

Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities

**World Library and Information Congress
79th IFLA General Conference and Assembly
Singapore**

17-23 August 2013 | www.ifla.org



**IFLA WLIC 2013
SINGAPORE**



DESTINATION

Some refer to her as the “little red dot”, but Singapore’s presence in the world today is larger than that moniker. Although small in size, Singapore commands an enormous presence in the world today with its free trade economy and highly efficient workforce. In fact, Singapore is a bustling cosmopolitan city that offers a world-class living environment, with her landscape populated by high-rise buildings and gardens.

One interesting facet you will discover about Singapore is an ubiquitous collage of cultures, where people of different ethnicities and beliefs coexist. Brimming with a harmonious blend of culture, cuisine, arts and architecture, Singapore is a dynamic city that is rich in contrast and colour. In fact, you can even say that Singapore embodies the finest of both East and West.

Being a multi-racial society, Singapore is as diverse as it is cohesive. With so much to see and do, this is perhaps best experienced through your encounters with the locals. And if you’re feeling nostalgic and looking to discover old world charm, you can explore and experience the island’s key historical landmarks or memorials.

If you prefer the bright city lights and being amidst the hustle and bustle, then you’ll be delighted to know that there are numerous shopping malls, museums, and dining and entertainment hotspots to choose from. Get into the thick of the shopping action at the iconic Orchard Road stretch, or party the night away at the Clarke Quay or Boat Quay areas, both of which offer a myriad selection of nightlife activities.

The other thing that will strike you most about Singapore is its multifarious offering of food – day or night, there will always be something to whet your appetite. With a range of dining options from Peranakan to Chinese, Indian to Malay, fusion and more, you’ll be spoilt for choice.

Beyond the history, culture, people, shopping and food, there are many more facets to Singapore’s thriving cityscape for you to discover. And these can only be experienced as you immerse yourself in the exploration of this once fishing village turned cosmopolitan city.



INVITATION

On behalf of the National Committee of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) World Library and Information Congress (WLIC) 2013, I am delighted to invite you to the 79th IFLA WLIC August 2013 in Singapore.

We are honoured to host the Congress, which is the leading professional event for the international library and information services sector. In a world of exponential information growth, WLIC's importance is underscored by the need for international collaboration to ensure equitable access to information and learning opportunities for every citizen. At the WLIC, information professionals have the valuable opportunity to share insights and shape policies that address global challenges affecting our local communities.

Libraries are at the cusp of technological developments that are revolutionising information access and use. Information has never been more conveniently available on so many devices and in many formats to provide a myriad of learning experiences. At the same time, this information deluge presents new challenges to processing, sense-making, and ethical use. Hence, libraries and information professionals have a vital role to play in harnessing the infinite possibilities that today's technologies offer for information access and service delivery.

It is timely, therefore, that the theme for IFLA WLIC 2013 is *Future Libraries: Infinite Possibilities*. Libraries have the power to be a positive force for change on multiple fronts. Libraries empower individuals with the resources to be lifelong learners, while engaging families and communities in collaborative reading and learning pursuits. To touch the minds and hearts of communities, librarians and information professionals must be connected to the local communities they serve, providing services that are relevant to local needs, and connect citizens to the world's knowledge and creativity.

We share IFLA's commitment to further the interests of library and information professionals and look forward to making this Congress a stimulating and memorable one for you. Located at the crossroads of Asia and with access to the fascinating troves of culture in our surrounding countries, Singapore is a cosmopolitan blend of modernity and multiculturalism with its confluence of diverse races, cultures, and languages. The IFLA WLIC 2013 National Committee and the Singapore library community are pleased to invite you to experience the vibrant sights, sounds, and tastes of Singapore's cultural tapestry and warm hospitality.

See you in Singapore in August 2013!



Elaine Ng | Chair of the IFLA WLIC 2013 National Committee



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IFLA WLIC 2013

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Key Dates

Start of Online Registration

1 October 2012

Start of Accommodation Booking

1 October 2012

Early Registration Fees Deadline

15 May 2013

Standard Registration Fees Deadline

15 August 2013

Onsite Registration

from 16 August 2013

Congress Dates

17 - 23 August 2013

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