
Recipe Ideas App

Project Documentation

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Recipe Ideas App – Project Documentation

1. Project Overview

The Recipe Ideas App helps users quickly discover recipes based on available ingredients. It uses TheMealDB API to fetch meal suggestions and detailed cooking instructions. Designed for busy professionals who want to cook smarter, not harder.

2. User Persona

Taylor - A busy professional who wants to cook based on available ingredients. This app solves the problem of deciding 'what to cook' by providing quick recipe suggestions.

3. Features

- Search recipes by ingredient
- Display recipe cards with images and titles
- View detailed recipe info (ingredients, instructions, YouTube video)
- Error handling (no results, empty input, network failure)
- Responsive design for mobile and desktop

4. Technology Stack

- Frontend Framework: React (functional components + hooks)
- Styling: CSS (with responsive design using grid/flexbox)
- Routing: React Router
- API: TheMealDB API (public, no authentication required)
- State Management: React's useState, useEffect

5. Folder Structure

```
src/
  |-- api/
  |   |-- index.js      # API fetch functions
  |-- components/
  |   |-- SearchBar.jsx
  |   |-- RecipeCard.jsx
  |-- pages/
  |   |-- Home.jsx
  |       |-- RecipeDetails.jsx
  |-- App.js
  |-- index.css        # Global styles
```

6. Installation & Setup

1. Clone the repository

```
git clone https://github.com/your-username/recipe-ideas-app.git
```

2. Navigate into the project folder

```
cd recipe-ideas-app
```

3. Install dependencies

```
npm install
```

4. Start the development server

```
npm start
```

7. Usage Instructions

1. Open the app in the browser (<http://localhost:3000/>).

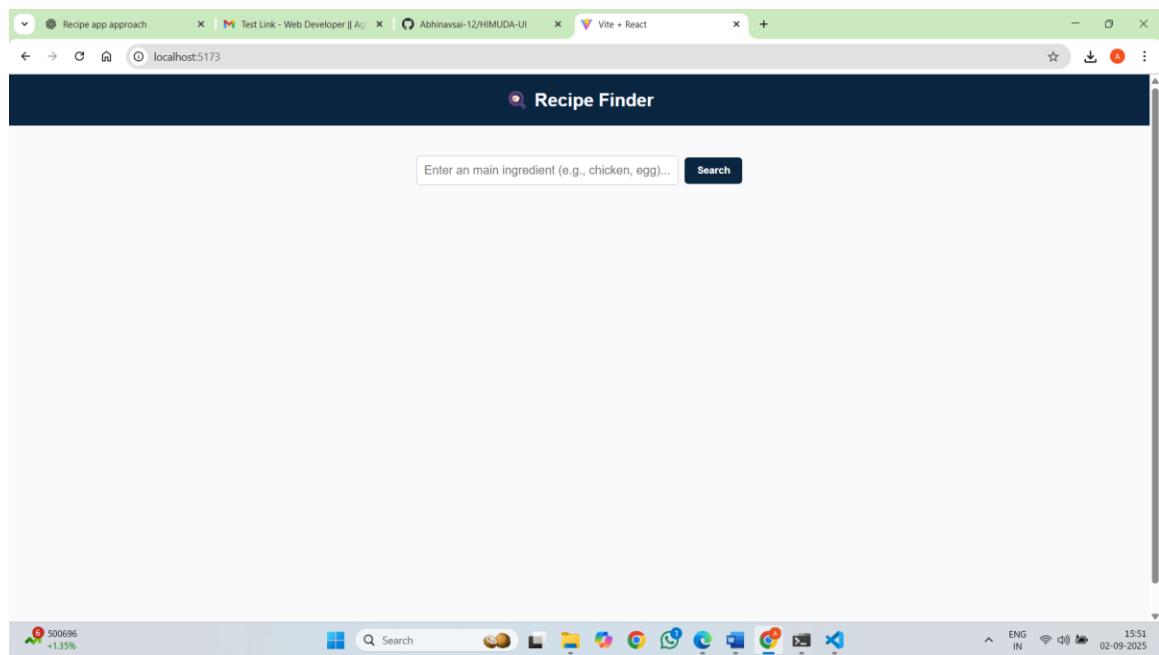
2. Enter an ingredient in the search bar (e.g., 'chicken').

