

Outdoor Gift Ideas for Christmas

by Don Hartig

Need some good outdoor gift ideas this Christmas? You have come to the right place. Here are some of my personal outdoor gift recommendations, and the good news is – they are all available right here in Ireland! So whether you are a fan of camping, hiking, climbing or fishing, or just want to get out for a change (I know I've had just about enough of remaining indoors with the lockdown and all), some of these ideas could be just what you are looking for!

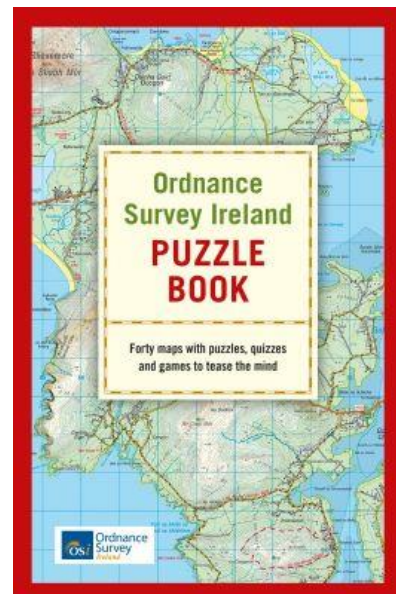
Outlets, such as the Outdoor Adventure Store, Outdoor.ie, and Etsy are great places to find outdoor gifts this Christmas. Anything from pocket knives and camping equipment to outdoor clothing and hiking gear can be found at local outdoor equipment and gift stores right here in Ireland.

So here they are. These are my personal favourite outdoor gift ideas for Christmas. As mentioned, these are all sold right here in Ireland, so if you do find something you like, you will also be helping to get struggling local businesses back on their feet!

Ordnance Survey Ireland Puzzle Book

This is a fantastic gift to not only refresh your knowledge of Ireland's geography, but also provide hours of fun for the whole family. The book contains 40 maps and hundreds of puzzles, some of which are easy whilst others will really challenge your general knowledge of Ireland's mountain ranges, lakes, valleys and coastlines with questions and brain teasers. The content covers the entire island of Ireland and is sure to get you hooked on map exploration – a perfect gift for the festive season at just **€18.99**.

As a special Christmas offer, **Ordnance Survey Ireland** is also offering a 30% discount on the **OSI Puzzle Book** if you purchase it together with their **Dublin Street Guide**!



The Victorinox Swiss Climber Knife

Into climbing? Then you've just got to check out the **Victorinox Swiss Climber Knife** at the **Outdoor Adventure Store**. This multi-tool pocket knife is possibly the most useful item you will have with you if you are climbing, camping or engaged in any other outdoor (or indoor) activities.

If you have ever owned a Victorinox Swiss Army Knife, you will probably know that the company is world-renowned for their high quality and durability. Guaranteed to come in handy in a variety of situations, Victorinox pocket knives are so durable that they are often passed down as gifts from generation to generation – unless of course you're like me and lose them!

The **Victorinox Swiss Climber Knife** comes in at just **€29.95** and has the following features:

- Large blade
- Small blade
- Can opener with small screwdriver
- Bottle opener with large screwdriver & wire stripper
- Scissors
- Reamer with sewing eye
- Corkscrew
- Hook
- Toothpick
- Tweezers
- Key ring
- Life time warranty



Gosh! With all those features packed in to a pocket knife, even McGuyver himself would be put to shame (*reference to the coolest 80s TV show ever – couldn't help myself*).

Anyway, the Outdoor Adventure Store also provides free delivery for purchases over €30 if you use their online store.

“Wild by Water” Environment-Themed Bags

Now this next site one is one of my absolute favourites, not just because the stuff they make is useful and stylish, but because **Wild by Water** is a homegrown Irish company that source all their materials and design all their products locally!

Started and owned by two sisters, **Wild by Water** are definitely not just focused on making pretty things either, as they place an emphasis on all their bags being “water-tight and rainproof”.

The other cool thing about this company is that they place huge value on the environment and the natural world, and also go to a lot of effort to only use ethical “lean production” processes. The result is a line of products that are both recycled as well as recyclable.

But the best part, in my humble opinion, is admittedly their super-cool designs. Their bags feature prints and patterns of coastal and waterside environments like these.



Now if only I could decide which one I want most.

Quad Biking and Rifle / Clay Bell Target Shooting Package for Two

Ever experienced the thrill of quad biking at high speed on rough terrain — or falling face-first into a puddle of mud when you misjudge how deep it is? Just kidding!



GiftsDirect, a 100% Irish-owned company, provides a **Quad Biking + Indoor Rifle / Clay Bell Target Shooting** package for two people. In addition to some of GiftsDirect's other packages, such as sky diving, this one is sure to help get rid of all that pent-up frustration being locked down indoors for weeks on end.

The quad biking trail is at Co Monaghan (about 1 hr and 45 mins drive from Dublin) and takes between 1 ½ to 2 hours to complete. The trail itself includes overhead bridges, a water splash drive, an underground tunnel with splash, tight corners, bumpy ground, a circular track and muddy ditches.

