O'Shannessy's
QUALITY TOURS

CHRISTMAS

on the Murray Princess



11 DAY FULLY INCLUSIVE TOUR

23rd December, 2027 to 2nd January, 2028

CHRISTMAS *on the Murray Princess*

THURSDAY 23RD DECEMBER, 2027 TO SUNDAY 2ND JANUARY, 2028

The PS Murray Princess is a true inland paddlewheeler,
purpose built for the Murray River with lashings of the character and charm of yesteryear.
She is the largest inland paddlewheeler in the southern hemisphere,
propelled by its massive stern wheel.
This Christmas tour on board this beautiful old lady of the river is unhurried and informal.
Kick back and relax as you marvel at the ancient towering cliffs bathed in the evening sun
and the unique flora and fauna will bring out the photographer in you.

Tour Highlights

- Murtoa Stick Shed
- Mannum
- Murray Bridge
- River View Lodge, Piggy Flat
- Traditional Christmas Lunch
- Lake Carlet
- Barossa Valley
- Blanchetown
- Burk Salter Boutique Winery
- Swan Reach
- Sunnydale Woolshed Show
- Native Wildlife Shelter—Aussie BBQ
- Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park
- The Blue Lake and Umpherston Sinkhole, Mount Gambier
- Caroline Hills Winery

CRUISE

- Murray Princess Cruise

Tour Prices

Twin share room first tour:	**$8,295**
Twin share room repeat traveller 2 - 10 Tours:	**$8,195**
Twin share room repeat traveller 11 - 20 Tours:	**$8,145**
Twin share room repeat traveller 21+ Tours:	**$8,095**
Single room supplement:	**$2,430**

Please note a deposit of $500 is required upon booking.

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, you will be required to pay the single supplement.
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.



MULTIPLE NIGHT STAYS

7 nights on board
the Murray Princess
2 nights in Mount Gambier

ACTIVITY LEVEL

Our Moderate Tours are for those comfortable with a bit more movement while still enjoying a relaxed pace, these tours may include a mix of touring styles. Please refer to back cover.



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 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.

Friendly Tour Directors

Enjoy peace of mind with O'Shannessy's Quality Tours, where our dedicated coach crew and experienced tour directors are on board to ensure your journey is as comfortable and memorable as possible. From start to finish, they're there to assist, guide and take care of every detail. Relax and enjoy the experience without a worry.

Quality Accommodation & Fully Inclusive Tours

Enjoy the best available ensuite motel accommodation each night, ensuring a restful journey. Cabins onboard the Murray Princess are outside cabins with twin beds. Each cabin opens onto the outside deck with picture windows to view the passing scenery. Please enquire with us about limited double cabins or staterooms available. All attractions and tours listed in the itinerary are included, as are fully cooked breakfasts, all lunches, along with delicious two-course restaurant dinners daily and most morning teas.

DAY 1 - MELBOURNE TO HORSHAM — Thursday 23rd December, 2027

Welcome to our **Christmas holiday** as we cruise along the Murray River aboard the **Murray Princess**. With chauffeured pickup from home, we are transferred to meet our **O'Shannessy's Quality Tours** coach and crew. Today we sit back and enjoy the facilities aboard our 5 Star Touring Coach as we make our way to Horsham. Enjoying lunch along the way, later this afternoon we visit the **Rupanyup Silo**, concluding with the awe-inspiring **Murtoa Stick Shed**. Crafted from 560 natural mountain ash poles, it spans 270m, reaching 19m in height and 60m in width—an overwhelming testament to bush-style construction. Afterwards we arrive in Horsham for our overnight stay.

OVERNIGHT: Best Westlander Motor Inn, HORSHAM ★★★★☆

DAY 2 - HORSHAM TO MANNUM - MURRAY PRINCESS — Friday 24th December, 2027

Departing Horsham, we continue our journey towards the South Australian border. Our lunch venue is the **Morning Loaf Bakery** in Bordertown. You may not know that Bordertown is the hometown of former Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke! This afternoon, we continue along the Dukes Highway through many small farming towns, stopping at **Coonalpyn** to view the magnificent artwork on the towns' grain silo, before seeing the Murray River near Tailem Bend. The last leg of our travels today takes us on to Mannum where we board the 67 metre (200 ft) luxury paddlewheeler **Murray Princess** for seven nights of sheer bliss and relaxation! Mid-afternoon the Murray Princess departs historic Mannum, the birthplace of the Murray River trade and communication, and heads upriver while you enjoy a Welcome Dinner. As we cruise under floodlight to our overnight mooring at River View Lodge, you may see nocturnal wildlife on the riverbank. Watch for kangaroos, hairy-nosed wombats, tortoises, egrets and many other species. After dinner, join your fellow passengers for a night of Christmas Carols and songs.

OVERNIGHT: Murray Princess











DAY 3 - MERRY CHRISTMAS — Saturday 25th December, 2027

Merry Christmas everyone! Wake up Christmas morning and experience the magic of the Murray River. After breakfast, step ashore with fellow passengers and take part in light hearted competition, whether it's casting a line in the fishing challenge or testing your skills in a friendly game of bocce. Delight in some Christmas festivities with a **traditional Christmas Day lunch** and celebrations. In the afternoon there will be more fun Christmas themed activities, or you may prefer to relax and enjoy the scenery as we cruise downstream to Murray Bridge where the boat will be moored for the night.

