



O'Shannessy's
QUALITY TOURS

SPRINGTIME GARDENS

Spectacular



9 DAY FULLY INCLUSIVE TOUR

19th October to 27th October, 2026

SPRINGTIME GARDENS *Spectacular*

MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER TO TUESDAY 27TH OCTOBER, 2026

Welcome to our enchanting springtime tour,
where the beauty of nature blooms in all its glory.

This extraordinary journey will take you to the Southern Highlands and through the breathtaking Blue Mountains to Bathurst, where you'll be immersed in the splendour of some of Australia's most spectacular gardens. As the season awakens with vibrant colours and fragrant blossoms, you'll experience an unforgettable adventure filled with botanical wonders and serene landscapes.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Albury Botanic Gardens
- Jugiong Country Experience
- Retford Park Garden, Bowral
- Red Cow Farm, Sutton Forest
- Welcome Centre, Mittagong
- Joadja Historic Mining Village
- Fairground Follies
- Everglades Garden, Leura
- The Three Sisters, Katoomba
- Govetts Leap Lookout
- Bathurst guided tour
- Abercrombie House, Bathurst
- Miss Traill's House, Bathurst
- Mayfield Garden, Oberon
- Open Gardens, Bathurst
- Cowra Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre
- Beechworth

MULTIPLE NIGHT STAYS

- 3 nights in Mittagong
- 3 nights in Bathurst



COACH



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: | \$4,845 per person |
| Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 2 - 10 Tours: | \$4,795 per person |
| Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 11 - 20 Tours: | \$4,770 per person |
| Twin Share Room Repeat Traveller 21+ Tours: | \$4,745 per person |
| Single Room Supplement: | \$ 805 per person |





DAY 1

Monday 19th October, 2026

MELBOURNE TO WAGGA WAGGA

Welcome to our Springtime Tour which will incorporate some spectacular gardens in the Southern Highlands, the Blue Mountains and the Bathurst Garden Spectacular. With chauffeured pickup from home, we are transferred to meet our O'Shannessy's Quality Tours coach and crew and head for the Hume Highway. We stop enroute for morning tea from the coach then make our way to Benalla for lunch. This afternoon we continue to Albury where we have our afternoon break at the Albury Botanic Gardens. The last leg of today's journey takes us to Wagga Wagga with time to freshen up before dinner.

OVERNIGHT: Mercure Wagga Wagga, WAGGA WAGGA ★★★★★

“... Become lost in the natural beauty of one of Albury's most treasured icons. Explore the Albury Botanic Garden's established trees, meandering pathways and colourful garden beds...”

www.alburycity.nsw.gov.au

DAY 2

Tuesday 20th October, 2026

WAGGA WAGGA TO THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

We are in for a fantastic day ahead. We visit picturesque **Jugiong** where we meet our guide, showing us the sights and dazzle us with information on Jugiong and all it has to offer: from the Murrumbidgee River, historic buildings including the bush school that Richie Benaud attended, bushranger past to spectacular scenery. Our tour also includes a lot of laughs! This afternoon we drive north past Goulburn and into the **Southern Highlands** for our next three night's accommodation.

OVERNIGHT: The Springs, MITTAGONG ★★★★★

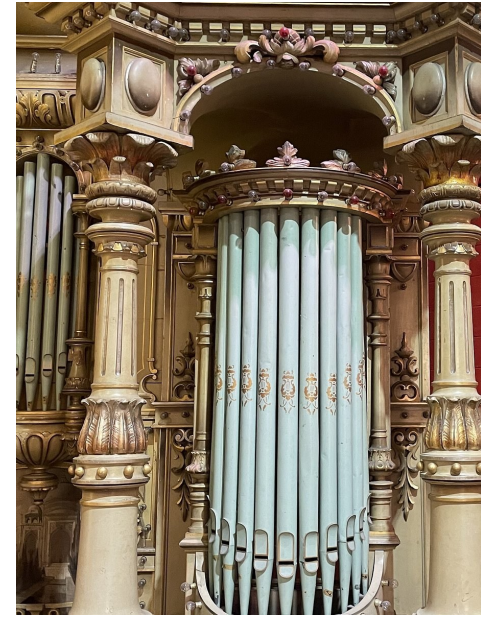
EXPLORING THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

