



# LE STAND D'IRENE



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- **CRAFT/PROFESSION**

Céline BUSSIERE makes locally handcrafted soaps, solid shampoos and shaving foams, as well as moisturising creams for different skin types, a black body soap (traditional cauldron method), solid soaps for washing up, scented coconut oils and even crocheted soap holders. All are natural organic skincare products. Most of Céline's soaps are presented in half-coconut shells, wrapped in cotton coated with beeswax from Poindimié and with labels made of raffia, paper and pandanus.

She uses a traditional cold saponification method which means her soaps retain all the moisturising properties of the oils. Céline works with local ingredients like niaouli, tamanu, aloe, sand, coffee and Lifou vanilla but she also imports ingredients she can't find in New Caledonia so as to offer her customers a wider choice of skincare. All her soaps are traced and tested before they are offered for sale. Céline's soaps contain no dyes of synthetic origin, all colours are completely natural.

- **BACKGROUND**

Céline spent over 20 years working in the field of insurance but never lost her love for being

creative with her hands. She turned to a friend who taught Céline the technique of cold saponification. With a personal commitment to environmental responsibility, Céline began making her own household products.

At a turning point in her professional life, Céline met up with Irène, who was looking to sell her craft soap-making business. Céline decided to go ahead and take over the business. To ensure she had all the skills needed to guarantee the high quality product offer, she spent 4 months training with Irène. The delicate blending of essential oils and plant and mineral powders now holds no secrets for Céline, but she continues her own research to hone her technique and develop her designs.

- **INSPIRATION AND ART/DESIGNS**

Céline makes her soaps using local coconut oil and olive oil to make them soft and foamy. The colours derive from powdered plants or clay, which are packed with nourishing properties for the skin, and her soaps are subtly scented with natural or organic essential oils.