



O'Shannessy's
QUALITY TOURS

SAVANNAH DISCOVERY

Cairns to Darwin



18 DAY FULLY INCLUSIVE TOUR

12th July to 29th July, 2026

SAVANNAH DISCOVERY *Cairns to Darwin*

SUNDAY 12TH JULY TO WEDNESDAY 29TH JULY, 2026

This truly outback journey will take you to some amazing world heritage areas, you'll experience some fantastic rail journeys and a cruise through the magnificent Cobbold Gorge. Immerse yourself in our pre-history at the ancient and alluring Undara Lava Tubes. We start in Queensland's laid-back tropical northern town of Cairns and end this journey in Darwin, Australia's own former frontier outpost.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Mossman Gorge
- Skyrail Rainforest Cableway
- Mareeba Heritage Museum
- Herberton Heritage Museum
- Millstream Falls
- Undara Lava Tubes
- Terrestrial Centre, Georgetown
- Cobbold Gorge
- Karumba - Gulf of Carpentaria
- Mt Isa Experience
- Droving Heritage Centre
- Barkly Tablelands
- Caranbirini Conservation Park - Lost City
- Daly Waters Pub
- Mataranka Thermal Pool and Rainbow Springs
- Nitmiluk National Park
- Adelaide River War Cemetery

CRUISES

- Daintree River Cruise
- Cobbold Gorge
- Karumba Sunset and Croc Spotting
- Katherine Gorge

RAIL

- Savannahlander Train
- Gullflander Motor Rail

FLIGHTS

- Melbourne to Cairns
- Helicopter flight over The Lost City
- Darwin to Melbourne

MULTIPLE NIGHT STAYS

- 2 nights in Cairns, Mareeba, Forsyth, Mt Isa, Katherine and Darwin



COACH



FLIGHT



TRAIN



BOAT



ACTIVE

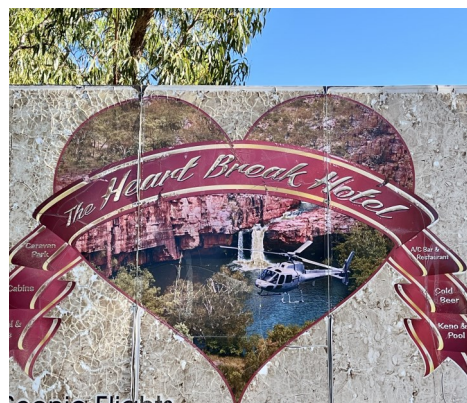


SMALL GRP

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, you will need to pay the Single Room 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.



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.
- **Flights.** Economy flights from Melbourne to Cairns and Darwin to Melbourne.
- **Tour Directors.** Dedicated O'Shannessy's Quality Tours coach crew (tour directors) on board to ensure your travel experience is memorable.
- **Best Available Accommodation.** Ensuite accommodation each night. We will be staying in the "real outback". Some places don't have all the luxuries that you are accustomed to with our tours, but we promise you there will be a lot of adventure, laughter and fun! The accommodation is varied, with all places having ensuite bathrooms (even the railway carriages at Undara Lava Lodge).
- **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. Five lunches 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:	\$11,795 per person
Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 2 - 10 Tours:	\$11,695 per person
Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 11 - 20 Tours:	\$11,645 per person
Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 21+ Tours:	\$11,595 per person
Single Room Supplement:	\$ 1,450 per person

DEPOSIT
\$800pp
UPON
BOOKING



DAY 1

Sunday 12th July, 2026

MELBOURNE TO CAIRNS

Welcome to our exciting 18 Day **Savannah Discovery** tour from Cairns to Darwin. With chauffeured pickup from home, we travel to Melbourne Airport. Here we'll be greeted by an **O'Shannessy's Quality Tours** representative who will assist us with check in and see us onto the plane for our flight to Cairns. Arriving at Cairns Airport, we will be welcomed by our **O'Shannessy's Quality Tours** coach crew for the short transfer to our accommodation in the heart of Cairns city overlooking Marlin Marina. There's time to unpack and relax before joining the group for our first dinner together.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement / Refreshments inflight

OVERNIGHT: Shangri-La The Marina, CAIRNS ★★★★★

DAY 2

Monday 13th July, 2026

MOSSMAN GORGE AND THE DAINTREE

This morning we enjoy the beautiful **Mossman Gorge**. A shuttle bus will take us to the heart of the Gorge where we will journey through the lush green rainforest, taking in views of the Mossman River and the mountain ranges beyond. From here we continue further north to the quaint township of Daintree. We enjoy lunch before we take a **cruise on the Daintree River**. Our cruise takes us through tranquil everglades and mangroves, where we hope to see different species of birds and butterflies, and maybe even a crocodile basking on one of the riverbanks.

