## Coding Modern Websites with the JAMstack: Part 3

STEP-BY-STEP

FORMS

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Brian Douglas posted this on October 25, 2017

In Part 1 of this tasty tutorial, we built a functional restaurant site with a

menu. In Part 2, we added the ability to update content through a CMS, which made managing the menu and image gallery a top shelf experience. One of the most import features for this restaurant is the ability to collect

reservations. Let's go ahead and add form a to receive reservation submissions. Later, we will use a server-less service make sure reservations get an auto-response when submitted.

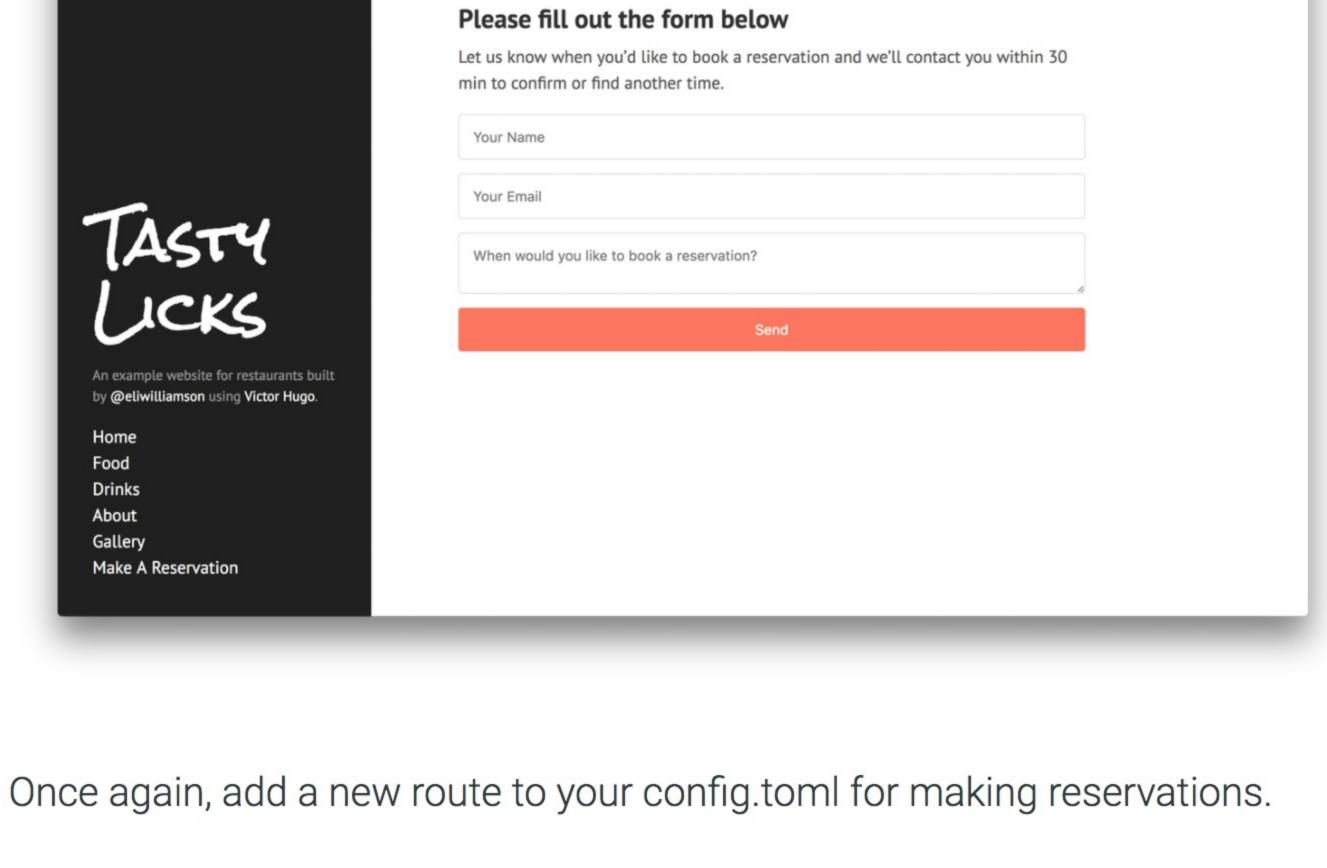
<!-- config.toml -->

[[menu.main]]

