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## BOOK INFORMATION

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# An Irish Tour of Singapore

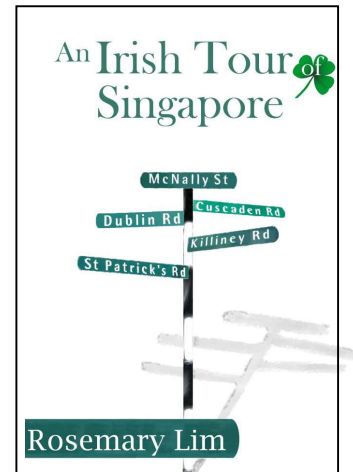
An Irish woman's celebration of the Irish in Singapore.

Rosemary Lim relates the history of the Irish in her adopted home of 18 year. This is a unique book exploring the many forgotten and untold stories of the Irish diaspora's contribution in Asia's most successful country, Singapore. From one island people to another island people, the Irish and the Singaporeans share common elements in history and development, including the Irish adventurers who went East and found a welcome in Singapore.

- From 1820s to the 1840s George Drumgoole Coleman was the Donald Trump of Singapore.
- Out of 54 national monuments in Singapore, five were designed by Irish architects.
- Six Irishmen have variously been Recorder of the Straits Settlements, Chief Justice of the Straits Settlements and Chief Justice of Singapore.
- Before the missionary teachers arrived in Singapore there was little or no education for girls.
- After several months in the River Valley Road POW Camp the prisoners moved north ... to the Thai-Burma Railway. After the war Father Bourke wrote 300 letters to the families of the men whose deaths he had witnessed.
- For the first time in decades, a new street in Singapore was named after a person: McNally Street.
- It's hard to believe that people play Gaelic football in the tropics, but wherever there are Irish people there are enough to play Gaelic sports.
- The St Patrick's Day Parade takes place along a short walking route beginning near to the Arts House built by Coleman, crosses Cavenagh Bridge, passes the site of Henry Ellis' Harbour Master's office, O'Brien's Sandwich Bar and ends up on Circular Road and Molly Malone's Irish Pub.
- Guinness has been in Singapore for 140 years.

### About the Author

Rosemary Lim née Wright was born in Portadown, Northern Ireland and has called Singapore home for the past 18 years. After starting out as an accountant, she switched careers to the literary arts when she came to Singapore, winning the Merit Award of the Singapore Literature Prize in 1998. She is the only licensed Specialised Literary Tour Guide in Singapore. The tour was introduced during the 2007 Singapore Writers' Festival. She is a graduate of Queen's University, Belfast, and the University of Ulster. She also holds two master's degrees, the first in publishing and the second in writing. For five years in the 1990s she wrote the Singapore St Patrick's Society page for *The BEAM* magazine.



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