

Holiday Gift Guide

Looking for that special something for that special someone this holiday season? We've got you covered with our annual Holiday Gift Guide!





Window to the Soul Pendant

Keith Jack

www.keithjack.com

Scotland-born, Vancouver-based artist and designer Keith Jack remains world-renowned as a master craftsman of Celtic jewelry. After the birth of his children, Jack was inspired to create lasting, legacy pieces - of modern design and ancient meaning - which could be passed on for generations, creating new family traditions while retaining Celtic legend. One of those masterworks - the Window to the Soul Pendant - embodies that Celtic mythology, crossing the thin veils between the physical and faerie realms, and symbolizing the eternal soul. A contemporary take on a classic design, this stunning piece spins the stirring soul of Scotland into pure sterling silver, gilded in 22k yellow gold, and placed on a sturdy Italian Spiga chain. Transcending time, the talisman is a perfect and poignant gift for that special someone this holiday season.



Sketches

Natalie MacMaster

www.linusentertainment.com

It has been eight years since Canadian fiddler extraordinaire Natalie MacMaster released a solo recording. It has been well worth the wait, however. Without a single sung or spoken word through the album's 12 terrific tracks, Sketches captures and conveys just about every emotion under the sun through the sweet and sure tones of the fiddle - often within the span of a single piece. By turns bold, bouncy and beautiful, the work succeeds at showcasing both the multi award-winner's tremendous talent, and her downhome Cape Breton roots. Suffice to say that few instrumentalists of her caliber, or of her genre, can sway both body and soul with such spirit. Order online now and receive a limited-edition signed copy. And be sure to check out our feature story on MacMaster in this issue, where she discusses her latest release, as well as the perks and perils of her profession.



A Celtic Family Christmas

The MacMaster-Leahy Family

www.linusentertainment.com

While Natalie MacMaster's solo career might have been on hiatus for the last eight years, she has kept herself busy both on the professional and personal fronts. Here, alongside her husband Donnell Leahy and their seven (!) talented children, the master fiddler rings in the holidays by putting on a pulse-pounding yuletide concert extravaganza, filmed before a live studio audience, and featuring special guests Jackie Evencho and Shawn Hook. Much like a warm winter's gathering at the homes of family and friends - and not unlike a classic, old-school kitchen party like the ones found back home in Celtic Cape Breton - the MacMaster-Leahy family serve up a feast of engaging entertainment with this truly unforgettable evening of music, dance, and storytelling. Available in both CD and DVD formats, the concert is sure to become a Christmas tradition for audiences of all ages.



Sterling Silver Ogham Pendant and Cufflinks

My Irish Jeweler

www.myirishjeweler.com

This Christmas delight your loved one with a handcrafted, future family heirloom from My Irish Jeweler. With over 50 years experience in fine jewelry, My Irish Jeweler are passionate about connecting people to their Celtic roots. Designed, made and hallmarked in Ireland from the finest gold and sterling silver, My Irish Jeweler pieces are an expression of Celtic and Gaelic culture, with iconic symbols like the Tree of Life, The Celtic Knot, or the Claddagh. You can personalize pieces from their Ogham range with your own message, hand engraved in the earliest script of the Gaelic language. Pieces like this Ogham pendant or Ogham cufflinks make a striking and personal gift that will be treasured for a lifetime. And each piece is express shipped in a luxury gift box, complete with a booklet explaining the ancient meaning and history of the design. Visit their website to discover designs to suit the modern Celtic man, woman, or child.



Celtic Tree of Life Deluxe Gift Set

Celtic Knot Works

www.celticknotworks.com

American Artist Bob Heiney has been crafting jewelry and other accessories inspired by the Celtic Knot for a decade. His original designs have become very popular over that time, and this Christmas he is bringing his classic bestsellers together into one gift set, combining the Celtic Knot and the Tree of Life. This gorgeous creation represents the intersection of eternal love and eternal life and features four core pieces, including a keychain, a pendant, a matchbox cover and a pin. You can share them amongst your loved ones or keep them together as a single gift. There might be no more exquisite way to show your family members your eternal love for them, how your lives will always be interconnected, and pride in your Celtic heritage than by giving them each their own Celtic Tree of Life. You could even keep one for yourself. All items are handcrafted in the United States and are made from stainless steel and fine pewter.



Whisky Tasting Set

Scottish Creations

www.scottishcreations.com

We all have a special someone in our life who enjoys a wee dram of "the good stuff" - especially during the holiday season. Recently, the good folks at Angels' Share Glass created a stunning and stirring Whisky Tasting Set for spirit lovers. Both decorative and functional, the item includes a personalized Glencairn glass, a sturdy water jug and an award-winning whisky-diluting dropper. The droppers are hand-blown in Scotland by master-craftsman Tom Young and are specifically designed to dole out a perfect proportion of H₂O with every dram, every time. There are three different options for the glass pipette; a burnished pot still, a gorgeous thistle, and the whisky angel - all of which are lustered in gold and displayed on oak from a vintage whisky barrel.



