

More than 300 Olympiad participants from 84 countries visited Innopolis today to hear about Tatarstan's very own smart city.

Innopolis is right now it is the youngest and least populated town in Russia, but it nonetheless boasts the honorary title of 'science city'. Innopolis is the very embodiment of modernity, with the whole town being built using the newest technologies. Innopolis has everything required for a pleasant life – shops, comfortable flats, good roads, a kindergarten, lyceum, university and sports centre. To encourage development in the town, a 'special economic zone' with beneficial conditions for businesses has been created

– the second in Tatarstan after Alabuga. Innopolis now even has an office in Silicon Valley in the USA. The town was created with a view to developing new information technologies, and for that high-class specialists are required. This too is taken care of in the form of Innopolis University, which offers Bachelor's and Master's programmes in informatics. Innopolis University is rated to an international standard, and qualifications obtained there are valued all over the world.

Robot show

During the course of the Innopolis excursion, participants at IOI 2016 were treated to a robotics exhibition with all sorts of interesting and interactive examples from the world of robot technology.

Guests were able to take part in races, drive remote control toy cars, get the robots to dance and even enter the world of virtual reality with the help of special glasses.

One exhibit allowed you to feel your power, controlling heavy building machinery, realised in miniature. Participants had to "clear" an area by sorting through the tiny blocks and balls.

And you couldn't leave the hall without first talking to some of the exhibits on show. One of the robots, all of about 80 cm tall, spoke amicably with everyone who approached it. He wasn't shy about hugging the girls, and was sure to offer the boys a handshake. Perhaps tired from all the activity, he then sat down on the floor and watched as everything went on around him.

Additionally, by scanning their faces into a camera with a special app, participants were able to watch video clips with themselves in the lead role. The program simply replaced the clip's actors with the scanned face from the photo.

There was no especially complicated new technology on display, and the exhibits were all interesting and easy to control, meaning participants could just relax and enjoy the tour now the taxing competition days are over.



Journey to the past

Roman Castellarin, Argentina:

Every IOI is different, but this has to be the best. Friendly people, lots of interesting excursions and a huge number of new friends. I've learned much about Kazan and Russia. The trip to Innopolis was really nice – I've just tried the virtual reality attraction and it was phenomenal – we don't have anything like that back home. I think I'd like to live in a town like Innopolis. Yet again I've been surprised by the food – in Argentina we often eat something called "Russian salad", and just imagine – I walk into the canteen in the Universiade Village and see that exact same salad! Eating "Russian salad" in Russia – you can't beat it!



Greg Lee, team leader, Taiwan:

In going to Sviyazhsk, I've seen the real Russia. Moscow and St Petersburg are metropolises with a totally different lifestyle and different people. In Sviyazhsk there's no pretence – it's a quiet and peaceful with beautiful nature. If I'd had the chance I would have stayed there longer. The Russian team leader Marina gave me a tyubeteika hat which I like very much.



Costin-Andrei Oncescu, Romania:

When we went to Innopolis I was really surprised by buildings like which I'd never seen before. I could tell straight away that it was built by people connected to IT in some way. As for Sviyazhsk, it was a place that sent me back in time. I really liked the battle re-enactment – it was quite violent but really interesting.

I'm not sure I'd want to take part in something like that myself – I don't think I'm strong enough! Far better to just watch from the sidelines.

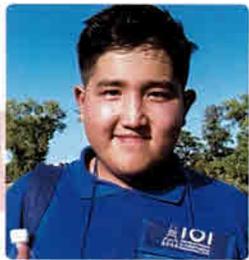
Son Bao Pham, team leader, Vietnam:

As a child I lived for two years in Moscow and went to school there. When I heard the Olympiad was going to be in Russia, I was so happy. I love Russia and Russian culture, especially the architecture. For me the most memorable thing was the trip to the Kazan Kremlin and the island town of Sviyazhsk. It's so beautiful there! As for Innopolis – it surprised me very much. How did they manage to build everything there in such a short time?



and to the future

Battulga Enkhbayar, Mongolia: I really liked the nature in Sviyazhsk. The people were kind and generous. The local craftsmen taught us various trades – for example I made myself a clay IOI 2016 symbol as a souvenir. Russia has a great culture – I really like Russian songs, and I even know two! Traditional Russian clothing has also left a deep impression on me.



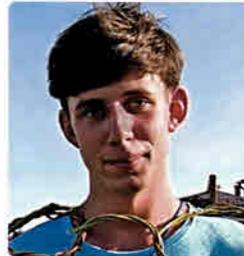
Azret Kenzhaliev, Kyrgyzstan: Sviyazhsk has some wonderful views and a beautiful river. I wanted to go for a swim, but sadly it wasn't possible. I played gorodki for the first time ever – it's a bit like a traditional Russian version of bowling. I even managed to knock the pins over, though it took a second attempt. The battle re-enactment was also really memorable, and great to watch! We have something a bit like it

in Kyrgyzstan, but only on horseback and with no weapons, only bare hands.

Bahodir Gulmatov, team leader, Uzbekistan: On 1 September it will be the 25th anniversary of independent Uzbekistan, and we wanted to win a medal for it here. Unfortunately we didn't manage to do so. This is the first time a team from our country has taken part in the Olympiad, so we gained some good experience. Kazan



is a very beautiful and clean city, and we all liked it here a lot. It's a shame we couldn't spend more time in Innopolis, because we'd been looking forward to it very much. I'd also like to say thank you to the volunteers – they were simply excellent!