3. Browse through recipe cards.

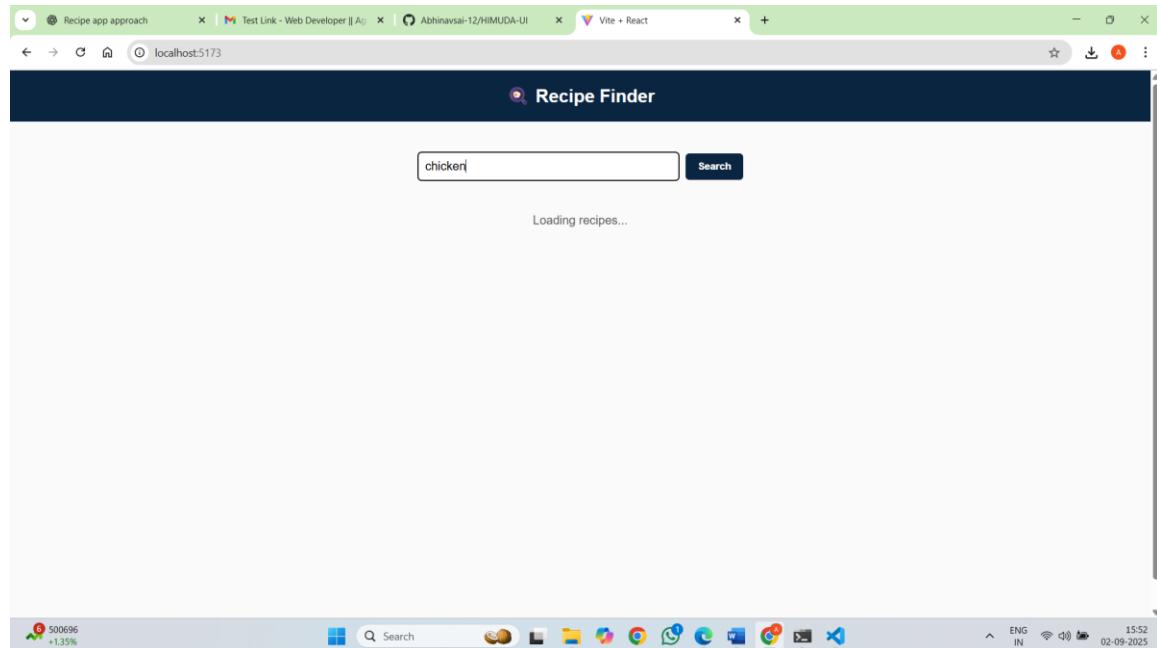
4. Click 'View Recipe' to see details and instructions.

