

Republic of Ireland

ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN FIRM OF THE YEAR

Isabel Barros Architects

www.isabelbarrosarchitects.ie | +353 53 916 8942 | office@isabelbarrosarchitects.ie



Founded in 2010, Isabel Barros Architects specialises in contemporary architecture with sustainability at the forefront. Based in Wexford, the firm has built a strong reputation for its stunning designs, led by founder Isabel Barros. She is registered with the Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI), as well as the Portuguese Association of Architects, and her industry experience has spanned across more than 25 years. Isabel was educated in Portugal, graduating from the Lusiada University in Lisbon. The company has extensive experience across a wide array of developments, including commercial, residential, hotel and leisure, industrial, and conservation projects.

Isabel Barros Architects is driven by its passion for combining high-quality, modern architecture, with environmentally-friendly and energy efficient designs. As an RIAI-registered practice, the company believes its artistic imagination, creative vision, and technical expertise all compliment each other perfectly. Furthermore, these keys characteristics aid in creating spaces that are distinctive, efficient, functional, and impressive in terms of their aesthetic. One of the firms most recently completed projects is the Seaview House, located less than a mile from the coast in County Wexford. The brief for the project was to convert the existing building, built in the 1970s, into a contemporary seaside bungalow, with the main goal being to make it more functional, environmentally-conscious, and pleasing to the eye. Accoya wood was used for the cladding, for its durability and sustainability properties, whilst a timber frame was used in the extension to the



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existing structure, with modern insulation installed throughout. Reclaimed wood, and the re-use and upgrade of existing fabrics in the project led to a minimal ecological footprint overall.

The judging panel was particularly impressed by the environmental focus that's prevalent in the company's designs. Isabel Barros Architects has consistently worked towards implementing net-zero carbon emissions within its projects. Furthermore, its knowledge and expertise have meant it can focus on this without losing sight of the client's requirements for the development. The firm ensures its customers always feel listened to, and will always give them the very best value for money, ensuring the cost to benefit ratio is sensible.