OVERNIGHT: Shangri-La The Marina, CAIRNS ★★★★★

CAIRNS TO MAREEBA

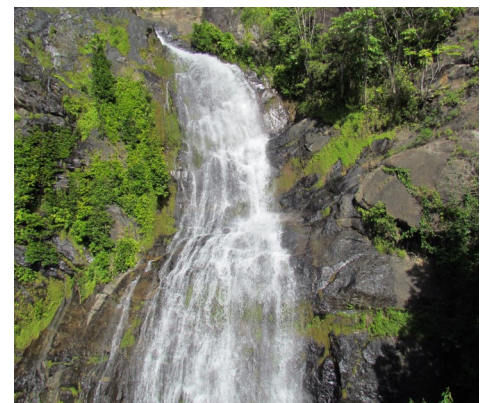
After breakfast, our first stop is just up the road where we board the **Skyrail Rainforest Cableway**. Enjoy a truly unique perspective of this ancient landscape with unsurpassed panoramic views of **Barron Gorge** and Australia's Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. Glide metres above the pristine jungle canopy between Smithfield (Cairns) and Kuranda, enroute descend to explore the rainforest close up at Red Peak and Barron Falls. Arriving at Kuranda, enjoy some time wandering the **Kuranda Rainforest Markets** taking in its atmosphere, with many local artists and time to purchase lunch. This afternoon we drive to Mareeba where we can learn more about the township when we visit the **Mareeba Heritage Museum**. Spend time walking down memory lane, before we check in to our next two nights accommodation.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Cape Gateway Motel, MAREEBA ★★☆☆☆

“... The picturesque mountain retreat of
Kuranda Village
is surrounded by the world's
oldest living tropical rainforest...”

www.kuranda.org





DAY 4

Wednesday 15th July, 2026

SAVANNAHLANDER TRAIN

This morning, we make our way to the Mareeba Railway Station to board the historic **Savannahlander Train**. Whilst on this unique outback rail experience from Mareeba to Almaden, your drivers who are talented, witty and downright charming, will entertain you in their 1960's classic "silver-bullet" rail motors. Enjoy a relaxed pace and great company whilst travelling in style through country you will never forget. There will be a short stop at the **Dimbulah Railway Station**. From here cultivated fields and agriculture give way to the rugged bush, and we begin more ascents up the Featherbed and the Lappa Ranges. We arrive at **Almaden** for a late lunch at the Railway Hotel. After lunch we board our O'Shannessy's Coach and make our return to our accommodation in Mareeba.

OVERNIGHT: Cape Gateway Motel, MAREEBA ★★★★★

“... ‘The Silver Bullet’ as the Savannahlander is affectionately known, was state-of-the-art when it was brought into service.

Now it reflects the pace and grace of a by-gone era, while at the same time offering a unique experience to people adventurous enough to make the journey...”