OVERNIGHT: Murray Princess

DAY 4 - MURRAY PRINCESS - LAKE CARLET — Sunday 26th December, 2027

In 1879 the first bridge to span the Murray River was built at Edwards Crossing, which quickly became the bustling township of **Murray Bridge**. After a hearty breakfast, choose to explore the town's historic landmarks and local attractions, such as the Roundhouse, or go on a wildlife tour at Monarto Safari Park *(own expense)*. Those who choose to experience Monarto Safari Park will arrive back on board the Murray Princess in time for a talk by local identity, Peter Harden. Following lunch there will be a special presentation on the bounty of food and wine produced in the Riverland. This afternoon, we continue our journey upriver and tonight we moor at **Lake Carlet**. After dinner, join your fellow passengers for a night of entertainment.

OVERNIGHT: Murray Princess

DAY 5 - MURRAY PRINCESS - SALT BUSH FLAT — Monday 27th December, 2027

Early this morning we leave Lake Carlet and you will enjoy breakfast as you head back to **Mannum**. On arrival, depart by coach to the famous **Barossa**, the beautiful 'valley of the vine' and the source of about a quarter of Australia's world-renowned wines. You will visit a couple of wineries and enjoy a delicious lunch. Return to Mannum and re-board the Murray Princess and cruise towards **Salt Bush Flat** for your overnight mooring. Following dinner this evening, enjoy the live entertainment.

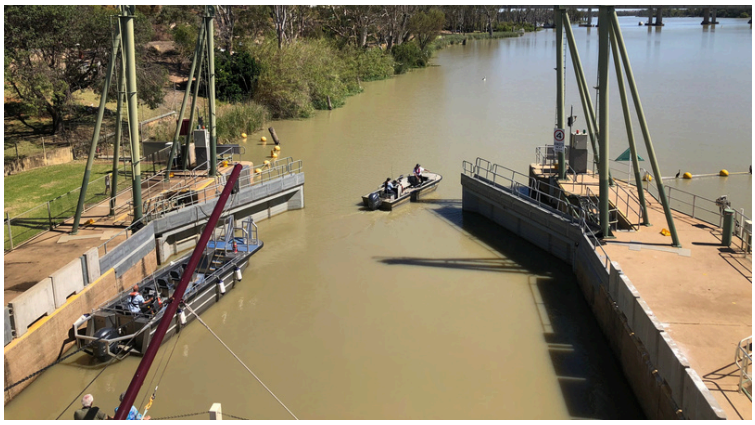
OVERNIGHT: Murray Princess

DAY 6 - MURRAY PRINCESS - BLANCHETOWN — Tuesday 28th December, 2027

Daybreak and it's time for the keen photographers to be out to capture the special light and the morning movement of wildlife and the prolific birdlife includes pelicans, wrens and swans. Enjoy a leisurely morning and lunch cruising upriver to **Blanchetown** through one of 13 locks which maintain the flow and levels of the river's water. This afternoon we moor opposite to the township of Blanchetown for our overnight anchorage. As the last rays of the sun fade, we visit **Burk Salter Boutique Winery** and enjoy wine tasting at the cellar door which is fitted out with beautiful red gum bars. After dinner, join us for all the fun and excitement, and participate in our "Murray River Cup".

OVERNIGHT: Murray Princess

















DAY 7 - MURRAY PRINCESS - SUNNYDALE — Wednesday 29th December, 2027

After breakfast we cruise downriver to picturesque **Swan Reach**. The original Swan Reach homestead is now the Swan Reach Hotel where you can enjoy an ale or cappuccino overlooking the Murray River *(own expense)*. Join a walking tour and visit the Swan Reach Museum *(gold coin donation at entry)*. Continue cruising after lunch and take in the tranquillity as the landscape slides by. Catch up with friends over a coffee or drink whilst enjoying the magnificent scenery. When we arrive at **Sunnydale**, it's all ashore for the **Woolshed Show** as we recreate typical Australian woolshed history. Later we visit the **Native Wildlife Shelter** where some of South Australia's most interesting native animals are cared for. And then of course, there is the great **Aussie Barbecue** – cooked and served in a bush setting on the banks of the mighty Murray River. An optional Nocturnal Tour *(own expense)* in a comfortable purpose-built cart is available after dinner where you may see kangaroos, wombats, foxes, bats, and owls by powerful spotlights. Special stops along the way are included to view the spectacular night sky which is part of the River Murray International Dark Sky Reserve.

