

POCKET WATCH: Roland Monsegu

13:47, Emma Kennedy, Personal Finance Correspondent



Roland Monsegu is the director and founder of travel company Camino Ways, which specialises in walking and cycling holidays on the Camino de Santiago de Compostela, the Via Francigena to Rome and other European adventures.

He has worked in the travel industry for over eight years, and is also an avid traveller himself, having completed an around the world trip from 2004 to 2006. During this trip, Roland climbed and trekked across six continents where he met new people, saw new places and achieved a life-long dream. On this trip, Roland visited places such as Tibet, Indonesia, Peru, Argentina, Costa Rica, the USA, Russia, Spain and Italy.

He set up his first business in 2006 when he was 26, and then sold it in 2010. He then started a new multi-brand holiday company, Greenlife Tours, which own CaminoWays.com and ExploreWorldHeritage.com. The latter will launch early next year, specialising in cultural holidays to UNESCO heritage sites.

The 32 year old is married with one daughter, and lives in Leopardstown in Dublin.

****What's the best investment you ever made?***

The new www.caminoways.com website launched this year, which has full integration with Facebook.

****What's the worst investment you ever made?***

I bought an OMEGA speedmaster watch... but it shows the same time as my €20 Casio.

****Do you own your own home or other investment property?***

I own a 4 bedroom house in Leopardstown with my wife.

****What type of car do you have?***

I run to work every day (10km), and I come back on the LUAS. My wife drives a Toyota Prius. We don't have a second car, but for the weekend, I ride a Ducati Monster Motorbike.

****Do you have a pension?***

Yes I have a pension with Zurich.

****Which investment options do you currently favour?***

I have a tendency for risk, so IT and Asian markets are my two main investments.

****What was the best financial advice you ever received?***

If you don't sell you don't lose.

****If you were the Minister for Finance for a day and could change one thing, what would it be?***

We need to fund our heritage-sites in Ireland, in order to make Ireland more interesting to visitors (especially older crowds) and to gain returning tourist visitors.

****Are you a saver or a spender?***

Spender. Without investment, there is no profit.

****What's your top financial priority?***

Camino Ways needs to invest even more into e-technology to give more flexibility to the client and streamline the processes. Also, we would like to create integration with our social media sites and websites.

****How would you describe your attitude to your personal finances?***

My wife is the boss. It is better this way.

****What's your top money saving tip?***

Create a saving account with a fixed monthly saving debit.

****What's your biggest indulgence?***

This year, when I bought a powerful motorbike (Ducati Monster).

****If you had all the money you could wish for, what three things would you buy?***

Just one thing, a bungalow on the Caribbean.

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