📄 Exercise 26: Installing the Django Admin Documentation Generator

⌄ 10 to 15 minutes

The Django admin documentation generator (admindocs) autogenerates documentation for Django admin.

1. Add `django.contrib.admindocs` to INSTALLED_APPS in djangojokes/settings.py:

    ```
    INSTALLED_APPS = [
        # Built-in Django apps
        'django.contrib.admin',
        'django.contrib.admindocs',
        …
    ]
    ```

2. Add `path('admin/doc/', include('django.contrib.admindocs.urls'))` to the urlpatterns in djangojokes/urls.py. You must add it before the `'admin/'` pattern:

    ```
    urlpatterns = [
        path('admin/doc/', include('django.contrib.admindocs.urls')),
        path('admin/', admin.site.urls),
        path('', include('jokes.urls')),
    ]
    ```

3. Install `docutils` with `pip` in the virtual environment:

    ```
    (.venv) …/projects/djangojokes.com> pip install docutils
    ```

That's it. Stop and restart the server and then return to `http://127.0.0.1:8000/admin/`. You will see a new **DOCUMENTATION** link in the header navigation:
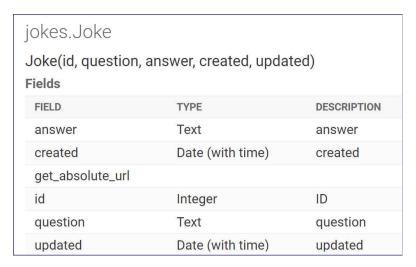
WELCOME, **NAT**. VIEW SITE / DOCUMENTATION / CHANGE PASSWORD / LOG OUT

The documentation is most useful for models. To see the documentation on the `Joke` model:

1. Click **DOCUMENTATION**.
2. Click **Models**.

3.   Click **Joke** under the **Jokes (jokes)** heading.

The documentation should look like this:

jokes.Joke		
Joke(id, question, answer, created, updated)		
Fields		
FIELD	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
answer	Text	answer
created	Date (with time)	created
get_absolute_url		
id	Integer	ID
question	Text	question
updated	Date (with time)	updated

Your models are currently quite simple, so the documentation doesn't add much, but as the project gets bigger and the models get more complex, this documentation can be helpful.

Git Commit

Commit your code to Git.

Conclusion

In this lesson, you have installed and switched to PostgreSQL, created a superuser, and learned the basics of Django admin.