The Clay / Bell target shooting part of the package includes 25 shots each and is an indoor rifle shooting activity. You will be thrilled when you hit your 'first clay' and ring your 'first bell'.

At **€150.00** for two people, I would say that that is a lot of fun for the money.

One thing I would recommend, though, is that if you do decide to check out this package, it would probably be a good idea to first confirm with GiftsDirect whether they are open for business at the moment. Fortunately, their email address and phone number are at the bottom of the page.

Organic Irish Wool Aran Zip Sweater



This 100% pure **Organic Irish Wool Aran Sweater** is chunky and heavy and is made in Killorglin, Ireland. I found it on Etsy and am planning to buy at least two as Christmas gifts for my parents this winter.

You can also message "Kate", the owner of the Etsy shop, directly to ask about colours and sizes, etc. She also sells tons of other wonderful handmade tweed items, which you can check out here.

At **€119.90**, this is amazing value for money, so get yourself an **Organic Irish Wool Aran Sweater** now!

Celtic Fairy Door

If you are a J.R.R. Tolkien fan like myself, or would just like to show your local fairies and garden folk that your garden is friendly to any passersby, then this beautiful hand-crafted **Secret Fairy Door** is just the thing for you.

It is made of natural driftwood, barks, branches, preserved moss, tiny clay mushrooms, battery operated lights, foam flowers and paper flowers and is perfect for anyone that is into Middle Earth style lore, or even just as a decoration. At **€29.00**, the Secret Fairy Door is a steal!



You can visit the **Little Dearies** Etsy store here and check out the other fabulous Middle Earth and Celtic style items that Karolina (the store owner) has on offer.

Personalised Baseball Caps

If you are looking for something that has that personal touch, or want to show someone how special they are, **gifts.ie** offers **custom-embroidered baseball caps**, which are both affordable as well as unique.



All you need to do is to head over to **gifts.ie** and type in your personalised name or message (up to 12 characters). You can choose between different colours for the cap itself, as well as for the embroidered thread. Your personalised message or name (or word) will be embroidered in the colours you chose.

At **€18.95**, this is definitely a bargain if you want something really exclusive or want to surprise a friend or loved one with your thoughtfulness.

Weber Master Touch Black Kettle Barbecue

This next one is for all you BBQ fans. The **Weber Mastertouch Premium Barbecue** can grill, roast or smoke your food to perfection on its grill and it comes with a hinged lid for easy and safe access to the grill itself. The lid helps to reduce the airflow to the fuel, which helps to keep it burning longer. The diffuser plate also creates a barrier between the food and the fuel, meaning that the centre of the cooking grill becomes the protected, indirect cooking zone. Thanks to its one-touch cleaning system and high-capacity ash catcher, cleaning is also very easy with the **Weber Master Touch Black Kettle Barbecue** and this feature alone makes it worth the super low discounted price of **€299.00** (usually priced at €428.98).



Outdoor Scene, which is where I found this bargain, also offers hundreds of other outdoor items, many of which would make fantastic Christmas gifts, so feel free to check out some of the other products in their online store.

Meindl Vakuum GTX Hiking Boots



If you are serious about hiking, or do a lot of walking, you probably already know that you need a good – and comfortable – pair of hiking boots. The **Meindl Vakuum GTX** is the best (and most durable) pair I have owned in a long time. They are designed for challenging mountain terrain and maximum ankle support and are made of *waterproof Vakuum GTX leather* to ensure that you will be able to take on any mountains, even under the harshest conditions.

You can pick up a pair of **Meindl Vakuum GTXs** at Great Outdoors, a company that was established in 1976, and specialises in outdoor and hiking equipment. They are currently discounted to just **€266.59** (were €309.99) and they deliver for free if you live anywhere in Ireland. You can check out their online store [here](#) for great outdoor gear and gadgets.

City Kayaking or Sailing

Finally, here is something that I personally have never done but am really looking forward to. I am talking about **City Kayaking** along the River Liffey in Dublin!

Yes, as the name implies, you get to paddle on a kayak, together with as many people as you want, and the tour includes paddling under both the O'Connell and Ha'penny bridges, in addition to including many of Dublin's most famous landmarks on the way!



Tours can be booked daily all year round by purchasing vouchers here . The site also makes it easy for you to purchase vouchers for somebody else, and you can even get a 10% discount by entering the promo code **Allkayaking**.

The package costs just **€50.00** and the site says that you can participate even if you have never done kayaking before and regardless of how fit you are.

However, if paddling sounds too strenuous, the team at City Kayaking also offer **Dublin Bay Sails**, which is a 4-hour sailing experience through Dublin on a traditional wooden sailing ship, perfect for some relaxing sightseeing while enjoying the calming motion of the water beneath you. They have various packages, so check them out here.

Again, you may want to check with the operators before you reserve your spot, just to make sure that they have not been affected by any lockdowns. Their email addresses and phone numbers are at the bottom (for the kayaking) and top (for the sailing) of their respective pages.

Well guys, I really hope you are as excited about these outdoor gift ideas for Christmas as I am. I know what I will be doing this Christmas – and it will definitely be outdoors!

Looking forward to the next one!



Bio

Don Hartig is a prolific writer, world-renowned linguist and travel blogger.

You can follow him on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/donhartig/>