

Kate O'Callaghan-Momberg *Ireland Exclusive*

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ate O'Callaghan-Momberg launched her luxury gifting company, Ireland Exclusive, from her home in Connemara, Co Galway, in December 2023.

A native of Connemara, Kate was inspired by the beauty that surrounded her to create a gifting experience that would reflect the rugged majesty of Connemara.

Indeed, she initially launched the business as Connemara Exclusive but has since grown it to embrace the beauty, arts and crafts of the island of Ireland.

Kate, whose background is in financial services, had always aspired to become an entrepreneur and was inspired to do so when she saw an opportunity to marry Ireland's exceptional arts and crafts products with fine wines from South Africa, where her husband is from

Ireland Exclusive is a corporate design, branding and gifting service that supports Irish makers by offering Irish premium handcrafted products paired with South African wines to corporate and tourism clients.

Kate has also teamed up with design students from ATU, with whom she is designing her own exclusive products for the business.

Initially, Kate worked with a graphic designer on her branding and packaging, and they came up with a unique, attractive, suitcase-style box for their Christmas gift boxes, which proved a great success.

Ireland Exclusive has since evolved from being a Christmas hamper business to also embrace corporate gifting and travel – where tourism clients receive bespoke welcome and departure gifts sourced in the locations they are visiting.

Kate cites leadership and mentoring from Lead Entrepreneur Triona Mac Giolla Rí and having a peer group that supported each other emotionally and built each other's confidence as key benefits of the ACORNS programme.

Her plans include growing the Christmas hamper market in Ireland and the UK, having at least five of her own exclusive products by the end of the year and launching her own fragrance.

