

LAST-MINUTE LOCALS

Have you left it late? Here's
20 Irish fashion brands with
gifts for the slacking shopper

REPORT: ROSE MARY ROCHE

If you have left getting the fashion lover in your life a gift until now, then shopping from an Irish brand is the best option. You may just about make the cut-off for domestic shipping if you shop today, and if you are too late, then a gift voucher from an independent Irish designer is still a possibility.

Ireland is enjoying a creative surge in terms of fashion and when you shop from local design businesses the money stays in the Irish economy, supports Irish creatives and your purchase is truly appreciated. Here, we have compiled a list of 20 Irish fashion brands who make beautiful

things with great care and pride. Shop from them and your gift will delight the recipient.

AOIFE LIFESTYLE

aoifelifestyle.com

Aoife Rooney's elegant clothes and bags are thoughtfully designed and beautifully made, using deadstock and sustainable fabrics. Her current collection, Marcella, celebrates Irish and Italian heritage and is inspired by Aoife's memories of her grandmother's unique style with sharp tailoring, romantic blouses and flattering dresses. Her aim is a trans-seasonal capsule wardrobe that will endure. *Prices range from €28 for a pair of socks to €650 for a tailored coat.*

EKOTREE CASHMERE

ekotreeknitwear.store

Ekotree knitwear studio is based in Doolin, Co Clare, along the scenic Wild Atlantic Way. It is a collection of designer-makers of Irish knitwear using beautiful natural yarns including cashmere, super-fine alpaca, lambswool merino, mohair, linen and organic cotton. It offers womenswear, menswear, homeware, accessories and baby wear, and can create one-off bespoke pieces.

Women's cashmere sweaters from €295 and Merino sweaters from €175.



AOIFE McNAMARA

aoifemcnamara.com

Since starting her B Corp brand, Aoife has been pushing boundaries to reimagine what sustainable design looks like. Based in Adare, Co Limerick, she creates collections inspired by Ireland's wild beauty. Her mission is to build a community based on grassroots collaboration, so she uses local Irish tweeds and linens.

Romantic dresses, cool coats and tailoring run from €160 to €900.



BLAITHÍN ENNIS

blaithinennis.com

Bláithín Ennis is a contemporary slow fashion brand which focuses on cutting-edge jewellery and couture body pieces. The label is beautifully designed, incorporating both traditional and craft techniques using whimsical shell mesh, combined with mixtures of robust metals and sparkling glass crystal. Every piece is designed and handmade in Ireland while Bláithín's unconventional and offbeat aesthetic has earned her a devoted following at home and abroad.

Prices from €35 up to individually priced bespoke pieces.

CAROLINE DUFFY DESIGNS [

carolineduffydesigns.com

Caroline Duffy is a gifted artist/designer from Co Louth, who designed fashion prints for Ralph Lauren and Oscar de la Renta prior to launching her own label. Alongside her original paintings and prints, Caroline now produces



a collection of luxury organic silk kimonos, kaftan dresses, palazzo trousers, skirts and scarves that combine her exquisite floral artwork with her signature feminine style. These items are wearable art, while also being sustainably made.

Scarves from €145, dresses from €360 and kaftans from €440.

AUGUST NIGHT

augustnight.ie

August Night is a collection of beautiful bags and accessories from designer Caoimhe Grant, which take inspiration from the visual, literary and lyrical worlds. Softly sculptural silhouettes with distinctive details, gentle twists, knots and generous bows are brand signatures that create beautiful pieces which elevate the everyday. Designed



and ethically made in Ireland and thoughtfully constructed in lustrous duchess satins and dusted velvets, each piece has a gentle elegance.
Prices from €150.

EJAY GRIFFIN
ejaygriffin.com

Founded by Ijeoma Rosita Griffin, Ejay Griffin is a slow fashion brand which combines colours and textures in innovative silhouettes and creative pairings. Of Nigerian heritage, Ijeoma uses Irish fabrics in a fresh and colourful way, blending prints and tweed with a skilled eye.
Her A-line Sibi dress, €430 is a flattering and feminine design while her patchwork jackets from €195 are both stylish and sustainable.

FÉRÍ
feri.ie

The concept for FÉRÍ came from a love of making combined with a desire to create and own unique and beautiful clothes. Designer Faye Anna Rochford was a keen collector of vintage fabrics, clothes and trinkets, and grew up on a farm, so the importance of being creative and resourceful is intrinsic to her designs. FÉRÍ collections are designed in colourful prints and embroidered, which she creates using natural certified organic

fabrics or dead stock/re-purposed textiles in small batch quantities.
Romantic, bohemian and colourful dresses from €365, jackets from €300 and blouses from €245.