We begin our Southern Highland Garden day with a visit to **Retford Park Garden** in Bowral. This lovely Victorian Italianate homestead has recently been gifted to the National Trust of Australia by James Fairfax AC and has magnificent gardens that showcase a collection of rare and unique evergreen and deciduous trees. We'll take a wander through the garden. We then take in the sights of Bowral with some free time in Bendooley Street to purchase lunch. This afternoon, we travel via Moss Vale to Sutton Forest where we visit **Red Cow Farm**, a lovely garden set on 6-acres. Divided into different garden areas or 'rooms', with new vistas and surprises around every corner, Red Cow Farm is a dream come true for anyone with a green thumb! Garden lovers have such an amazing choice of gardens including a cottage garden, a walled garden, a vegetable garden, an orchard and woodland. Rhododendrons and birches line the drive leading to the bog garden and lake, where 'Albertine' roses ramble over the railings of a beautiful old wooden bridge leading across the dam to an island. The monastery garden is formal in structure yet informal in its look, using a simple design that can be reproduced in an ordinary-sized garden. Our final visit for the day is to the **Welcome Centre in Mittagong**, a great place to pick up some local treats like famous Cuttaway Creek Raspberry Jam, or perhaps a bottle of cool climate wine. We return to our hotel to freshen up for dinner.

Lunch at own expense and arrangement

OVERNIGHT: The Springs, MITTAGONG ★★★★★





DAY 4

Thursday 22nd October, 2026

THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS

We wake to a fresh Southern Highlands morning and head off on our days sightseeing. We make our way to the historic mining village and now “ghost town” of **Joadja**. We are taken through streets and ruins where 120 years ago some 1,400 people lived and worked. We hear of the cultural, social and industrial history of the valley. We enjoy morning tea and lunch here, then farewell our guide and drive to **Bowral**. Here, prepare to be enchanted, all while enjoying afternoon tea, by the sights and sounds of **Fairground Follies**, akin to visiting an old-fashioned amusement park with its collection of self-playing instruments and mechanical music, fair organs, street organs and a 100-year-old steam carousel. It will be a fun afternoon, cherishing memories of the local fair. We return to our accommodation in Mittagong.

OVERNIGHT: The Springs, MITTAGONG ★★★★★

“... Enjoy the “Happiest Music on Earth”
at Fairground Follies.

Sing, dance or reminisce
amongst the greatest collection of
self-playing instruments
in the Southern Hemisphere...”

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

This morning we travel around the outskirts of Sydney, take the Great Western Highway into the **Blue Mountains**. The Blue Mountains are World Heritage Listed and a spectacular part of Australia's history, covering some 218,000 hectares of rugged beauty, a variety of terrain and a diversity of microclimates and ecological wealth. Following the Great Western Highway we make our way to **Leura**, where we stop at **Everglades Garden**, one of the most important historic gardens in Australia. Everglades is considered by many to be unparalleled in Australia for its unique design and historical significance. We have plenty of time to explore the garden before our lunch. From here we follow the Cliff Drive to Eco Point where we have a group photo opportunity at the mystical **Three Sisters** - a rock formation surrounded by Aboriginal Dreamtime Legend. At Blackheath, we veer from the highway to visit **Govetts Leap Lookout** with its breathtaking views of the **Grose Valley** and **Bridal Veil Falls**. On arrival at **Bathurst**, we check into our accommodation, our base for the next three nights.

OVERNIGHT: Rydges Mt Panorama Bathurst, BATHURST ★★☆☆★





DAY 6

Saturday 24th October, 2026

BATHURST SPRING SPECTACULAR

The Bathurst Gardeners Club **Bathurst Spring Spectacular** has been running for many years, originally as a garden competition until 2008 when it was changed to invite open gardens. Over the years proceeds amounting to thousands of dollars have been donated to local charities. Gardens each year are of a wide variety with a balance of large and small, town and country. Lots of inspiration for all lovers of gardens and gardening! Over the next two days, we can explore some of the local open gardens as well as enjoying other sights on offer.