Custom Arran Hooded Capes

Heather Knight

www.heatherknight.ca

Nova Scotia native Heather Knight has been hand-crafting her unique line of clothing and gifts since 1992. Her wares are regularly found under Christmas trees each holiday season, both at home and abroad. Finding the perfect gift is easy with Heather's holiday gift ideas, including tartan Christmas ornaments and decorations, home decor, and fabulous, regionally-inspired fashion for the whole family. "Nova Scotia is my business and my life," she says. "Our products evolved here, and they are so greatly influenced by this part of the world that even when they are purchased by people outside of the region, it is largely because they are from Nova Scotia." This Christmas, treat a loved one - or yourself - to one of Heather's stunning Arran Hooded Capes. These one-of-a-kind capes feature a large druid-style hood, Celtic embroidery, and hand-crafted porcelain buttons. They can be made to custom order, reflecting the personal taste and personality of the wearer, so your special someone can showcase their Celtic pride.



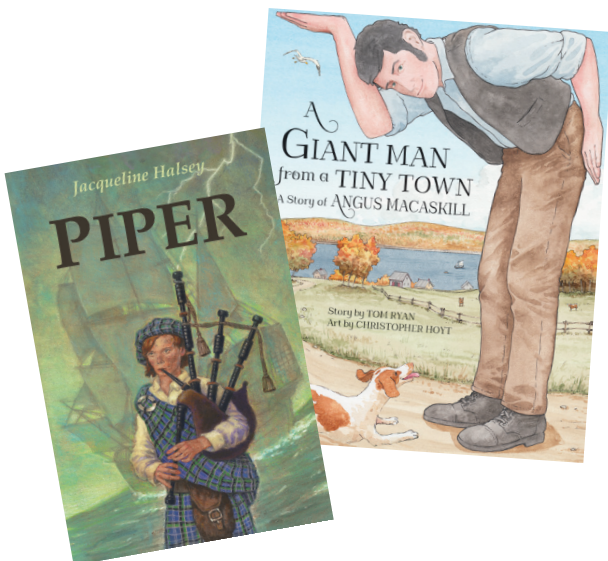
The Mimosa Collection

- Hand-Crafted Scottish Sheepskin

Skyeskyns

www.skyeskyns.co.uk

Curling up by a roaring fire, lounging in a soft, sheepskin wool rug might be the textbook definition of "cozy" during the cold winter months. This holiday season do cozy the right way with a homespun rug or throw from The Mimosa Collection by Skyeskyns. Named for the type of tree bark used in their tanning process, the Mimosa Collection features hand-made items crafted from authentic Scottish sheepskin in small, limited edition batches. Their tannery, located on the Isle of Skye, employs only the most skilled craftsmen and women, ensuring a truly velvety experience for the end-user. In addition, as the item's materials are sourced from eco-friendly Scottish farms, they are environmentally sustainable. "We are proud to be working with nature in such a low impact and beautiful way. The skins we tan here at Skyeskyns all come from either our own homebred sheep or from other Scottish sheep farms, minimizing travel."



Piper / A Giant Man from a Tiny Town

Nimbus Publishing

www.nimbus.ca

This holiday season give the gift of Celtic history and culture to the children in your life. Nimbus Publishing of Halifax, Nova Scotia, offers two wonderful stories for young readers this Christmas. Tom Ryan's *A Giant Man from a Tiny Town* is a true tall tale of the famous Cape Breton Giant, Angus MacAskill. Beautifully illustrated by well-known visual artist Christopher Hoyt, younger children will adore this classic story of a man who travels the world but longs for home. Older readers will enjoy Jacqueline Halsey's *Piper* - a middle-grade adventure tale that recounts the story of Dougal Cameron and his family as they sail from Scotland to Nova Scotia in the eighteenth century. During the voyage, Dougal is captivated by the sounds of the bagpipes, but must fulfill his responsibilities instead of dreaming the boat ride away. Both works have received popular and critical acclaim, and *Piper* has been short-listed for the Geoffrey Bilson Award for Historical Fiction for Young People.



The Tree of Life

Blue Frogs Company

www.bluefrogscompany.com

An elegant Tree of Life wood carving is a thoughtful and inspired gift that pays homage to generations past, while professing great hope for the future. Inspired by the traditions of the seven Celtic nations, this graceful hand carving is also a universal symbol of many spiritual and mythological practices in various cultures world-wide, whether known as the Tree of Knowledge, the World Tree or the Sacred Tree. With its intricate, interwoven pattern, its painstaking design speaks of wisdom, protection, strength, beauty, bounty and redemption. In Nordic tradition the tree is believed to connect the three worlds: Asgard - the realm of the gods; Midgard - the world of man, and Hel and Niflheim - the kingdom of the frost giant. In other traditions it represents life everlasting, without beginning or end. Specializing in Celtic and Viking carvings, which strive to capture ancestral traditions, Blue Frogs Company of Aspen, Colorado, carves its pieces one at a time, each beginning with an original hand drawing. Great attention to detail carries through to the hand carving, painting and finishing right down to the French paste wax which brings a rich luster to the wood grain.