FAO MILLINERY
faomillinery.com

FAO Millinery is a contemporary millinery brand reimagining the art of hat-making for modern hat-lovers led by designer Freya Oatway. She interned with Phillip Treacy and has also worked with Giles Deacon, Mulberry and Roland Mouret. The brand values craftsmanship, creativity and individuality and offers everything from structured felt hats to soft beanies and formal special occasion designs. *Prices from €59.*



CLEO PRICKETT
cleoprickett.com

Cleo, who opened her own shop in Meath Street, Dublin 8, this year, combines luxury sustainable fabrics with contemporary design and bold tailoring. Her innovative

pattern-cutting techniques mean garments are versatile, creating multiple styling choices from one individual piece. She uses natural fibres, including fine Merino wool and lambswool tweeds, to fashion beautiful products that are long-lasting and eco-friendly. The addition of organic denim (a GOTS-certified cotton) is a new initiative. *Prices from €195.*







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aioifemcnamara.com

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HELEN HAYES

helenhayes.com

Helen Hayes is a former graphic designer who displays couture-level skills in her exquisite garments and accessories, made with intricate hand-craft techniques. Garments include beautiful shirts, waistcoats, skirts and tailored waistcoats with stunning workmanship, while her square bags are meticulously handmade from individual squares of fabric which are folded and assembled one-by-one. Exceptionally beautiful pieces which are truly special. *Prices on application.*

IRELANDSEYE KNITWEAR

irelandseyeknitwear.com

IrelandsEye Knitwear started with six members of the O'Sullivan family in 1988 and now involves three generations of the same family. For 35 years this knitwear brand has carved out a unique niche, putting a contemporary spin on traditional Irish

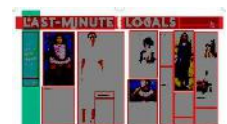


knitwear. Based in North Dublin its Blossom, Haven, Heirloom and Solstice collections offer everything from contemporary Arans to luxurious knitted loungewear. It can also be spotted in the latest season of Bad Sisters. *Prices from €39.95 for accessories and €129.95 for garments.*

HELEN McALINDEN

helenmcalden.com

Creating pieces that reflect timeless minimalism for over 24 years, Helen McAlinden creates clothing that is both elegant and functional, with an appeal that transcends seasons. Her enduring principles include simplicity, sophistication and longevity alongside a philosophy of, 'Invest in quality, own for life.'



Tailoring in beautiful fabrics forms the backbone of the brand. *Trousers from €230, jackets from €310 and coats from €420.*

LANDA BAGS

landabags.com

Landa was founded by Silvana Landa McAdam, who is of mixed Italian and Argentine heritage. Inspired by her Italian grandfather, who was a cobbler, she creates pieces with the highest quality raw materials, such as full-grained, tumbled leather, to produce responsibly and sustainably. The label works with factories that follow and value traditional craft leather techniques. Signature designs the Cassia phone bag and the Castana tote have recently been joined by the Palto city bag and the Panama tote. *Accessories like key rings start from €25, phone bags from €75 and handbags from €175.*

LAURA CHAMBERS CASHMERE

laurachambers cashmere.com

Known for her sensual knits and vivid saturated colour palette, Laura Chambers sources her cashmere yarn from world-leading spinners Tod & Duncan, which guarantees outstanding softness and durability. Each cashmere piece is designed and hand-

loomed in Dublin. One of the main objectives since creating the brand in 2016 was to create a product that is designed and made in Ireland, with an international look and feel.

She offers a range of accessories from €100, sweaters and cardigans from €395.

MELISSA CURRY JEWELLERY

melissacurry.com

Melissa Curry is one of Ireland's most exciting jewellery designers, celebrated for her colourful and distinctive designs. Her style is bold, and vivid with inspiration taken from her extensive travels, nature, Celtic mythology and the enduring strength of women. Her unique, eye-catching jewellery is a perfect gift. *Prices from €69.*

TED 1942 BAGS

ted1942.com

Inspired by his grandfather Ted Carberry's legacy, his grandson Brendan and wife Kasia revived the leather brand he founded in the

1950s. They merge traditional craftsmanship with modern luxury, selecting the finest Italian leathers and solid brass hardware for their beautiful bags, inspired by Georgian doorways. Each handbag is a blend of heritage and contemporary elegance, reflecting the brand's rich history and commitment to quality and style. The bags are made by skilled Italian artisans, who uphold Ted's meticulous standards. *Prices from €495 for mini bags and €556 for crossbody bags.*



NATIVE DENIMS

nativedenims.com

Native Denims is a sustainable Irish fashion business offering premium denim products including a bespoke jeans service that produces the ultimate pair of jeans made specifically to clients' measurements and specifications. This service involves meeting with the Master



Maker and being taken through all stages from initial measurements, the development of a unique pattern block, choice of fabrics, determination of trim combinations, identifying the preferred style and input into garment construction. Multiple fittings guarantee the perfect fit with the thorough process ensuring 'the ultimate jean'.

