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# Now that's what we call living!



In last week's Metro Herald we announced the nominees for the inaugural Dublin Living Awards and already there's been a phenomenal response from the people of Dublin – in the first seven days alone there have been more than 14,000 votes cast. Lines don't close until Oct 25 so if you haven't already pledged your support for your favourite things in your city there's still time to do so. Tickets are also now on sale for the awards ceremony on Oct 27 in the Mansion House and can be purchased online at [www.dublinlivingawards.ie](http://www.dublinlivingawards.ie) or by calling the box office on (01) 284 6096.

Meanwhile, we will be shining a spotlight on some of the 20 categories that make up the awards. Today it's the turn of **Dublin Pub Of The Year** and **Dublin Fashion Retailer Of The Year**.

### Dublin Pub Of The Year

**Café En Seine**, with its vast Moorish interior and rococo flourishes, is the jewel in Dawson Street's crown and the beloved watering hole is one of eight that make up the Dublin Pub Of The Year category. This glossy superpub is a world away from the muted, old-school **Kehoe's** on South Anne Street, which opened its doors in 1803 and has been serving up pints of the black stuff to devout Dubliners ever since. **Taylor's Three Rock** in Rathfarnham is the quintessential tourist haunt, with a thatched roof dating back to 1640 – its Irish-tinged cabaret nights are a more recent addition.

The city-centre **Arlington Hotel** has also proved a huge hit with visitors seeking out Irish flavour and its **Knightsbridge Bar** is renowned for toe-tappingly good trad nights. The **Church Bar** on Mary Street, meanwhile, lives up to its title and the vast deconsecrated church, replete with original features, is a perfect melding of the contemporary and the traditional – perfect for worship of spirits, if not holy ones. Foodies have been flocking to **The Exchequer Gastropub** which opened its doors during the dark days of the recession to offer quality grub and cocktails to Dubliners while keeping prices very much in check. The **Hairy Lemon** is a family-owned pub near Stephen's Green that also serves up great pub food and is the starting-point for many a Dubliner's Friday night. Finally, **The Living Room**, a plasma-TV-screen clad boozier in the heart of the city, is the ideal venue to take in sporting events and sip on a range of European beers. Prost!



### Dublin Fashion Retailer Of The Year

A diverse range of established fashion stores and new independent outlets make up the **Dublin Fashion Retailer Of The Year** category. First up is **Clerys**, which really needs little introduction; in business for more than 150 years the world's first purpose-build department store has managed to adapt to modern trends while retaining its old-Dublin sensibility. It's a far cry from **Temple Bar's** recession-canny **Swopshop**, Dublin's first and only dedicated fashion exchange boutique. This relative newcomer has been operating for the last three years and allows Dubliners the opportunity to trade something they won't wear for something they will. **Costelloe & Costelloe** has been helping Dublin women to accessorise for more than 25 years with an array of bags, wraps and costume jewellery – the go-to outlet for anything that gleams or jangles.

Dublin's trendy young male contingent has well and truly fallen for **Counter Propaganda**, the clothing store that specialises in 100 per cent Irish-designed casualwear with T-shirts inspired by graffiti and street art (lovely staff too). **Dirty Fabulous** is a vintage fashion emporium offering couture-quality tailoring and fabrics without a designer price tag; if you're looking for garments from a particular era these guys will do whatever they can to make it happen. Who doesn't love Diesel jeans? Certainly not the owners of **Genius** who've been dressing Dublin men in the beloved label and other denim classics for 25 years. Without the Dublin weather there wouldn't be a **Lady Umbrella**, which is where this bijou retailer found inspiration. Finally, **The White Door** is a designer boutique concept store which serves as a one-stop-shop for exclusive Irish and international fashion and homeware brands. Dublin fashionistas – it's over to you...

### How to vote

There are three ways to vote:

- Online at [www.dublinlivingawards.ie](http://www.dublinlivingawards.ie)
  - Via Facebook at [www.facebook.com/dublinlivingawards](http://www.facebook.com/dublinlivingawards)
  - Via standard rate text to 51500
- (Visit [www.dublinlivingawards.ie](http://www.dublinlivingawards.ie) for text voting details).

The closing date for votes is Tuesday, October 25.

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