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS

5TH EDITION



Tracing Your Irish Ancestors (5th edition, hardcover)

Genealogical.com

www.genealogical.com

Diligent readers of Celtic Life International will recall our cover story on tracking one's Celtic ancestry from earlier this year. If you would like to surprise that someone special in your life this holiday season, the gift of ancestry will look great under the Christmas Tree. Specifically, Tracing Your Irish Ancestors by author John Grenham is an excellent way to encourage a family member or friend to start digging through their roots. The author provides detailed instructions and tips on how to track one's Irish bloodlines through records and research tools. Irish ancestry records being what they are - often dependent upon meticulous, regional paper records - this guide is indispensable as a roadmap to one's family history and heritage. Updated with the most currently available information, including the latest list of the ever-growing online databases, the book guarantees to get you going in the right direction, and will likely inspire a trip to the land of your ancestors.



Wedding and Engagement Jewellery

The Irish Gold Co.

www.irishgoldshop.com

The Irish Gold Co. Ltd. is the only company in the world to produce wedding rings containing pure Irish Gold. With a unique "Irish Green" hue and a little bit of the old country, they are the perfect choice for your special wedding day. Every piece of jewellery is made by hands with 50 years' experience, making each piece unique from one another and with special care taken to make them just right. All Irish Gold Co. wedding rings come with their Shamrock stamp inside, or as a large feature mark on the outside of the rings. Priced from \$880 in 18ct. To complement these rings, the company also makes a uniquely stunning Celtic Irish engagement ring with a choice of diamonds, or the beautiful Mountains of Mourne rings with the green gold mountains under rose gold sunset. The range is completed with the Claddagh, Shamrock and Celtic Tree of Life pendant collections priced from \$629.



Raven Sash Pin

Nagle Forge & Foundry
www.nagleforge.com

Family owned and operated, California-based Nagle Forge & Foundry has been creating historically-inspired, one-of-a-kind jewelry and accessories for generations. Their timeless brooches are world-renowned and have long been worn and heralded by members of the Scottish, Irish and Welsh communities. The company's more recent offerings, including this stunning Raven Sash Pin - masterfully crafted from lead-free pewter - are ideal for Celts looking to leave a lasting impression. With engraved thistles and an intricate raven design, this piece showcases individually carved wings and feathers. A traditional symbol of freedom and individuality, the bird-noir transcends earth and sky to soar in the netherworld. Ravens also represent prophecy and wisdom in Celtic mythology. Both classic and contemporary at once, the pin's convenient two-inch sizing allows for seamless blending into any Clan sash. As a holiday gift, it is an ideal way to start, or pass along, family customs to future generations. Standing by their longstanding commitment to excellence and quality, Nagle Forge repairs or replaces any damaged items at no charge.



Logan the Irish Piper

Paddy Pals
www.paddypals.com

Owned and operated by Denis Kelly and Andrew Cosgrove of County Down-based online retailer Urban Pup, Paddy Pals is a series of adorable Teddy Bears who live deep in the region's plush Mountains of Mourne. Each Paddy Pal is a loving and loyal companion - stuffed with hugs, smiles, fun and laughter - and all have their own unique and individual gifts. Logan the Irish Piper entertains his Paddy Pals with stirring Celtic melodies. He sports silky brown fur, a welcoming smile, and a deep emerald green jacket adorned with golden buttons and a lace ruffle around the neck. A matching Tam O'Shanter cap and saffron kilt complete his outfit. Other Paddy Pals include a farmer, a fisherman, a dancer, a weaver, a poet and a classic "Colleen." Filled to the brim with the luck of the Irish, Logan and his pals will surely make a warm and wonderful gift for the wee ones this Christmas!



The Laird by Niffi Ecosse

Outdoor Knitwear
www.outdoorknitwear.com

This winter, wrap yourself or a loved one in a warm and wonderful wool cardigan from Outdoor Knitwear. This classically-designed fishermen's stitch cardigan is masterfully crafted with both traditional production methods and over 90 years of experience. Made with soft, high-quality wool from Welsh mountain sheep, the gorgeous sweater is highlighted with Harris Tweed shoulder patches and pocket tops, and authentic leather buttons. The cardigan is now available in three classic colours; natural coloured Light Grey Welsh, finished with Brown Mix Herringbone Harris Tweed patches; Derby Tweed, featuring a traditional blend of beautiful earthy colours and finished with rich Tartan Green Mix Harris Tweed patches; and a Charcoal melange, finished with Dark Grey Tartan Mix Harris Tweed patches. Sizes range from XS to 3XL. As a special holiday season promotion, visit the company's website to receive a 15% discount, using the code CELTICGIFT15.