Contact · Tasty Licks

← → C ☆ ① localhost:3000/contact/

Adding a reservation form



name = "Make A Reservation" url = "/contact"

```
weight = 5
Within site/content/pages you can add another page type, called contact.md.
Markdown allows HTML, which is why we are adding the HTML form directly
to the body of this page.
```

Making reservations work You may have noticed that when submitting content to the form nothing happens, and if you did not notice it is probably because you were too busy

serving up that tasty menu through Netlify CMS. We will now be going over

how to make the form operate. There are a few options for handling form

more than one form on a site).

data and most of them deal with running a server. Running and hosting a separate server to collect data is not ideal. We can actually use an abstracted and server-less solution that's (surprise!) a built-in feature of Netlify. Netlify comes with built-in form handlin. Code an HTML form into any page on your site, add a netlify attribute or data-netlify="true" within the tag, and you can start receiving submissions in your Netlify site admin panel.

You will need to also set a name attribute on the form so Netlify you can

identify which form your submissions are coming from (in case you ever have

The action attribute determines what visitors see after submitting a form. If you set it to"thank-you", they will see a generically styled success message with a link back to the form page. You can create a new thank-you.html in

your static folder. You can replace the default success message with a

page(like"/success") as the value for the action attribute and place a

\*\*success.html \*\*in your \*\*layouts \*\*folder, similar to the 404.html.

custom page you create by entering the path of your custom

<!-- site/content/pages/contact.md --> <form name="contact" action="thank-you" netlify> <input type="text" placeholder="Your Name" name="name"> <input type="email" placeholder="Your Email" name="email"> <textarea name="message" placeholder="When would you like to book a reserv <button>Send</button> </form>

You will now be able to make reservations on your restaurants' page and see

the submissions in the **Forms** tab in your Netlify dashboard.

Name

Email

Message

spreadsheet or send an email.

← → C ↑ a Secure https://app.netlify.com/sites/tasty/settings/forms

Site settings: tasty

serving.

Netlify > tasty

Differential Property Section 1 - Indexing X Section 2 - Restaurant Outline for video X Section 2 - Restaurant Tutorial - Dropb X Section 3 - Restaurant Tut × H Contact · Tasty Licks C ☆ Secure https://app.netlify.com/sites/tasty/forms/592712f18ebdd91ba32e43bb ☆ 📚 🚻 🜇 (a) 20 II : Admin Brian > tasty Back to Forms Settings Deploys Forms Split Testing Access Notifications HTTPS contact Name Brian Douglas 2:57 pm (a few seconds ago) Email hello@briandouglas.me Message this should work Name Jul 7 (6 days ago) Email Message Name Jul 7 (6 days ago) Email Message Name Jul 6 (7 days ago) Email

Message

Be sure to check out the Netlify documentation for details on how to initialize

form submission notifications and use tools like Zapier to populate a

Jun 30 (13 days ago)

Overview Deploys Forms Split Testing Identity Settings Settings for tasty TASTY Last update on Sep 11 (4 days ago) Deploys from GitHub. Owned by Netlify (team) Form notifications General Get notified by email or Slack, or set up a webhook to integrate with services like Zapier. **Build & deploy** Domain management Outgoing notifications Add notification . **Forms** Slack integration No notifications set up yet. Form notifications Send messages to a Slack channel Access control Outgoing webhook Identity Send POST requests to external services Email notification Send notifications via email

## Share your site with the world We now have a fully functional website and haven't touched a single server.

The coolest thing about this process is that there is no final deploy step since

we have already connected Netlify to our cloned GitHub repository and Netlify

has been deploying the whole time. It's hard not to like what Netlify has been

Your site is on a live Netlify URL, but you prefer to add a custom domain you

can do that as well. C 1 (i) tasty.netlify.com 

An example website for restaurants built by @eliwilliamson using Victor Hugo. Home Food **Drinks** About Gallery Make A Reservation

Feel free to make this template your own and take full advantage updating the copy and design to match your taste. Now that we are done here go spread the JAM!