The fee is €500 while off-the-peg jeans run from €200 to €230.

MAGEE OF DONEGAL

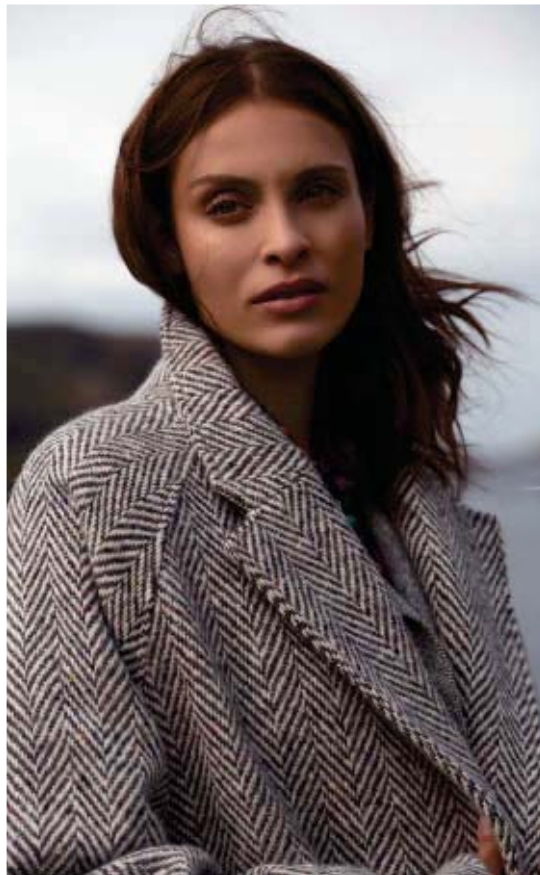
magee1866.com

Magee 1866 is a fifth-generation Irish family business with more than 150 years' experience in designing, weaving, and tailoring luxurious fabrics and clothing in Donegal. In 1900, Robert Temple – John Magee's cousin and apprentice – bought the business and today the third and fourth generations of the Temple family remain at the helm. Known for its tweeds in classic tailoring, Magee makes clothes that can last a lifetime by blending contemporary edge with age-old craft.

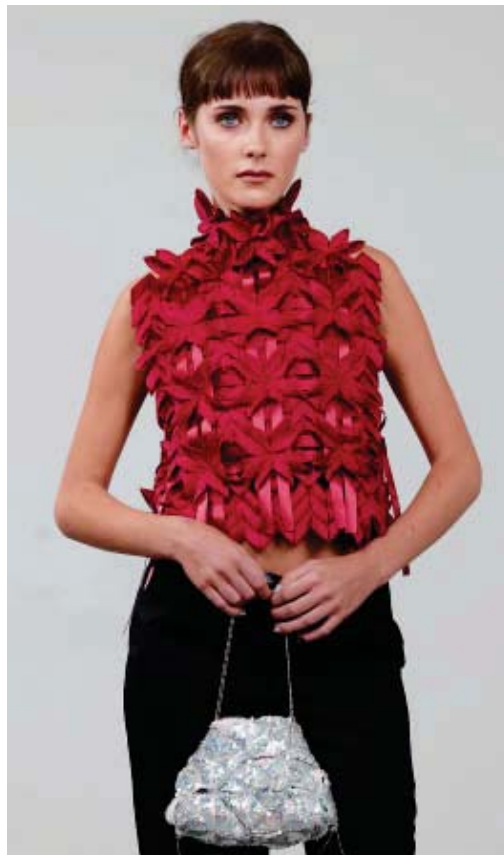
Prices from €275 for dresses, €325 for blazers and €450 for coats. If truly treating someone, the Sophie Donegal tweed coat, €850, is a big buy but utterly beautiful.

THE LINEN SHIRT COMPANY **linenshirtcompany.ie**

Anneliese Duffy crafts 'classic yet contemporary linen pieces for men, women, and children' with features including intricate buttons, delicate bows, silk cuff links and tuxedo pleats. A third-generation designer and maker, she is passionate about recognising linen as an all-year-round fabric and wants to inspire consumers to see how amazing Irish linen can look.
Prices from €150 for women's shirts, €175 for men's shirts and €48 for kids' shirts.









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