8. Screenshots / Demo

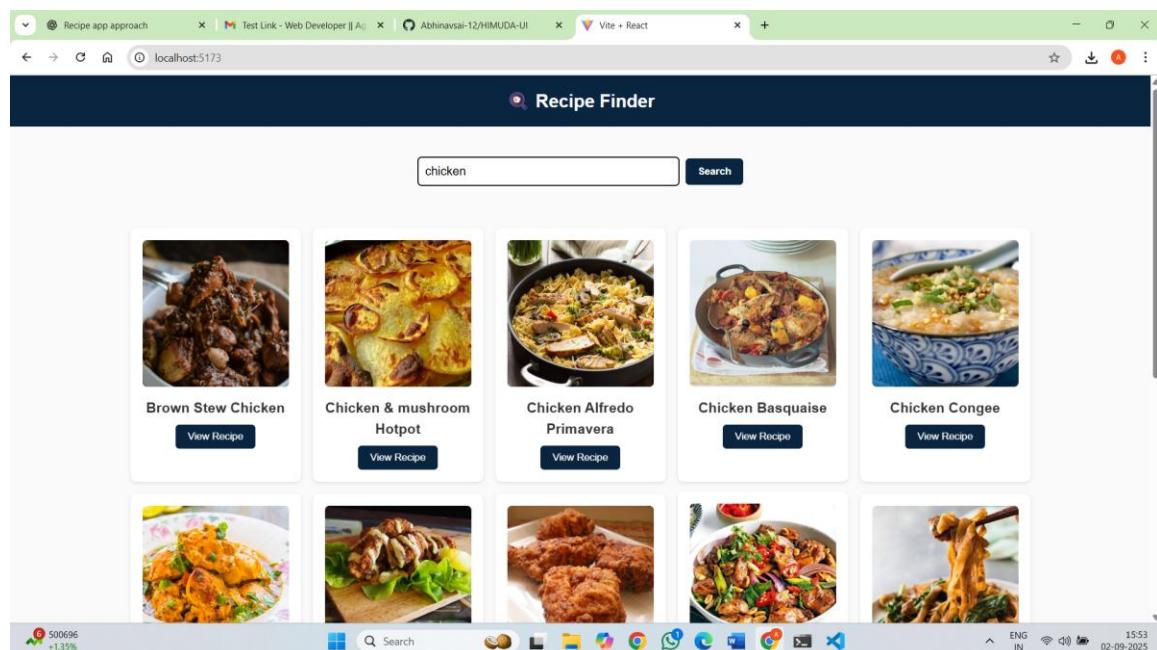
Home page:

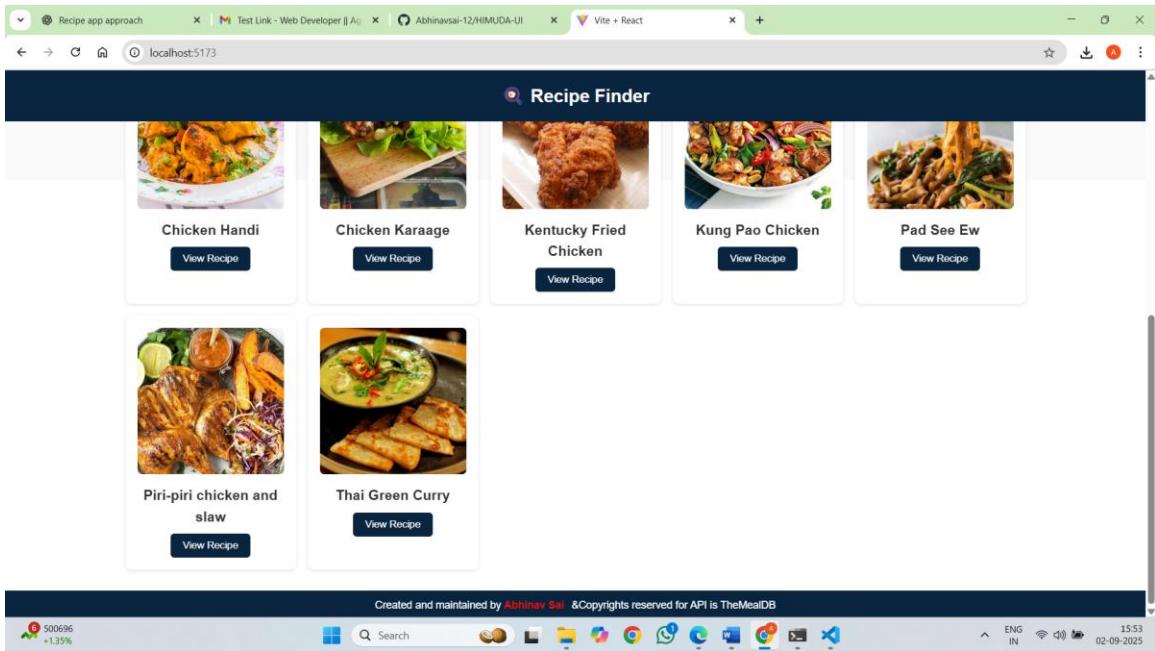


Loading Recipes

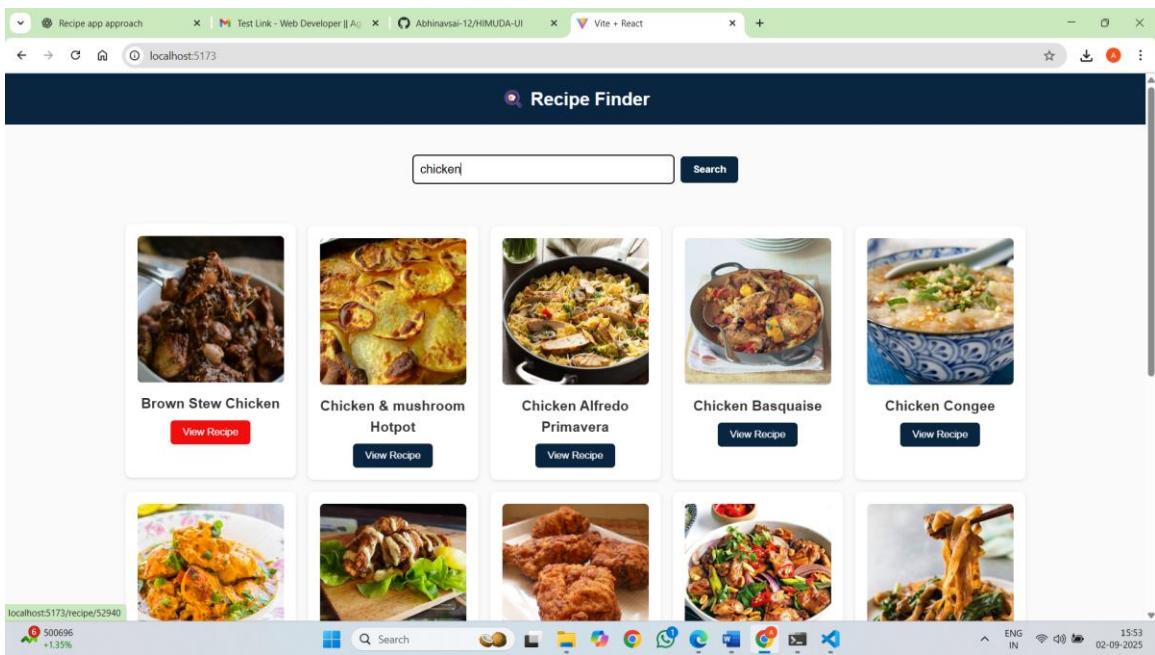


Results when valid data is entered





Click on view recipe button in any card it will open their respective page



Recipe page

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a recipe page. The title bar indicates the page is titled "Recipe app approach" and is located at "localhost:5173/recipe/52940". The main content area features a dark header with the text "Recipe Finder" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the header is a button labeled "- Back to Home". The main title of the recipe is "Brown Stew Chicken". A large, appetizing image of the dish is centered below the title. Below the image, the category is listed as "Category: Chicken" and the cuisine as "Cuisine: Jamaican". There is also a section for "Instructions:" which is currently empty. The browser's status bar at the bottom shows the date and time as "02-09-2025" and "15:54".