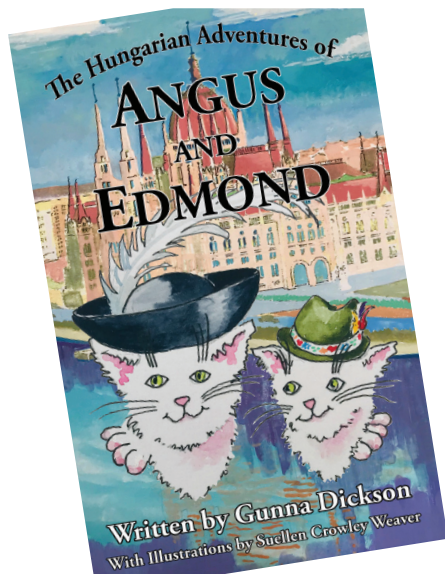


Celtic Chakra Jewellery

Black Dragon Crafts

www.blackdragon.co.uk

The human body has seven Chakras - or energy wheels - and each of the genuine gemstones used in this Celtic Chakra jewellery from Black Dragon Crafts relates to one of those power centers. Combined with the magic of the ancient Celts, and threaded with Hematite to give you courage, these unique and original pieces should help keep you balanced and energized. Choose from fine or chunky Celtic Chakra earrings, pendants, bracelets or necklaces. There are even Little Chakra bracelets for the wee ones. Each item is individually handmade and features Celtic beads, crafted in lead-free pewter by Annie Wealleans - a.k.a. the Black Dragon herself. It's a hot, dusty, dirty, complicated and time-consuming process but she casts, files, cleans, tumbles and hand finishes all the beads in her "Beadoir" on a green Welsh hillside. Annie is passionate about her work and has created more than thirty bead designs, each one decorated with an intricate and original Celtic knot pattern. She threads them into several ranges of timeless jewellery, all of which are sensibly priced and beautifully packaged, making an ideal gift for family and friends this holiday season, or anytime of the year. Beware of imitations!



The Hungarian Adventures of Angus and Edmond

Gunna Dickson and Suellen Crowley Weaver

www.amazon.co.uk / www.amazon.com

Back again for another amazing adventure are Angus and Edmond, the dynamic feline duo created by author Gunna Dickson. Readers of this hilarious and heartfelt saga have watched these two curious cats find themselves in a myriad of predicaments as they travelled through Scotland, Key West, Italy, Spain and beyond. This year, the purring pair are at it again, landing themselves - quite unexpectedly - in Hungary. There, Angus and Edmond are introduced to the Hungarian way of life, as they tour through Budapest, immersing themselves in the capital city's distinct and luxurious culture. As is the norm with these two, however, trouble is not far away, and things take a rather surprising turn. The Angus and Edmond adventures are warm reminders to slow down, enjoy the world and not take things too seriously. Wonderfully illustrated by Suellen Crowley Weaver, it is the perfect gift for both the child in your life and for the child in your heart.



Castle Tours

Sheenco Travel

www.sheencotravel.com

Memories are a gift that last a lifetime. And nothing makes memories better than adventures in travel, especially when it involves authentic and historic castles. With offices in both the U.S. and Ireland, Sheenco Travel makes it memorable with a series of Irish and Scottish Castle Tours that seamlessly bring together classic Celtic culture with contemporary luxury. These unique and exclusive excursions offer options for independent or guided travel, highlighting history, heritage, exceptional cuisine and comfortable accommodations. The Ireland Tour takes in several stunning locales, including Fitzpatrick Castle in Co. Dublin, Ashford Castle in Co. Mayo and Barberstown Castle in Co. Kildare. The Scotland Tour includes stops at Crossbasket Castle in East Kilbride, Inverlochry Castle in Fort William and Carberry Tower in East Lothian. Both tours offer additional bespoke options to best meet any additional needs or wants. Engaging, educational and entertaining, these Castle Tours are a wonderful way to treat the Kings and Queens in your family this holiday season!



ClanAran Product Line

Aran Sweater Market

www.aransweatermarket.com

Inspired by Irish folklore and history, the ClanAran product range by The Aran Sweater Market is the perfect gift for that person on your list who cherishes Celtic fashion and lore. Historically, the Aran symbol is considered the foremost Clan symbol, with its history reaching back to ancient Irish times. Today, the sweaters are more popular than ever, in part because they are passed down as family heirlooms, and partly due to their timeless style and clean lines. The Aran Sweater Market offers up a fine selection of gorgeous sweaters, throws, scarves, as well as a Clan Aran Historical display - all of which are accented with the same stitching, symbolic of the specific Irish clan and location and/or the customer's name. All Aran Sweater Market products are fashioned from the finest authentic Irish wool. The range includes well over 200 registered Clans and names, ensuring all customers can find what it is they are looking for to keep them cozy year-round.

