

STEER Programmes (for Outgoing Students)

Study Trips for Engagement and EnRichment (STEER)

STEER Kazakhstan 2015

“Kazakhstan 2030 - the Social, Economic Transformation and Modernization of a former Soviet Republic located along the ancient Silk Road”

Venue: Astana, Almaty
Date: 19 - 31 May 2015 (12/13 Days)*

*The flight may depart in the early morning of 19 May

What is STEER?

The NUS Study Trips for Engagement and EnRichment (STEER) is a programme designed to familiarise students with the diverse socio-cultural-political-economic environments of newly emerging markets through a mix of classroom-based learning and experiential site visits. Inaugurated in December 2010, STEER has brought our students to Brazil, China, India, Myanmar, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates and Vietnam.

What is STEER Kazakhstan about?

Discover the exotic land of the Kazakhs, where caravans laden with precious goods once criss-crossed the ancient Silk Route from China and India to the Mediterranean. Kazakhstan's fascinating history straddles the Turks, the Mongols, and the Russians. A former Soviet Republic up to 1991, it is today a sovereign republic, and a member of the Eurasian Economic Community. Kazakhstan is the 9th largest country in the world with vast natural resources and poised for economic growth.

Explore Almaty, Kazakhstan's largest city laid out in its distinctive 1930's style Soviet tree-lined boulevards and experience the unfamiliar tastes, flavours of the produce on sale at the Green Market. Engage with the rich history of this country through visits to Park of Heroes, Central Mosque and the Central Historical Museum. Complement your visits to these historical and cultural sights with classroom seminars at a local university on Kazakhstan's economy, society and business opportunities. You will also get the opportunity

to contextualise your understanding of the new Silk Road with the ancient Silk Road during a lecture.

Spend a day soaking in the sights of the Kazakh Steppes on board a Kazakh Railways train journey from Almaty to Astana. In this young capital, marvel at the bold architecture and the monumental splendour of its urban layout. Learn about the major sectors of the economy, including oil and gas, mining, commodities, financial services through visits to several of the largest Kazakh-owned companies such as Kazenergy, Samruk-Kazyna, and KazMunayGas. Visits to the Ministries of Investment and Development, Education and Science, Health and Social Development and Atameken Entrepreneurs Union will offer participants an insightful understanding of the country's ambitious national development blueprint - Kazakhstan 2030.

Network with government officials and corporate executives and interact with the faculty members and students of Nazarbayev University during these educational visits. Delight your senses with the culinary offerings and immerse yourself in the rich cultural customs of this fast emerging country. Conclude your programme in Kazakhstan with visits to the Museum of the First President, the Palace of Peace and Reconciliation and ascend the Astana Baiterek observation tower to be astounded by the scale of construction and be rewarded with a stunning bird's eye view of this capital city.

Join us in this programme for an enriching and engaging insight into the unique transformation and modernisation of a former Soviet republic into an economically vibrant country.

Who can apply?

STEER Kazakhstan 2015 is open to **all full-time NUS undergraduate students (except graduating students this semester)**.

Successful applicants should be thoughtful and mature in their outlook, and be able to act as effective ambassadors of NUS

How can I apply?

Students interested in applying for STEER Kazakhstan 2015 must complete and submit a CV and cover note (value-add both ways, commitment, expectation) to **Mr Randall Ong at randallong@nus.edu.sg by Friday, 24 April 2015.**

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted to attend an interview unless otherwise notified. Final decisions will be made by Thursday, 30 April 2015.

How much does the programme cost? Is financial assistance available?

The programme is supported and heavily subsidised by NUS, International Relations Office as well as government agency IE Singapore. The programme fee, after deducting all applicable grants and allowances, is in the range of S\$2,500 – S\$2,700 for Singaporeans and PRs (and between \$3,300 – 3,600 for non-Singaporeans).

Students (Singaporeans and PRs) will be required to pay an initial sum of S\$2,500. For non-Singaporean students, they are expected to pay S\$3,750. Any portion of the payment amount not utilised during the trip will be returned to students.

VISA fees (where applicable) and other personal expenses will be borne by the student.

The true cost of the programme is between S\$4,000 – S\$4,500.

* Please refer to the website on [Young Talent Programme - Market Immersion funding from IE Singapore](#) for the eligibility criteria and terms and conditions of the grant.

Who to contact for more information?

For additional information or related queries, please click [here](#) or write to Mr Randall Ong @ randallong@nus.edu.sg.

For travel notices please refer to the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) website.

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