

Jing Farrelly Zatino Travel Ltd

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ing Farrelly had worked as a nurse and IT professional before deciding on a career change. Originally from Wuhan in China, Jing was living in Co Meath when she noticed an increase in the number of Chinese tourists coming to Ireland.

She spotted a gap in the market for a tourism company specialising in providing MICE packages (tourism products that cater for meetings, incentives, conferences and exhibitions) for Chinese visitors coming to the island of Ireland.

Jing set up Zatino Travel in 2015, with the vision of providing Chinese tourists to Ireland with an unforgettable experience.

Zatino Travel works in collaboration with local businessess in Meath as well as around the country, bringing tourists to main visitor attractions and helping them explore hidden gems.

Jing thought ACORNS was a good opportunity to meet people from other counties and discover more interesting places for her clients to visit around Ireland.

Zatino Travel has since built up a strong Chinese-speaking tour guide and driver team and successfully signed supplier contracts with three top online travel agencies from China. In 2016, more than 100 Chinese tour operators visited Ireland on a familiarisation trip with the objective of bringing more Chinese visitors into the country.

Recently, the company has focused more on tailor-made tours including the visit of 30 photographers from mainland China and Hong Kong, providing cultural experiences and festival performance experiences around Ireland for Chinese musicians, and hosting a large number of senior executives from Chinese hospitals on a visit to Ireland.

Jing has also been fostering ties between government officials in China and Ireland with the intention of providing more educational and cultural tours to both countries next year.