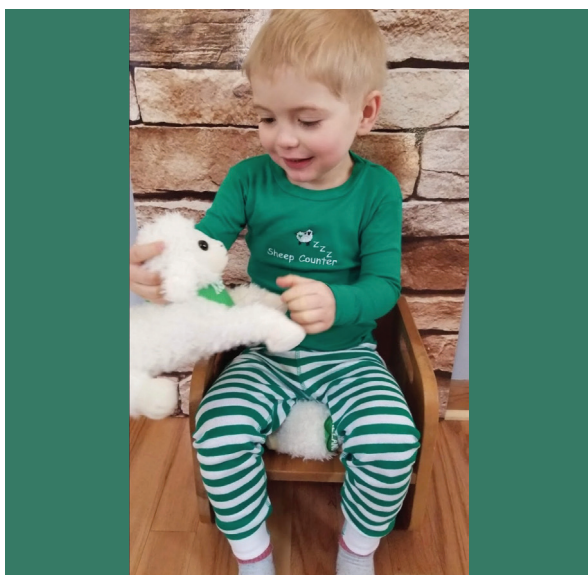


Teatime in Ireland

Margaret M. Johnson

www.irishcook.com

Tea lovers will rejoice this holiday season with Teatime in Ireland, a terrific tribute to the delightful ritual of "taking tea" - both formal and informal. Culinary journalist Margaret Johnson invites readers on a tasting tour of the Emerald Isle, where tea-drinking is a symbol of hospitality, friendship, and pleasure. From her first visit in 1984, Johnson has forged an indelible bond with Eire and its food, and she shares that ongoing passion in her latest cookbook devoted to the special relationship that the Irish people have with tea. Readers will learn a bit of Irish tea history - not even the Easter Rising could keep the ladies of Dublin from their tea and cakes - and discover a treasure trove of recipes for hosting special afternoon occasions. From country castles to Dublin drawing rooms, this colorful collection offers more than seventy recipes that will take readers seamlessly from a morning cuppa to an afternoon tea party. This Christmas order a special signed copy via Johnson's website for that true tea connoisseur in your life.

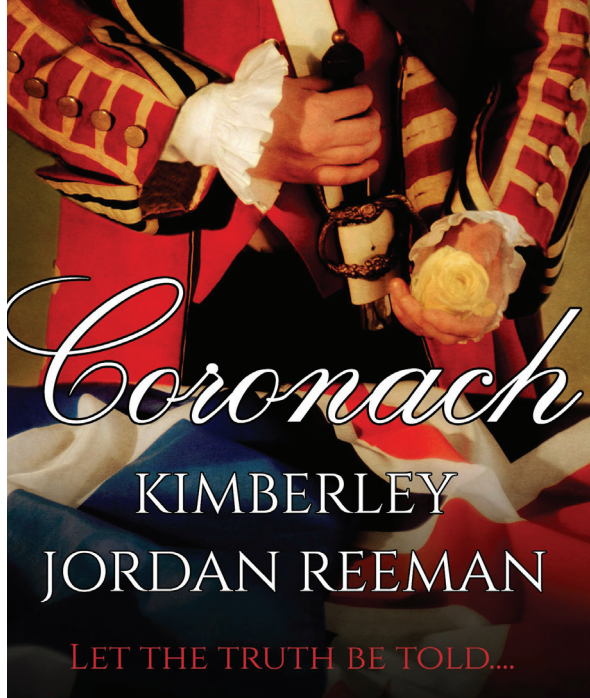


Embroidered Children's Pajamas

Faith and Begorra

www.faithandbegorra.com

Keep your wee ones as snug as a bug in a rug this winter with these warm and wonderful embroidered pajamas from Faith and Begorra. Based in Denville, New Jersey, the Irish Catholic company brings together style, comfort and tradition to keep the kids cozy through the colder months. Soft as can be, these jammies are 100 per cent cotton and coloured true Emerald Isle green. With cuffed, striped bottoms and a matching long sleeve top, the two-piece sleepwear set showcases a 'Sheep Counter' design with a line of finely embroidered Z's and an adorable fluffy sheep emblazoned on the front. In addition, every pair has a shamrock embroidered on the rear for an extra flair of Irish fashion - even the sheep has one! Crafted with quality, affordable, and ideal for all the little lambs in the family from 6 months to 5 years of age, these pajamas will make for a perfect Christmas gift.