MAREEBA TO UNDARA NATIONAL PARK

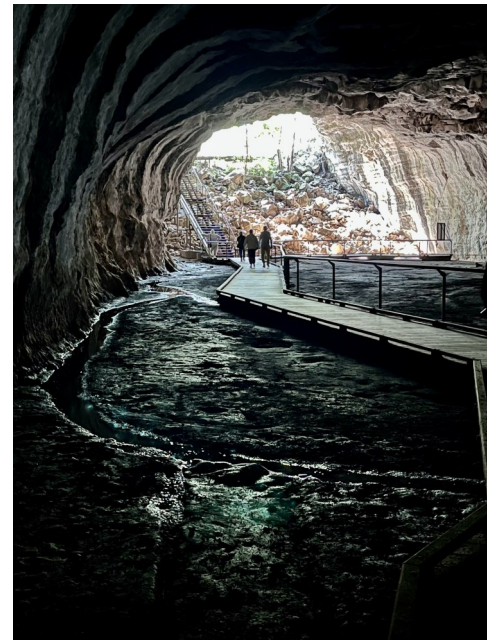
Leave your swimming gear out today as we head across the Atherton Tablelands making our way to the oldest town on the Tablelands - **Herberton**. This town sits on a hilly landscape with streets dotted with Jacaranda trees. Herberton's main claim to fame was Tin Mining. We visit The **Herberton Mining Museum & Visitor Information Centre**, allowing time to see the many mining displays and local history archives. From here, we continue through to the beautiful **Millstream Falls**, reputedly the widest single-drop falls in Australia. Our next stop is **Innot Hot Springs**. Enjoy a dip in the natural mineral springs at Nettle Creek, known for rejuvenating and healing. The water was even bottled and shipped to Europe at one stage. After feeling extremely relaxed, sit back in our coach and enjoy the rest of the journey through to **Undara National Park**. Tonight some of us will sleep in beautifully restored, turn of the century, ensuited railway carriages, surrounded by tall trees and native wildlife. Guests not staying in the carriages will experience the charm of our ensuited Homesteads, offering modern amenities and a private verandah where you can unwind and take in the surrounding local wildlife.

OVERNIGHT: Undara Lodge, via MOUNT SURPRISE ★★★★★

“...Australia’s timber, farming and mining history lives again at The Herberton Mining Museum. Explore the collection of more than 60 original buildings complete with shops, functioning tearooms, antique motor vehicles, fashion, John Deere tractors and much more...”

www.historicvillageherberton.com.au





“...The Undara Lava Tubes are an awe-inspiring lava tube system in the Undara basalt flow formed after a volcanic eruption around 190,000 years ago.

It's one of Australia's greatest – yet lesser known – geological wonders...”

www.queensland.com/places-to-see/destinations

DAY 6

Friday 17th July, 2026

UNDARA TO FORSAYTH

After enjoying a lovely bush breakfast, we check out of our rooms in time to join a Savannah guide who will take us on a **Lava Tube Tour**. This gives us an excellent overview of the Lava Tubes and how they were formed. Your guide will point out other interesting environmental, geological and historical features on your trip to and from the caves. After a great couple of hours, back at the resort we enjoy lunch, then board the coach to make our way across The Savannah Way through Mt Surprise and on to Georgetown. Here we visit the world class **Ted Elliott Mineral Collection** in the Terrestrial Information Centre. Ted's passion for minerals started back in 1946 on his father's farm in Wirrimah near Young, NSW. This is now one of the largest and most comprehensive private collections in Australia, consisting of world class specimens from Australia and all over the world. From here we continue through to **Forsayth** for our next two night stopover.

OVERNIGHT: Finnigans Rest, FORSAYTH ★★★★★

EXPLORING COBBOLD GORGE

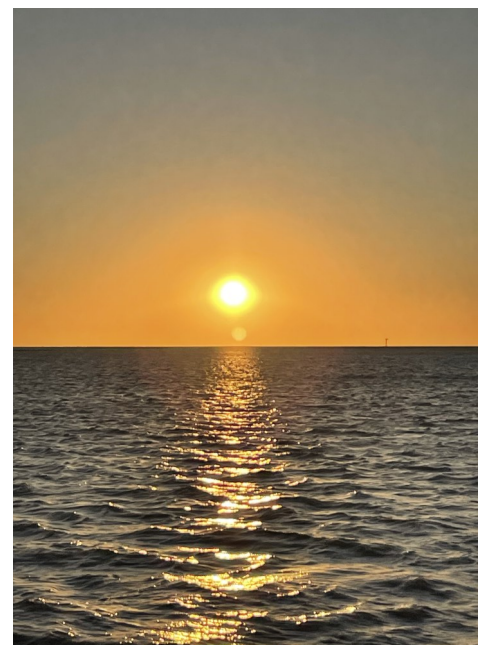
This morning we head to **Cobbold Gorge**, a hidden oasis tucked away within the rugged sandstone formations of North Queensland - an ancient landscape which invites you to breathe in the bush and breathe out your worries. First we take a spectacular three hour **Cobbold Gorge Cruise** and **Escarpment walk** with a local Savannah guide. Majestic sandstone 30 metre cliffs tower on either side, only two metres wide in some places. The silence is broken only by the distant chattering of birds. The gorge is home to fish such as black bream, archerfish, long tom and freshwater crocodiles. After lunch, you may wish to take an optional helicopter flight over the escarpment (own expense), or relax around the resort before we return to our accommodation.