Accompanied by a **local guide**, we embark on an exploration of the city's heritage. One of Australia's oldest inland cities, Bathurst retains a remarkably preserved Victorian era streetscape adorned with impressive architectural buildings. Saying farewell to our guide, we make our way to the first **open garden**. We then head to **Abercrombie House**, a castle like mansion constructed in the 1870s. Boasting over 40 rooms, it is surrounded by beautiful gardens spanning 20 hectares of land. With its captivating blend of Gothic and Scottish Baronial styles, Abercrombie House stands as a testament to architectural opulence and is recognised as one of Australia's finest historical mansions. Following a delicious lunch, we return to town to visit **Miss Traill's House**, a charming Victorian era bungalow weaving the tales of Miss Ida Traill and her family's life in early Bathurst. As we tour this special house museum, we'll discover how little has changed over the years, preserving the essence of a bygone era. The contents of the house are largely the possessions of the Lee family, collected over more than 150 years and they chronicle the history of typical Australian country life. She bequeathed the house to the National Trust and that is why we are lucky enough to be able to see it today. Our final stop today is another **open garden**.

****Open Garden Programme still to be finalised****

OVERNIGHT: Rydges Mt Panorama Bathurst, BATHURST ★★★★★

MAYFIELD GARDENS AND MORE OF BATHURST

We start the day with a spin around the **Mount Panorama Race Track** – at 60 kms/hour of course! We then head towards **Oberon**, an isolated township located on a plateau 1113m above sea level and takes its name from the King of the Fairies in Shakespeare’s *Midsummer Night’s Dream*. The area is well known for its gardens and today we visit **Mayfield Garden**, one of the largest privately owned cool climate gardens in the world. Nestled within a 5000 acre working farm, initial works on the garden were quite modest in scale but as tends to happen with gardens, it grew...and grew...and grew. We have the chance to wander through the gardens. Not all areas are open to the public but we will see the beautiful **Water Garden** and enjoy some time at the Nursery for a bit of retail therapy. This afternoon, we return to Bathurst where we can experience more springtime splendour as we visit more of the **private gardens** on show.

OVERNIGHT: Rydges Mt Panorama Bathurst, BATHURST ★★☆☆★

“... A visit to Mayfield Garden is a significant horticultural experience. Visit the maze, chapel, stumpery, aviary, garden rooms and every other feature across the garden anytime you walk through the gate at Mayfield...”

mayfieldgarden.com.au





DAY 8

Monday 26th October, 2026

BATHURST TO ALBURY

We farewell Bathurst this morning and travel through Blayney to **Cowra**, the town made famous by the POW Camp located here during WWII and the now famous “Cowra Breakout”. Here we enjoy a visit to the **Japanese Garden and Cultural Centre**. Opened in 1979 this is a “must see” attraction in Cowra. The garden represents the landscapes of Japan where the hill is the mountain, streams are rivers while ponds are inland lakes and the sea. The beauty and tranquillity of the Japanese Garden provides a spiritual and cultural experience. After lunch, we drive through **Young**, then straight on to **Albury** for our last night on tour.

OVERNIGHT: Quality Resort Siesta, ALBURY ★★☆☆☆

DAY 9

Tuesday 27th October, 2026

ALBURY TO MELBOURNE

Our first stop today is **Beechworth**, Gold Country! This imposing historical town will remind us of those exciting gold rush years, with many landmarks still surviving. The discovery of gold in the 1850’s brought with it a flurry of activity and growth. The magnificent buildings, 32 of which are listed by the National Trust, and the beautiful gardens are a legacy of the gold rush days. Whilst here, we enjoy a morning break and time to explore the township. Our lunch stop today is in **Euroa** where we have a chance to reminisce on the last few days with our newly made **O’Shannessy’s Quality Tours** friends before heading for home. Our chauffeurs will be waiting to take us to our very door!

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*

Discover Tasmania in Spring - November 2026

Flinders Island Adventure - 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

2121 Point Nepean Road, Rye Vic 3941

enquiries@oshannessys.com.au

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