

LIFE

Irish self-catering boltholes to book into this summer

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If luxury self catering is top of your travel list, try one of these chic Irish boltholes.

Picture the scene. Light is fading. You've been delegated to set the table while your friend – a far superior cook – begins the finishing touches to the evening meal.

You've brought a few casual bits for the tablescape. You light the long-stem candles and place a linen napkin and wildflower at each setting. You rally the troops. Someone pours the wine. Chatter rises. Contentment settles.

This, or a similar enough scene, is playing out in imaginations across Ireland. We might be less enthusiastic about flying somewhere for a break, but gathering with much-missed friends and family is a priority, and ideally far away from the four walls we've been confined to. If you can plump for luxury self catering, here's where is top of our list.

Walden Lakehouse, Westmeath





When we photographed the Westmeath cabin of interior designer Egon Walesch (pictured, top and above) back in 2016, we lingered a little later than usual. As we slowly and reluctantly packed up the jeep, it felt like we'd been away for days, such is the calming power of this lakeside retreat.

Blending authentic mid-century finds with contemporary comfort, and restorative nature, this cosy cabin is available to rent via Unique Homestays, and sleeps up to four guests.