OVERNIGHT: Murray Princess

DAY 8 - MURRAY PRINCESS - YOUNGHUSBAND — Thursday 30th December, 2027

After an optional Sunnydale Bush Tucker Breakfast *(additional expense)* or a bush walk with the Captain, we slowly cruise downriver past magnificent cliffs scoured by the river over millions of years. We reach **Ngaut Ngaut Conservation Park**, one of Australia's most significant archaeological sites, for a step back in time – tens of thousands of years – for a guided boardwalk tour to view ancient rock carvings and to learn about Aboriginal history in the area. We return to the vessel to cruise downriver to **Younghusband**. Along the way, adventure seekers can also take a scenic tender boat ride. Tonight, join your fellow passengers for a delicious final night dinner and enjoy the evening entertainment.

OVERNIGHT: Murray Princess





DAY 9 - MANNUM TO MOUNT GAMBIER — Friday 31st December, 2027

We depart Younghusband and make our way back to Mannum, where, following a leisurely breakfast, we farewell our hosts and board the coach for the next stage of our journey. Today, our travels take us through the spectacular Coorong and onwards into the scenic landscapes of South Eastern South Australia. Along the way, we visit the historic seaside town of Kingston S.E., before continuing through the region's picturesque countryside towards Mount Gambier, for the next two nights. Following dinner, we'll find the perfect vantage point to enjoy the New Year's Eve fireworks* — so have your cameras ready for this spectacular display!

OVERNIGHT: The Barn Accommodation, MOUNT GAMBIER ★★★★☆

**Fireworks are based on 2026 New Years and have not been advised for 2027 & subject to change*









DAY 10 - HAPPY NEW YEAR — Saturday 1st January, 2028

Enjoy a leisurely start to the **New Year** before visiting the **Nelson Visitor and Discovery Centre**, where informative displays bring the region's natural and maritime heritage to life. We then visit the **Blue Lake**, one of Mount Gambier's most iconic attractions, situated within the crater of an extinct volcano and renowned for its striking blue colour. Nearby, we explore the magnificent **Umpherston Sinkhole**, a natural limestone formation transformed into a beautiful sunken garden by Scottish settler James Umpherston in the late 1800s. Descending into the sinkhole, we can admire the lush gardens and towering limestone walls, with the opening above providing a spectacular view of the sky. Following lunch, we visit **Caroline Hills Winery** and discover how bare paddocks have been transformed into vineyards, beautiful gardens and areas of revegetation. Enjoy a wine tasting and guided garden tour, while hearing the story behind this remarkable transformation. We'll finish with a delightful afternoon tea of scones, jam and cream, accompanied by tea or coffee — a lovely way to round off the day before returning to our hotel.

OVERNIGHT: The Barn Accommodation, MOUNT GAMBIER ★★★★☆

DAY 11 - MOUNT GAMBIER TO MELBOURNE — Sunday 2nd January, 2028

This morning, we journey back into Victoria, through the picturesque Western District, a volcanic plain dotted with crater lakes and volcanic cones. Along the way, we'll marvel at miles of dry-stone walls, known as the stony rises, skilfully built in the 1860s by Irish and Scottish wallers. Later this afternoon, our holiday concludes in **Melbourne**, where our chauffeurs will whisk us straight to our door - all part of **O'Shannessy's Quality Tours**' signature service.

"... Murray Princess - it's all the little things.
It's watching the world go by,
it's the good old-fashioned hospitality.
It's the breathtaking scenery, the historical and cultural immersion, the gourmet food and wine,
the new friendships and
the simple chance to unwind and reconnect..."

www.murrayprincess.com.au



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 **121 days** prior to departure date. Balance due on invoice.

Cancellation within **120 days** of tour departure date:	**No refund**
Cancellation **on or after** tour departure date:	**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 for travel insurance, please call our office 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.

Activity Level - Moderate

Our Moderate Tours are for those comfortable with a bit more movement while still enjoying a relaxed pace, our moderate tours may include a mix of touring styles. You should be prepared to:

- Embark and disembark the coach unassisted
- Negotiate some steps and gentle, undulating paths
- Embark and disembark watercraft and other vehicles via stairs
- Negotiate a flight of stairs
- Manage uneven ground such as sand, pebbles or gravel
- Occasionally stay above ground floor (no guarantee of ground floor rooms)

Upcoming Tours

Tamworth Country Music Festival - January 2028

Mystery Tour Autumn - March 2028

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 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 also find us on **Facebook** at *O'Shannessy's Quality Tours* and stay up to date with our posts by liking the page. We would also love to see your pictures exploring Australia or travelling the world with O'Shannessy's Quality Tours so be sure to tag us in your travels! **#oshannessys #friendstotravelwith**

Feel free to call into our office for a chat with our friendly team at **2121 Point Nepean Road, Rye Vic 3941**. You can also email us at **enquiries@oshannessys.com.au** or call us:

1800 354 352

Quality Tourism Accredited Business

Australian Achiever Awards 2025 NATIONAL WINNER O'SHANNESSY'S QUALITY TOURS Remarkable Customer Service in Hospitality Industry Services

Sustainable Tourism Accredited Business

2007 Australian Achiever Awards Winner

2009 Australian Achiever Awards Winner

2014 Australian Achiever Awards Winner

2019 Australian Achiever Awards Winner

2020 Australian Achiever Awards Winner

2021 Australian Achiever Awards Winner

2023 Australian Achiever Awards Winner

2025 Australian Achiever Awards Winner