Coronach

Kimberley Jordan Reeman

www.douglasreeman.com

Hailed by readers and critics as “soaring, sweeping, epic,” “a powerful saga,” and “enthraling...a classic contrast between love and war, and a mighty read,”

Kimberley Jordan Reeman’s *Coronach* is the stirring story of love and loss in Scotland in July of 1746. War ravages the Scottish Highlands as an army of occupation commits horrendous atrocities with consequences that will reverberate for generations. From this bloody cataclysm, a battle-hardened English officer saves an infant who will become his heiress and his obsession, and a traumatized Franco-Scottish laird offers refuge to a boy damaged by unspeakable horror. These four lives, bound by fate, unfold against the turbulence of the 18th century, in a magnificent and uncompromising novel of love and the human cost of war. An ideal gift for those with a passion for history, this terrific tale will keep readers engaged and entertained through the holiday season and well into the new year. *Coronach* is available both in paperback and also in e-book format from Amazon.



Highland Wear, Musical Instruments, Pipe Band Accessories

Musik de Razi

www.musikrazi.com

Everyone has that one special Scot in their lives - the one that celebrates their history and heritage in style. This holiday season, Musik de Razi is your one stop shop for Scots. The renowned firm has been firmly outfitting Scots since 2004, with an exceptional selection of Highland wear, musical instruments and pipe band accessories, including bagpipes, chanters, valves, reeds, cords, drumskins, Prince Charlie jackets, traditional tartan kilts, utility kilts, kilt belts, kilt pins, brooches, waist belts, semi dress sporrans, daywear sporrans, boy’s sporrans, horse hair sporrans, pipe band doublets, Glengarry caps, Balmorals caps, pipe and drummer insignias, and more. In-house manufacturing ensures the company’s commitment to craftsmanship and excellence, and to producing only the highest quality products. Affordable and convenient, Musik de Razi is a great place to gear-up that special someone in your life this Christmas.

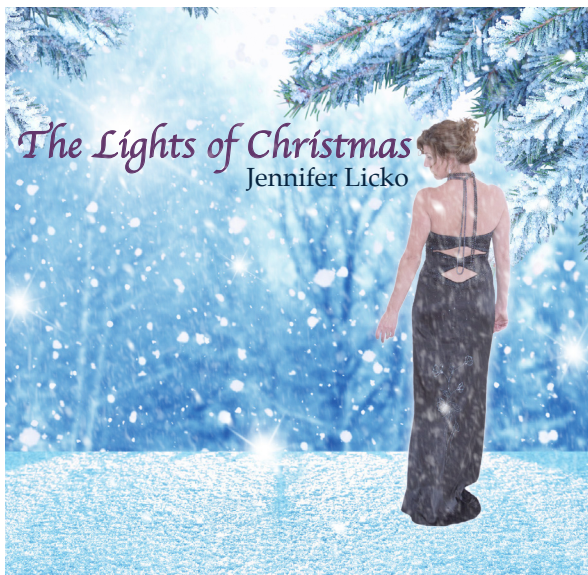


Killarney Tours

Killarney Tour and Taxi

www.killarneytaxi.com

Choose your own adventure with Killarney Tour and Taxi. Customizable and convenient, these unique travel experiences encourage exploration and freedom in lieu of rigid schedules and overly packed, out-of-control tour buses. From individual visitors to a maximum of eight people, these bespoke excursions offer the opportunity for spontaneous stops anywhere on the tour - on or off the beaten path - in and around some of Ireland’s most spectacular locales, including the Ring of Kerry, Dingle and Slea Head, the Beara Peninsula, Blarney Castle and Cork City, the Cliffs of Moher and more. Along the Ring of Kerry, travelers can explore the town of Kilmorglin - famous for one of the Emerald Isle’s most traditional and esteemed events, the Puck Fair - visit the traditional Red Fox Inn & Old Bog Village, walk through replica villages from the 1840s, and shuttle exclusively to stunning Valentia Island via ferry. Personable and professional, Killarney Tour and Taxi also provides both golf excursions and legacy tours involving the whole family.

