

"The home owner gave me the freedom to pursue my own vision for the house."

## A BEAUTIFUL BARN IS THE PERFECT HOME IN GALWAY!

A beautiful 113 square metre detached two-storey split level timber framed house in South Connemara overlooks an area known locally as Cois Fharráige in County Galway.



white-painted walls and the vaulted OSB ceiling.

From the kitchen, the gargantuan Nordan triple-glazed timber aluminum doors face south across Galway Bay to the Burren. The aforementioned doors open out on to a timber deck with a ramp from this leading down into the back garden which pleased Mr Naughton's wish to raise the living spaces while keeping them connected to the garden.

As a timber frame building it will cool down faster than a masonry building with the thermal masses of the exposed concrete floors downstairs helping to soak up any excess heat. Other than the polished concrete, one of the main materials that can be noticed inside the property is the exposed OSB which is used for both the ceiling and staircases.

The frame of the house was built by Irish Eco Homes and it features 220mm of mineral wool between the studs, plus rigid insulation boards inside and outside whilst the roof contains 400mm of pumped cellulose.

The house is for the most part heated by a Nilan Compact P unit which

combines heat recovery ventilation with a small air-source heat pump with the heat pump providing both hot water and space heating. The priority space heating is done so through a 1.5kW post heater in the supply air of the ventilation system, then to towel radiators in the bathroom all of which are thermostat and timer controlled.

"The client was brave enough to pursue an unusual vision for the house. I think the reason why a lot of people are being drawn towards designing a barn-type house or converting their house in to a barn-style is because they have large volumes on the inside of the house and they have large openings," enthused Lester.

"This is probably my favourite property to have worked on in my time in Ireland as an Architect over the last 18 years or so and it is the house that I would most like to be my own," added a laughing Mr Naughton.



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