Brown Stew Chicken

Category: Chicken

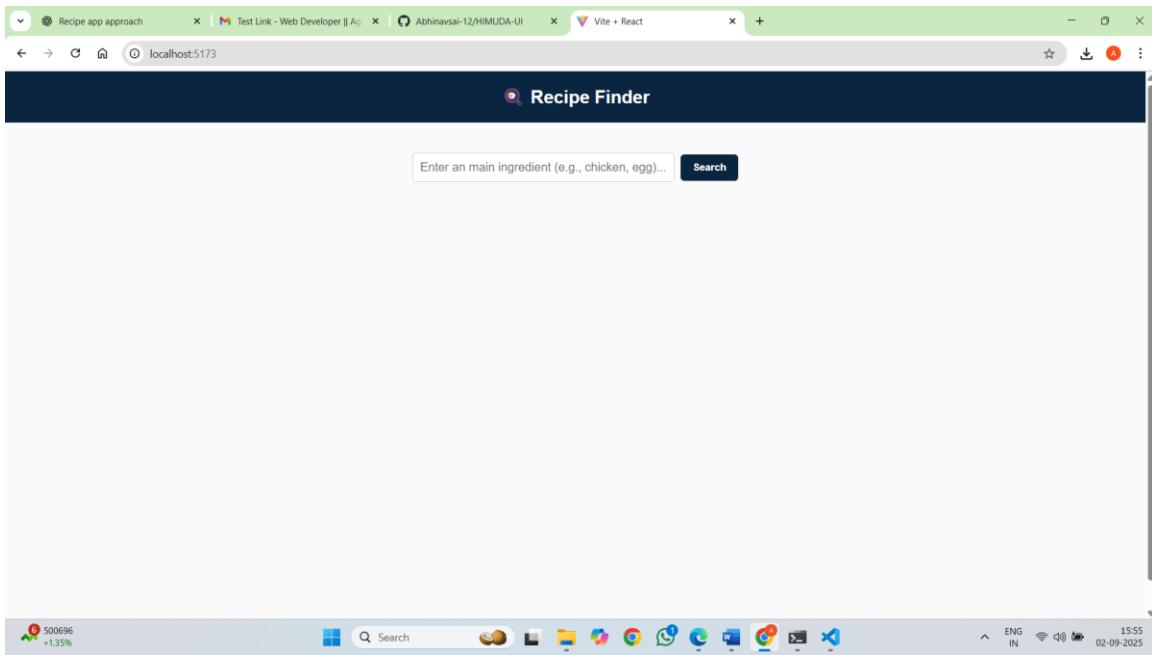
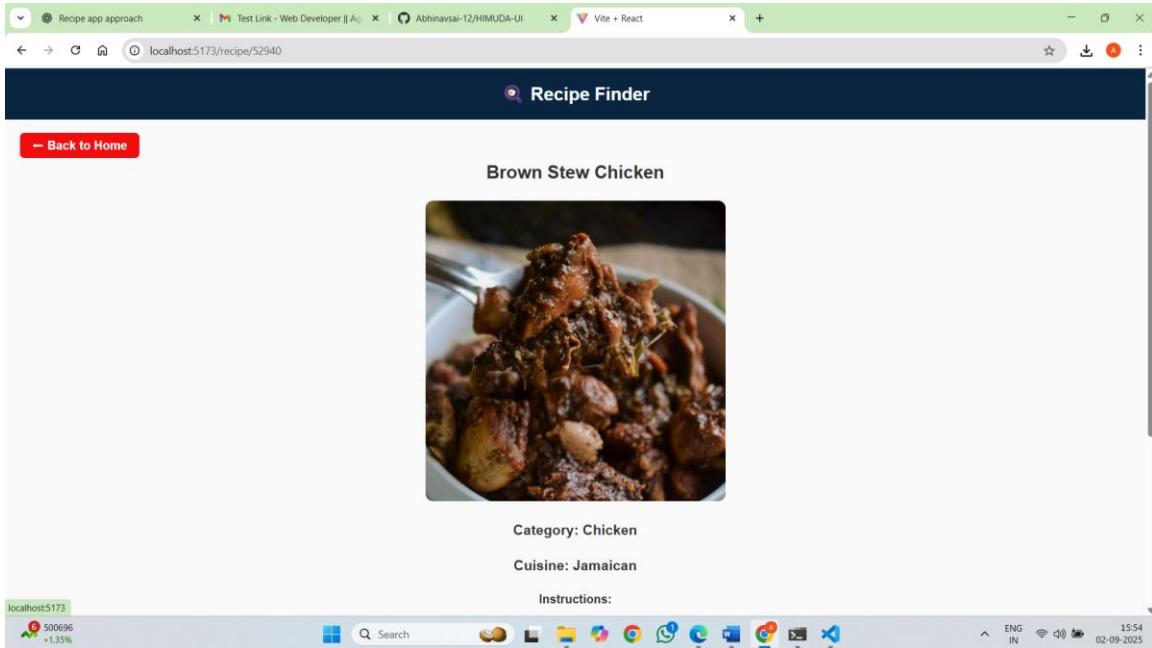
Cuisine: Jamaican