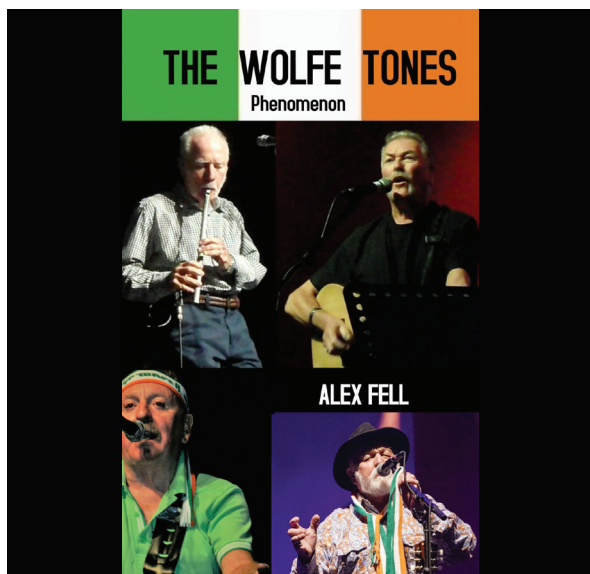


The Lights of Christmas

Jennifer Licko

www.celticchristmascd.com

The Lights of Christmas is the stirring and spirited debut seasonal release from multi award-winning Irish American singer/songwriter Jennifer Licko. Featuring 11 classic and contemporary takes on traditional Christmas melodies, including The First Noel, Soilse na Nollag, Silver Bells and O Little Town of Bethlehem/ Hark The Herald Angels Sing - and backed by a star-studded cast of players, including fiddler Patrick Mangan, guitarist Patsy O'Brien, producer/arranger and keyboardist Bob Noble, and Grammy award-winning sound engineer Mauricio Cajueiro - The Lights of Christmas captures and conveys the true spirit of the holiday season in grand Celtic style. Filled with stories of hope, home, family and friendship, the album is a warm and wonderful companion piece to Licko's annual Celtic Christmas Tour, and makes for perfect and easy listening by the fireplace, while trimming the tree, or while savouring a scrumptious Christmas dinner with loved ones. A great stocking stuffer!

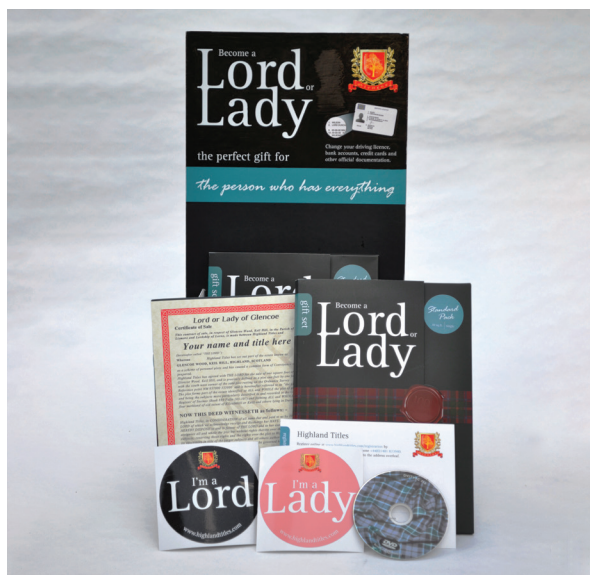


The Wolfe Tones Phenomenon

Alex Fell

www.choicepublishing.ie / www.amazon.com

The Wolfe Tones are widely acknowledged as the leading Irish Nationalist band, as well as traditionally-trained folk music exponents. They have influenced many younger bands, as well as established artists like Rod Stewart - whose version of "Grace" followed a visit to Glasgow Celtic Football Club, where longtime fans of the band are renowned for singing The Wolfe Tones' songs at matches. The band is going into its 56th year of continuous touring with the same line-up - a music industry record - and still spend time each year in North America and wherever else the Irish Diaspora is found. Alex Fell recaps all the highlights with this terrific tome, including the band's twenty-two "Top 20" hits, the fastest-selling single ever on the Emerald Isle, the "best single ever" as voted in the BBC World Service poll, the double-platinum and gold albums, the civic awards of keys to both New York and Los Angeles, and the numerous proclamations attesting to their devotion to the ideal of a peaceful and united Ireland. With a soaring narrative arc, a recorded repertoire of the band, and peppered with historical facts and contemporary colour photographs, the work is a must-read for true music lovers and all with an interest in Irish history and culture.



Highland Title

Scottish Lands

www.scottishlands.com

The ultimate gift for "the person who has everything": make them a Lord or Lady this Christmas! Scottish Lands offers a unique opportunity to purchase a plot of land in the Glencoe Wood in the Highlands of Scotland. Thanks to Scottish landowner laws, purchasing a Highland Estate gives you the legal right to call yourself a Laird, Lord or Lady. Scottish Lands offer estates of various sizes and prices. The document pack comes with a legal Certificate of Sale, information and directions to enable you to locate and visit your land, and a Master Title Deed to comply with the legalities of changing your name on your driving license and credit cards. The purchase also helps preserve the environment; as the company states on its website, "by splitting the woodland into the ownership of hundreds of different people it ensures that no developer can ever acquire it and use it for their own gain, to the detriment of the area...the woodland is home to many species of Scottish flora and fauna, and it can be enjoyed by people as an area of peace, quiet, and tranquillity."



