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contemporary yet very sensitive to the landscape. It was also really important to us that everyone involved was local, so the builder and all the tradespeople, except the terrazzo guys who are from Newry, are all based in Donegal."

The couple can't say enough good things about MacGabhann Architects, builder Joseph McMenamin and joiners Frank Morning and Hugh Haughey.

"They were fantastic to work with and I see the house as a collaboration, in that we all brought ideas to the table," says Cathrine. "Our brief was very detailed, but ultimately we wanted the house to sit within the landscape but connect guests to the amazing views."

As a result, the house is crafted with beautiful joinery and a minimal need for additional furniture.

For the last two years, Cathrine has been jotting down notes and researching suppliers, and this level of attention really shows. "I'm naturally a list person so I started with very basic things like soap, candles, sea

ABOVE LEFT Cathrine and Niall. LEFT The Fanad granite of minimalist fireplace was cut by stonemason Thomas Carr. Of PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT Midday shadows or by Skandium dining chairs. Pottery made by Muck 'n' Muffins Dunfanaghy. The kitchen floor comprises Donegal quartz stor continued outside. Fanad granite on the worktops.

salt, water and then all the way to furniture, constantly researching, testing, tasting and meeting the makers," she explains. "Our objective was Donegal first then the best of Irish. This has been the great joy of the project and many of the makers have been our first guests."

As we walk through the house, we're tickled to note and name a number of craftspeople and artists we much admire, from Tricia Harris, to Simon O'Driscoll, Superfolk and Cooper Handcrafted Furniture. While Eddie Doherty's speckled tweed is throughout and is unbelievably soft. "Eddie is a gentleman and an absolute perfectionist," Niall notes. "He completely got what we were all about from our first meeting. He is one of a very small number still working by hand and it shows in the quality. A true legend."