Instructions:

Squeeze lime over chicken and rub well. Drain off excess lime juice. Combine tomato, scallion, onion, garlic, pepper, thyme, pimento and soy sauce in a large bowl with the chicken pieces. Cover and marinate at least one hour. Heat oil in a dutch pot or large saucépan. Shake off the seasonings as you remove each piece of chicken from the marinade. Reserve the marinade for sauce. Lightly brown the chicken a few pieces at a time in very hot oil. Place browned chicken pieces on a plate to rest while you brown the remaining pieces. Drain off excess oil and return the chicken to the pan. Pour the marinade over the chicken and add the carrots. Stir and cook over medium heat for 10 minutes. Mix flour and coconut milk and add to stew, stirring constantly. Turn heat down to minimum and cook another 20 minutes or until tender.

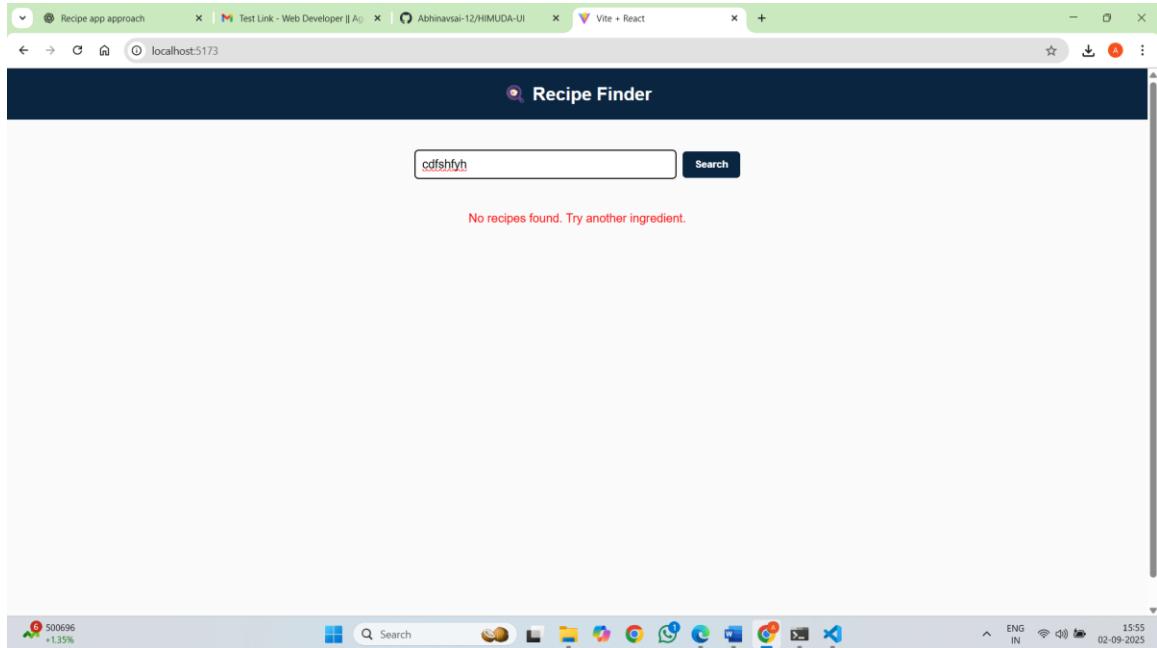
Created and maintained by [Abhinav Sai](#) & Copyrights reserved for API is TheMealDB

Click on Back to Home Page button at top left of recipe page



9. Error Handling

- Empty input → 'Please enter an ingredient.'
- No results → 'No recipes found.'
- Network/API error → 'Something went wrong. Please try again later.'



10. Credits

API: TheMealDB (<https://www.themealdb.com/>)

Developed with using React JS