

Anna Tarnovskaya, Bachelor of Hospitality Management (2013)

Kajaani University of Applied Sciences' graduate

Anna Tarnovskaya came to study at Kajaani University of Applied Sciences (KUAS) right after finishing her high school in Russia at the age of 17. "I chose Finland because it was close to Russia and offered free, high quality higher education in a safe environment," says Anna. "The best thing in studying at Kajaani UAS has been the multicultural study environment – I've met people from different countries and made a lot of new friends from all over the world!" According to Anna, teachers in Finland are different from Russia; the relationship between students and teachers is informal and the atmosphere is family-like. All teachers know you by name and really care about their students.

During her studies, Anna was in student exchange in Denmark and did her practical training in Spain. "I was surprised that even with free education the university still provided us with financial support for studies abroad!" She recommends everyone to use the opportunity to go for exchange.



"I was always planning to continue my studies after the Bachelor's degree but wasn't sure where. At the end of my studies I found a joint master's programme in Tourism Management that offered the possibility to study in three different universities in three countries within two years. Luckily I got accepted in this programme! I think one of the reasons why I was accepted was the fact that during my studies, I participated in every possible extracurricular activity and all different projects I was able to."



Anna advises the future students to complete their studies according to the programme schedule. "Do not leave courses outstanding! At the beginning, the studies may seem relaxed and living away from your parents is fun but don't forget that you are here for studies. Everything I failed doing on my first year, was still waiting for me at the end – I really should've realized this earlier." Anna encourages all students to benefit from the cultural diversity around them and to learn about different people, their cultures and countries. "Don't just hang about with people from your own country. Be active!"

Anna modeled for the KUAS official photos during her second year. She also participated in promoting KUAS in her home town in Russia.