: INFLIGHT

DAY 4

Tuesday 15th December, 2026

ARRIVE AMSTERDAM

Welcome to **Amsterdam**, a postcard-worthy destination of picturesque canals, quintessential cafés and innovative galleries that showcase contemporary art and the works of world-renowned artists, such as Van Gogh and Rembrandt. After we go through Customs and Immigration, we will be transferred to our hotel where we have secured an early check-in and can relax for a few hours. This afternoon, we can embark on a **relaxed walking tour** with an English speaking guide who will highlight all the main sights close to our hotel. *This walking tour is optional*. We'll have more time to relax before dinner this evening.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Movenpick City Centre Hotel, AMSTERDAM ★★★★

FREE DAY

Following breakfast, we'll be transferred to the **Emerald Astra** with time to unpack and inspect our home for the next seven nights. We've now got the rest of the day free to further explore the narrow-cobbled streets and gabled houses of the Dutch capital at our leisure. Perhaps choose one or two areas from our walk yesterday to return and fully investigate! There's plenty to see such as the Rijksmuseum, the Van Gogh Museum; Dam Square where the Royal Palace of Amsterdam and former city hall are located; the Amsterdam Museum; the Concertgebouw Concert Hall; the Anne Frank House*; the Scheepvaartmuseum; the red-light district and much much more! This evening, join your fellow guests for dinner on board.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement **OVERNIGHT**: Emerald Astra $\star \star \star \star \star$

*If you wish to visit the Anne Frank House or any museums, you will need to pre-book and purchase tickets online.

"...Located in the Dutch province of North Holland, Amsterdam is colloquially referred to as the "Venice of the North", for its large number of canals, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site..."

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Amsterdam







DAY 6

Thursday 17th December, 2026

MORE OF AMSTERDAM

Today we can enjoy some more sightseeing in Amsterdam as we board a **glass-top canal boat** for a cruise down the Dutch capital's UNESCO World Heritage-listed canal system, passing historic merchant houses that reflect the bygone era of the Dutch Golden Age, a time when the Dutch empire was once considered among the most influential in the world. Throughout the town, you'll marvel as you explore the delightful Christmas stalls, each surrounded by people in their finest knitwear, drinking hot mugs of mulled wine and indulging in their favourite festive foods.

OVERNIGHT: Emerald Astra ★★★★

DAY 7

Friday 18th December, 2026

DUESSELDORF - COLOGNE

Today we will have the chance to visit **Duesseldorf** and its many **Christmas markets**, each having its unique name and personality – such as the Fairytale Market, the Handwerker (hand maker) Market and the Schadowmarket where any present wish could easily be fulfilled and more. All of that with a Christmas scent of roasted almonds and hot mulled wine floating in the air. Afterwards we sail towards **Cologne**, where you'll have the opportunity to wander the markets at your leisure, perhaps visiting the ornate stalls beneath the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Cologne Cathedral, where you can drink traditional glühwein out of beautifully decorated mugs.

OVERNIGHT: Emerald Astra ★★★★

KOBLENZ

Today, we head into the heart of **Koblenz**, an ancient city pulled from the pages of a German fairy tale. Enjoy the picturesque backdrop of vineyards and snow-topped mountain ranges as our local guide takes us through open cobbled squares and down narrow streets. Feel inspired by an **Emerald lecture** when we will learn more about Christmas traditions in Europe and enjoy a Christmas market visit.

OVERNIGHT: Emerald Astra ★★★★

DAY 9

Sunday 20th December, 2026

GERMERSHEIM

Our guided tour of Heidelberg's rich history includes a visit to the ruins of **Heidelberg Castle**, which overlooks the Rhine River and a red-roofed skyline. Some of the most successful painters of the Romantic era drew inspiration from Heidelberg Castle, including British artist William Turner, who depicted images of the ruins in several of his paintings. Afterwards, we stroll down the cobbled streets of the **Old Town**, touching on the Church of the Holy Spirit and the oldest university in Germany.