OVERNIGHT: Finnigans Rest, FORSAYTH ★★★★★

FORSAYTH TO KARUMBA

This morning we drive through to the former booming gold town of Croydon. The **Croydon Historic Village** contains what is left of a much larger gold mining city of the late 1800s. Two museums display the early mining machinery from the age of steam and walking tracks provide us with an insight into local environs. After enjoying lunch here, we continue our journey through to **Karumba**, being the only town along the southern **Gulf of Carpentaria**. This isolated fishing village is home to a large fleet of prawn trawlers and once an important Catalina Base during World War II. Before dinner we take a **Sunset Cruise**, enjoying some nibbles and local banana prawns.

OVERNIGHT: Karumba Lodge Motel, KARUMBA ★★★★★





DAY 9

Monday 20th July, 2026

GULFLANDER TRAIN— MT ISA

This morning, we catch “the Rattler” – the famous **Gulflander motor rail**. This historic train takes us through to **Critters Camp**, where we will alight “in the middle of nowhere” to meet our coach. The Gulflander is probably Australia’s most unusual train service, running along a completely isolated and unconnected 150km line from “nowhere to nowhere”. The line was first planned to be operated between Normanton and Cloncurry, but the 1880’s gold rush at Croydon lead to its diversion to this destination. From here our coach takes the Burke Developmental Road to the **Burke & Wills Roadhouse**. We make a stop here as this is the only place for a few hours. A couple of hours further on we arrive in Cloncurry. In the 1880’s Cloncurry was an important resting spot for drovers overlanding cattle across northern Queensland and the Northern Territory. We then continue our scenic drive through to Mt. Isa for our next two night stay.

OVERNIGHT: Abacus Motel, MT ISA ★★★★★

“...Mount Isa,
an oasis in the Outback,
is a city rich in history and culture...”

DISCOVERING MT ISA

Today, we explore the township of Mt Isa, which is nestled among the ochre-red Selwyn Ranges on the banks of the Leichhardt River. The town is a bustling melting pot of culture and industry being home to one the most productive single mines and hosts the southern hemisphere's largest rodeo. It's grown from strength to strength over the years but the harsh picturesque landscape has barely changed. This morning we visit the information centre to experience the **Isa Experience Museum**. This will give you a fascinating insight into the mining industry development in the area around Mt Isa. We also visit the **Mt Isa Underground Hospital and Museum**. This wartime underground civilian Hospital, constructed during 1942 was built by off-duty miners from Mount Isa Mines. Enjoy some free time in town and a chance to grab some lunch, before we finish our day with a drive to the local lookout for a bird's eye view of **Mt Isa City**.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Abacus Motel, MT ISA ★★★★★

MT ISA TO BARKLY HOMESTEAD

We depart Mt Isa this morning, driving through only one place today, **Camooweal**. This town is located just 12kms from the Northern Territory border and still classed as a suburb of Mt. Isa. Once a colourful droving centre, Camooweal's droving heritage has not been forgotten. We will visit the **Droving Heritage Centre**, a museum housing a history of Australia's pioneering past. The bush art gallery has portraits of drovers done by the artist Yvonne Dorward. Along with photographic treasures and memorabilia from Australia's droving industry donated by families or relatives of drovers. This afternoon we cross into the Northern Territory, stopping for a photo, then on to our accommodation at **Barkly Homestead**, an oasis roadhouse in landscape surroundings with all amenities.

OVERNIGHT: Barkly Homestead, BARKLY TABLELANDS ★★★★★



BARKLY HOMESTEAD TO CAPE CRAWFORD

Today we take the 380km drive from Barkly Homestead to the **Heartbreak Hotel**, on the Tablelands Highway. It's an interesting drive with plenty of places to pull up for a rest. A lot of the road is unfenced, so keep an eye out for the free-roaming cattle. We will arrive in time to relax, have a swim in the pool or enjoy a drink at the bar with the locals.

