

ACTIVITY REPORT

Name of the activity	HSE St. Petersburg students week, cultural programme.	Date	10 th June – 15 th June
Name of the Moderator	Office of international affairs Dr. Rashmi Aggarwal (Dean Commerce) Dr. Amandeep Kaur (Mentor)	Time	One week
		Mode	Offline
Nature of the activity	Cultural Programme	Program & Batch	Bachelors of Commerce + (ACCA) - 2023-2026
Number of students participated	04		

About the Activity: An incredible opportunity to visit St. Petersburg, Russia, through a fully funded scholarship provided by Chitkara University, which lasted for a week. The experience was very memorable, highlighting the exploration of Russian culture, arts, and history during my time there. We visited prominent landmarks such as the Hermitage Museum and enjoyed watching performances of ballet and classical music, which we found enriching. This program allowed us to meet and form friendships with participants from various countries. Everyone appreciated this opportunity to participate in the cultural exchange program, which broadened the understanding of global diversity.

During the unforgettable visit to St. Petersburg, Russia, through the Chitkara University scholarship, we immersed ourselves in the city's rich cultural tapestry and historical landmarks:

1. **Hermitage Museum:** The Hermitage Museum was a highlight of the trip, showcasing an extensive collection that spans art and history from around the world. Exploring the opulent halls of the Winter Palace, where the museum is housed, was a breathtaking journey through Russian imperial history and artistic heritage.
2. **Ballet and Classical Music:** Attending ballet and classical music performances in St. Petersburg was a mesmerizing experience. The city is renowned for its ballet traditions, and watching performances in such historic venues filled me with awe and admiration for the precision and grace of the dancers and musicians.
3. **Exploring Landmarks and Architecture:** St. Petersburg's architectural wonders, including the Winter Palace, Nevsky Prospect, and numerous cathedrals and palaces, offered a glimpse into the city's majestic past. Each structure told a story of Russian history and cultural evolution, showcasing a blend of Baroque, Neoclassical, and Russian Revival styles.
4. **Boating on the Canals:** One of the most enchanting experiences was exploring St. Petersburg's canals by boat. Cruising along the serene waterways provided a unique perspective of the city, allowing me to appreciate its architectural beauty from a different angle. The bridges, palaces, and embankments looked even more magnificent from the water, offering picturesque views that are quintessentially St. Petersburg.

Aligned Activity Outcomes with Objectives

Activity Objectives	Activity Outcomes
<p>Cultural Enrichment and Exploration: The primary objective of the visit was to immerse in Russian culture, history, and arts. This included visiting iconic cultural institutions. The goal was to gain firsthand experience and deepen understanding of Russian cultural heritage, fostering appreciation for global diversity and cultural exchange.</p>	<p>Personal Growth and Development: Immersed in a new cultural environment and challenged and expanded the perspectives. Developed adaptability, resilience, and cross-cultural communication skills through interactions with locals and navigating daily life in St. Petersburg. The experiences contributed to the personal growth and enhanced the ability to thrive in diverse settings.</p>
<p>Academic and Personal Development: Another objective was to facilitate academic and personal growth through exposure to a different cultural milieu. By interacting with locals, participating in cultural activities, and navigating a new environment, the visit aimed to broaden perspectives, enhance cross-cultural communication skills, and cultivate a deeper sense of global citizenship.</p>	<p>Network and Connections: Engaging with fellow participants from around the world during the cultural program and interacting with local scholars and professionals in HSE St. Petersburg expanded our network. These connections may lead to future collaborations, friendships, or professional opportunities that could benefit our academic and career aspirations.</p>

GLIMPSES OF THE EVENT