OVERNIGHT: Emerald Astra ★★★★









DAY 10

Monday 21st December, 2026

STRASBOURG

This morning, we will dock in **Kehl** and we will be transferred by coach across the river to **Strasbourg**, the storied capital of France's Alsace region. Our guided tour of Strasbourg will include the UNESCO World Heritage listed **Grande Île**, the historical centre of the city, known for its medieval half-timbered buildings, old tanning houses, Baroque sandstone buildings and charming canal system. Afterwards, you will have the opportunity to visit one of its most charming **Christmas markets** to enjoy traditional Alsatian Christmas treats and to shop for presents and stocking-fillers.

OVERNIGHT: Emerald Astra ★★★★

DAY 11

Tuesday 22nd December, 2026

BREISACH

Today, we'll have the opportunity to visit the Rhine town of **Breisach**. Entrenched between two countries, it's also known as the gateway to Germany's Black Forest region. In the afternoon, enjoy a scenic drive through the Black Forest Highlands on our way to the **Hofgut Sternen complex** located at the foothill of Ravenna Gorge, a place where history and tradition merge. It was here that in 1770 Marie Antoinette stopped with 52 beautifully decorated carriages on the way to her wedding to King Louis XVI. We'll have the chance to see the postcard-worthy **Christmas market** situated underneath the 40-metre high **Ravenna Viaduct**. Be amazed by the magical aroma of Black Forest specialties and unique handcrafted regional products sold there.

OVERNIGHT: Emerald Astra ★★★★

BASEL TO ZURICH

After breakfast, we bid farewell to our fellow guests and the Astra in Basel and we are transferred to **Zurich**. This city offers a mix like no other - a metropolis offering many wonderful sights meeting water, nature and mountains. Our accommodation is in a prime location just a short walk from the renowned Bahnhofstrasse shopping street and approximately 600 metres from Lake Zurich.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Hotel Glockenhof, ZURICH ★★★★

DAY 13

Thursday 24th December, 2026

EXPLORING ZURICH

This morning, we enjoy a sightseeing coach tour in Zurich. Our English speaking guide will show us the main sights of the city such as The Fraumünster, a Protestant church in the Old Town, where the rich Christian tradition is meant to foster; The **Grossmünster**, a Romanesque-style Protestant church - the twin towers of the Grossmünster are regarded as perhaps the most recognized landmark in Zurich; **Bahnhofstrasse** which is the main downtown street of Zurich and one of the world's most expensive and exclusive shopping avenues; the **Zurich Opera House** which has been the home of the Zurich Opera since 1891. It will be a most interesting morning. We now have time for our lunch break and a free afternoon for personal sightseeing.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Hotel Glockenhof, ZURICH ★★★★









DAY 14

Friday 25th December, 2026

CHRISTMAS DAY

Merry Christmas! We have a free morning - some of us may wish to attend a church service and others can phone home. Today we will be treated to a European **Christmas lunch with all the trimmings!** This afternoon, you may want to walk off your lunch with a stroll to Lake Zurich, or perhaps just relax and have an afternoon snooze. This evening, for those who are still peckish, a supper will be served in the hotel.

OVERNIGHT: Hotel Glockenhof, ZURICH ★★★★

DAY 15

Saturday 26th December, 2026

ZURICH TO SINGAPORE

We check-out early this morning and make our way to Zurich Airport. Here, we connect with our flight to Singapore where we stop in transit before our flight to Melbourne.

Inflight meals and refreshments

OVERNIGHT: Inflight

DAY 16

Sunday 27th December, 2026

SINGAPORE TO MELBOURNE

After completing Customs and Immigration, our chauffeurs will be waiting for us in the arrival lounge. We're sure you will arrive home with a sense of wonder after our **European Christmas holiday** with **O'Shannessy's Quality Tours!**

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. Emerald River Cruises' \$1,000 deposit is **non-refundable**. The remainder of your deposit is fully refundable until **101 days** prior to departure date. Balance due on invoice.

Cancellation within 100 days of tour departure date

No Refund

No Refund

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 <u>complete</u> 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

Sapphire Coast in Autumn - March 2027

Autumn in the Adelaide Hills - April 2027

Longreach and Outback Queensland - May 2027

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



