OVERNIGHT: Heartbreak Hotel, CAPE CRAWFORD ★★☆☆☆

THE LOST CITY—DALY WATERS

Today will be a highlight as you enjoy a scenic flight over The Lost City. **The Lost City** is a series of towering sandstone formations, considered an Indigenous ceremonial site and accessible primarily by helicopter. Our flight takes us over the Abner Escarpment onto a plateau of the Abner Ranges situated on McArthur River Station. From the air you will see exactly how these natural sky scrapers were formed. The area was once an inland sea, the water seeped into the rock and eroded it, breaking it into columns up to 25m tall. While others are enjoying their flight, you can cool off with a swim in the pool or relax at the hotel, before we leave for our next destination. Later this afternoon, we arrive at Daly Waters. Stretch your legs as you wander down the “main street”; here we'll find Tim's Junk Yard, a museum full of really cool old cars and bikes and very random items with 30 plus years of collecting junk from all over Australia and overseas. Dinner tonight is at the Daly Waters Pub, one of the Territory's most famous watering holes.

OVERNIGHT: Daly Waters Pub, DALY WATERS ★★☆☆☆

Note: max weight for helicopter flight is 136kg per person





DAY 14

Saturday 25th July, 2026

DALY WATERS TO KATHERINE

Today as we head north, look out for the Giant Termite mounds, as they get bigger and taller as we travel further north. Our first stop this morning is **Mataranka Thermal Pool and Rainbow Springs**. Take the easy walking 500m walk amongst the towering Livistonas and enjoy a dip in the crystal clear and warm springs. After lunch, we then travel to our accommodation in Katherine. This afternoon we will be treated to a **Katherine Outback experience**. The show is a lighthearted introduction to life on an Outback cattle station, and an easy alternative to outdoor adventures and sightseeing. See horse-starting and working dog demonstrations set to live Australian country music and story-telling.

OVERNIGHT: Knotts Crossing Resort, KATHERINE ★★☆☆☆

DAY 15

Sunday 26th July, 2026

EXPLORING KATHERINE

This morning we visit the beautiful **Katherine Gorge**. Our two-gorge cruise takes us to spots not accessible on foot or by tour vehicle. Enjoy the commentary on the geology and history of the area, and wind through the network of waterways that make up Katherine Gorge. After lunch, we return back to Katherine, where you can relax and enjoy a swim in the resort pool.

OVERNIGHT: Knotts Crossing Resort, KATHERINE ★★☆☆☆



DAY 16

Monday 27th July, 2026

KATHERINE TO DARWIN

We leave Katherine making our first stop at the lovely **Edith Falls** for a quick dip. This is a real Oasis, where there is lush green grass and a beautiful refreshing swimming hole that is very safe, remember to keep your bathing costumes out. From here we continue through to **Pine Creek** for our lunch stop and time to visit **The Shed Museum**, a private collection from Harley to Holden, a collection that will bring fond memories. We continue to **Adelaide River**, site of the only **Australian war cemetery** on Australian soil. There are 432 servicemen and 63 civilians, all of whom died as a result of Japanese bombing raids, buried in the cemetery. Our last day of travel and our destination tonight is Darwin.

OVERNIGHT: Hilton Garden Inn, DARWIN ★★★★★

DAY 17

Tuesday 28th July, 2026

FREE DAY IN DARWIN

With this fabulous tour coming to an end, today you have a free day to enjoy the city of Darwin. Maybe take a stroll along the Esplanade, a swim at the Waterfront Lagoon, visit a museum, catch up on some shopping or just relax around the pool. The day is yours to fill before we enjoy our last dinner together.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: Hilton Garden Inn, DARWIN ★★★★★

DAY 18

Wednesday 29th July, 2026

DARWIN TO MELBOURNE

Time to pack our bags and head for home. Completing our memorable tour of the naturally beautiful top of Australia, we are transferred to **Darwin Airport** for our return flight to Melbourne. Upon arrival, our chauffeurs will be waiting to transport us safely home with many interesting stories to tell of our **Savannah Discovery** adventure - all part of the O'Shannessy's Quality Tours experience.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement / Refreshments inflight

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

Cancellation within 70 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*

Mungo National Park and the Silo Art Trail - October 2026

Discover Tasmania in Spring - November 2026

Christmas Markets of Europe River Cruise - December 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

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