Cashmere Wrap

Sound of Iona

www.ionatartan.com

Iona is a small island off the coast of Scotland, running just 3 miles long and 1.5 miles wide. It is also known as one of the most sacred places on earth. Founded in 2014, Sound of Iona Tartan is a family run business whose roots on the tiny island go back to the 1700s. Generations of craftsmanship go into every one of their gorgeous items, including bedroom and living room throws, cushions, placemats, mugs, bowls, ceramics, ties, scarves, brooches, jewellery, handbags, wallets and more. Their signature piece, however, is a stunning Cashmere Wrap. Quality made with 100 per cent cashmere, the 50cm (w) x 155cm (l) wrap features the company's own unique tartan. Composed of light blue, white and pink pastels, and designed to mirror the lush landscape and lyrical seas of Iona, this warm and wonderful wrap will make an exquisite and elegant gift for that someone special this holiday season, or anytime of the year.



Book of Kells & Dublin Castle Tour

LetzGo City Tours

www.letzgocitytours.com

Rich and robust in history and heritage, Dublin is one of the world's great capital cities. Ideal for walking any time of the year, it is highly recommended to hire a guide when stepping out to see the sights. LetzGo City Tours gives both first-time and return visitors the opportunity to 'skip the line' to experience what has been called "the most precious object in the Western world" - the Book of Kells at Trinity College Dublin. Written between the 7th and 10th centuries (A.D.) in regional monasteries, the illuminated manuscript contains the four Gospels of the New Testament together with various prefatory texts and tables. After exploring the Book of Kells, the two-and-a-half-hour tour takes travellers across town, first to the 13th century Dublin Castle and Gardens, then to Ireland's only official statue of Molly Malone, before making stops at both the oldest shopping center in Europe, and Powerscourt Center. The tour runs daily during the winter months, and the company's 'skip the line' Guinness and whiskey tours also take place from Thursdays to Sundays throughout the season.



The Saga of the Latter-Day Celts

Liam O'Shiel

www.amazon.com

Books make wonderful gifts anytime of the year! This holiday season spoil the readers in your life with the Saga of the Latter-Day Celts series by Liam O'Shiel. At the dawn of the 30th Century, the Age of Machines sinks into ruin. Amongst the shattered remains in the British Isles, five Gaelic-speaking nations arise and band together, united by a common language and shared Celtic culture. These unique nations thrive in harmony for nine centuries...until a new Ice Age overspreads Europe, bringing on a Europe-wide struggle for food and arable land. In Eirelan, the Province of the Twenty Clans in Ireland celebrates its millennial year, joins Cornwall and Brittany in defeating Spanish sea pirates, and then mourns the death of thousands on the killing field of Mhisteala. In the Bleak Midwinter tells of all five Celtic Nations uniting to fight a new and dangerous Germanic enemy, a story to be concluded in The Blood Upon the Rose (2020). The Saga of the Latter-Day Celts is an epic tale of war and music, danger and poetry, combat on the high seas and quiet meals in pubs, and above all, of a noble people fighting for the right to live in harmony with the Earth.



The Ballyshannon Cross

McHarp; Crosses With Meaning
www.mcharpcrosses.com

The town of Ballyshannon is located on the western sea at the mouth of the River Erne in stunning Co. Donegal. Perhaps the most magical and mythical area of Eire, families of wild swans still live on the sheltered estuaries. Many ancient Irish legends and sagas have taken place across the region through the centuries, and it is thought that this is where the Celts and the Catholic Church first made contact. This gorgeous cross design is several centuries old and was first discovered near Ballyshannon. At the center is the sacred heart of Jesus, surrounded by rays of light, while the outer ring is believed to represent heaven. In the Ballyshannon Cross, the Christ heart represents our own hearts and the rays of light are symbolic of Christ's existence within our hearts, as he is the light of the world that shines through us. A thoughtful and timeless gift for family and friends of faith this Christmas.



Bilge Frames

Whisky Frames
www.whiskyframes.com

Ask anyone who loves a wee dram and they will tell you that there is something special and distinct about an aged whisky cask. Crafted from reclaimed Scotch Whisky barrels, Bilge Frames - from Edinburgh-based Whisky Frames - are a beautiful and unique gift idea for family and friends this holiday season. With a charred brewing lining on the back, the item's front is framed with antique, naturally weathered steel hoops from the barrel. The freestanding, front loading frame features a window for 4 x 6 landscape or portrait photos. Each picture is held in place with copper screws, and the product comes with wall-mounting hardware on the rear. Frames are individually numbered as part of an origin archive; simply enter the number into the archive and it will display which distillery or cooperage the barrel originated from. Bilge Frames can also be personalized with monogrammed rivets, laser engraved messages on the side of the frame, photo printing, or with an individual Clan Tartan as a background. A one-of-a-kind gift for that one-of-a-kind spirit lover in your life!



Celtic Journals & Ancient Irish Maps

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