



**What do you miss about your home country?**

"I most miss our laughter. In Ireland, we don't take life too seriously and we enjoy laughing at ourselves. We can always find some fun and something to smile about."

**Any similarities between Ireland and Majorca?**

"They're both islands and have been ruled by others for much of their history. Maybe the Irish are a bit more open than the Majorcans, but our cultures are definitely alike. Both enchant you and put you at ease. Then there's language: both the Majorcans and the Irish are promoting the use of their own languages. Maybe all this explains why I feel so at home here."

**How did you meet your husband Georg?**

"Six months before I finished my MBA, I came here on holiday for the fifth time with a group of friends. And that's when I met him. We fell in love really quickly and it was clear I'd be moving to Majorca. Up until then, I'd actually been planning to sell all my properties and move to New York to start a new life."

"But love changed everything and a few months later, I moved to Palma. Soon after that, we bought this house and this is where we held our wedding in 2000. It's our 20th anniversary this year. Of course, we're planning to celebrate once things are a bit more normal again."

**How did *abcMallorca* come about?**

"When I moved here, I realised there wasn't much good-quality information available for the many English-speaking visitors, so in September 2003 I decided to launch a website that brought together all the information I'd been collecting. It was a resounding success, so ▶

Helen's sense of style and design is reflected in her home as well as in her wardrobe. Her aim for the villa, she says, is comfort as well as style and the cool terraces (above and below) feature sunbeds and chairs by *Roda* and *Nido* pouffes by *Paola Lenti*, softened with throws and cushions