Mikhail Natalevich, Belarus: The cultures of Russia and Belarus are very similar, but despite this I still found Sviyazhsk very interesting. It was great to take part in some of the activities: decorating biscuits, wickerwork and so on. For example, I'm wearing a wicker necklace that I made myself. Programmers should be capable of doing other things too – to have something that interests them. I play the

fortepiano, for example – I really enjoy music.

Aleksandrs Zajakins, Latvia: The university looks new – everything here is really modern. Personally I'm not such a fan of large cities, but a peaceful atmosphere like here really helps me concentrate on my studies. Of the outdoor competitions I've taken part in, I liked football the best. I used to play when I was younger. Our deputy team leader is also a massive Manchester United fan. It was great fun to play together – normally I don't have the chance because of training for Olympiads and other competitions. Overall I really liked this Olympiad, especially the opening. Our team leader who's currently on his twenty-first Olympiad said that there's never been a flag parade before – it straightaway made it feel like a world event. Really exciting!





Azerbaijanis flip the script

Though still three years away, Azerbaijan is already getting into the mood to host the International Olympiad in Informatics in 2019.

Clearly this year's competition has done a great job encouraging creative thought, and a few ingenious souls couldn't resist snapping a quick photo of things to come. And as ever, IOI 2016 volunteers were quick to join in the fun.

Before then the IOI will make trips to Iran in 2017 and Japan in 2018, before arriving in Baku the year after. But it seems some people just can't wait!

Excursion

Astronomy in Kazan

Kazan Federal University's Engelhardt Astronomical Observatory has been in operation for 115 years.

In addition to scientific work, the observatory also offers tours for anyone with an interest in astronomy.

Such an excursion was organised for today, 17 August, for guests at IOI 2016.

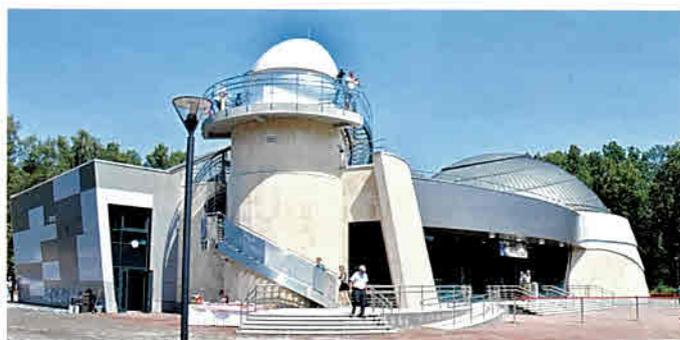


Our guests were visibly impressed when we spoke to them afterwards. Helen Krig (Australia), Shmuel Adar (Israel) and Inggriani Liem (Indonesia) shared their thoughts on what they had seen.

Helen Krig: It was fantastic! The observatory itself is situated in a lovely area – trees, fresh air, peace and quiet. At the same

time scientific work has been conducted here for a very long time, and had led to a lot of valuable results. I really liked the Planetarium – you can learn about astronomy here from childhood.

Shmuel Adar: I really liked how the observatory values its history – treasuring the memory of its



famous scientists by saving their old equipment and documents. But it's not just a museum – scientific work still goes on here. And the Planetarium is very nice – it gives a clear picture of what's happening out in space.

Inggriani Liem: I'm simply amazed! A careful, loving attitude to history sits side by side with modern research. The Planetarium was delightful – excellent facilities, colourful films full of useful and educational information to help better understand the world... I'm delighted with everything I've seen!



Some useful phrases

ENGLISH	RUSSIAN	TATAR	ENGLISH	RUSSIAN	TATAR
FUTURE	Будущее [budushcheye]	Киләчәк [kilætʃæk]	ANDROID	Андроид [android]	Андроид [android]
HIGH TECH	Высокие технологии [vysokiye tekhnologii]	Югары технологиялар [jugari tekhnologijælær]	UAV	Беспилотник [bespilotnik]	Безпилотник [bespilotnik]
SPACE	Космос [kosmos]	Космос [kosmos]	INTERNET THINGS	Интернет-вещи [internet-veshchi]	Интернет-товарлар [internet-tovarlar]
ROCKET	Ракета [raketa]	Ракета [raketa]	SMART HOUSE	Умный дом [umnyy dom]	Акыллы өй [akıllı ej]
LASER	Лазер [lazer]	Лазер [lazer]	DISTANCE LEARNING	Дистанционное обучение [distantstionnoye obucheniye]	Дистанцион уку [distantstion uku]
AUTO-MATIC DEVICES	Автоматические устройства [avtomaticheskije ustroystva]	Автоматик жайланмалар [avtomatic zajlanmalar]			

Facts and Figures



Multichannel monitoring telescope of Kazan Federal University is situated in the mountains of North Caucasus. Its main task is to follow astronomical events in the optical spectrum, predominantly gamma-ray bursts which are still for the most mysterious.

1 gigabyte per second
COMPLETE FLOW OF THE REGISTERED SYSTEM INFORMATION

10 frame per second
DATA FRAME RATE

50 megapixels
TOTAL PICTURE SIZE

28 terabytes
OF DATA ACCUMULATED WITHIN ONE NIGHT OF OBSERVATIONS

18 August, Thursday

Day ☀️ +31 C / 87.8 F Night 🌙 +25 C / 77 F