

Fetching Reviews Using Google Places API (Nearby Search)

Overview

This notebook demonstrates how to fetch nearby places (e.g., restaurants, cafes) using the **Google Places API Nearby Search** endpoint. This API allows you to search for places in a specific **radius** around a given **latitude** and **longitude**.

The steps include:

1. Sending a **POST** request to the `places:searchNearby` endpoint.
2. Retrieving nearby places based on the coordinates.
3. Fetching details such as **place name**, **place ID**, **place reviews**.

API Request:

To use the **Nearby Search API**, we make a **POST** request with the following parameters:

- `locationRestriction.circle.center` : The **latitude** and **longitude** of the center point for the search.
- `locationRestriction.circle.radius` : The **radius** (in meters) around the center point for the search.
- `includedTypes` : The type of places you're interested in (e.g., restaurant, cafe).
- `key` : **Google API Key**.

```
curl -X POST -d '{
  "includedTypes": ["restaurant"],
  "maxResultCount": 10,
  "locationRestriction": {
    "circle": {
      "center": {
        "latitude": 40.6292089,
        "longitude": -8.6477953
      },
      "radius": 500.0
    }
  }
}' \
-H 'Content-Type: application/json' \
-H "X-Goog-API-Key: YOUR_GOOGLE_API_KEY" \
-H "X-Goog-FieldMask:
places.displayName,places.id,places.reviews,places.location,places.r
\
'https://places.googleapis.com/v1/places:searchNearby'
```

API Response:

```
In [2]: {
  "places": [
    {
      "id": "ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk",
      "location": {
        "latitude": 40.632467,
        "longitude": -8.650501
      },
      "displayName": {
        "text": "McDonald's",
        "languageCode": "en"
      },
      "rating": 4.3,
      "reviews": [
        {
          "name": "places/ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk/reviews/Ci9DQULRQUN",
          "relativePublishTimeDescription": "2 months ago",
          "rating": 5,
          "text": {
            "text": "Free parking underground. Spacious. Nice staff (taki",
            "languageCode": "en"
          },
          "originalText": {
            "text": "Free parking underground. Spacious. Nice staff (taki",
            "languageCode": "en"
          },
          "authorAttribution": {
            "displayName": "Camille Phan",
            "uri": "https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/10497386024940947",
            "photoUri": "https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjVGlnZ"
          },
          "publishTime": "2025-08-20T15:35:19.443443693Z",
          "flagContentUri": "https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/repo",
          "googleMapsUri": "https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6"
        },
        {
          "name": "places/ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk/reviews/Ci9DQULRQUN",
          "relativePublishTimeDescription": "a month ago",
          "rating": 2,
          "text": {
            "text": "According to the internet there is gluten-free burge",
            "languageCode": "en"
          },
          "originalText": {
            "text": "According to the internet there is gluten-free burge",
            "languageCode": "en"
          },
          "authorAttribution": {
            "displayName": "Nico Vogel",
            "uri": "https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/11806040053964001",
            "photoUri": "https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjW6h_u"
          },
          "publishTime": "2025-09-27T14:41:54.595874609Z",
          "flagContentUri": "https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/repo",
          "googleMapsUri": "https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6"
        },
        {
          "name": "places/ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk/reviews/ChZDSUhNMG9",
          "relativePublishTimeDescription": "a year ago",
          "rating": 5,
```

```
      "text": {
        "text": "Amazing how different and then similar it was to U.S",
        "languageCode": "en"
      },
      "originalText": {
        "text": "Amazing how different and then similar it was to U.S",
        "languageCode": "en"
      },
      "authorAttribution": {
        "displayName": "Wendy Cooper",
        "uri": "https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/11654737331251814",
        "photoUri": "https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjV5-rK"
      },
      "publishTime": "2024-04-24T12:24:26.938064Z",
      "flagContentUri": "https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/repo",
      "googleMapsUri": "https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6"
    }
  ]
},
{
  "id": "ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs",
  "location": {
    "latitude": 40.626367599999995,
    "longitude": -8.6473549
  },
  "displayName": {
    "text": "Maria Pitanga Açaiteria - Aveiro",
    "languageCode": "pt-PT"
  },
  "rating": 4.5,
  "reviews": [
    {
      "name": "places/ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs/reviews/ChZDSUhNM",
      "relativePublishTimeDescription": "9 months ago",
      "rating": 5,
      "text": {
        "text": "Good self-service experience, good ingredients, ve",
        "languageCode": "en"
      },
      "originalText": {
        "text": "Good self-service experience, good ingredients, ve",
        "languageCode": "en"
      },
      "authorAttribution": {
        "displayName": "Andre Jordão",
        "uri": "https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/107684324651277",
        "photoUri": "https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a/ACg8ocJXiM"
      },
      "publishTime": "2025-01-25T16:22:52.962106Z",
      "flagContentUri": "https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/re",
      "googleMapsUri": "https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4"
    },
    {
      "name": "places/ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs/reviews/ChZDSUhNMG9nS",
      "relativePublishTimeDescription": "12 months ago",
      "rating": 5,
      "text": {
        "text": "Amazing and cheerful staff! I loved the açaí even if i",
        "languageCode": "en"
      },
    },
  ]
}
```

```
    "originalText": {
      "text": "Amazing and cheerful staff! I loved the açaí even if i
      "languageCode": "en"
    },
    "authorAttribution": {
      "displayName": "Güven Kimençe",
      "uri": "https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/1159711836513334838
      "photoUri": "https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjV8Y21P8
    },
    "publishTime": "2024-11-08T23:09:06.275827Z",
    "flagContentUri": "https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report
    "googleMapsUri": "https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!1
  },
  {
    "name": "places/ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs/reviews/ChZDSUhNMG9nS
    "relativePublishTimeDescription": "a year ago",
    "rating": 5,
    "text": {
      "text": "Excellent team! Original açaí from Brazil, with anothe
      "languageCode": "en"
    },
    "originalText": {
      "text": "Excellent team! Original açaí from Brazil, with anothe
      "languageCode": "en"
    },
    "authorAttribution": {
      "displayName": "Jose Carlos Germino",
      "uri": "https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/1029157452416149360
      "photoUri": "https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjUi8eLoh
    },
    "publishTime": "2024-06-18T14:41:47.519274Z",
    "flagContentUri": "https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report
    "googleMapsUri": "https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!1
  }
]
}
```

```

Out[2]: {'places': [{'id': 'ChIJQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk',
  'location': {'latitude': 40.632467, 'longitude': -8.650501},
  'displayName': {'text': 'McDonald's', 'languageCode': 'en'},
  'rating': 4.3,
  'reviews': [{'name': 'places/ChIJQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk/reviews/Ci9DQULRQUNvZENodHljRjlvT25oWVZWm9jSFkwYkU5SE9XcDFNVmczULMxa1JGRRAB',
    'relativePublishTimeDescription': '2 months ago',
    'rating': 5,
    'text': {'text': 'Free parking underground. Spacious. Nice staff (taking time looking for a different Happy Meal toy for my son).',
      'languageCode': 'en'},
    'originalText': {'text': 'Free parking underground. Spacious. Nice staff (taking time looking for a different Happy Meal toy for my son).',
      'languageCode': 'en'},
    'authorAttribution': {'displayName': 'Camille Phan',
      'uri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/104973860249409470552/reviews',
      'photoUri': 'https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjVG1NZUt5z6fG9c-F0pYi0gv35AtZATVrWAZYwgMuzg9x4QB_vS=s128-c0x00000000-cc-rp-mo-ba3'},
    'publishTime': '2025-08-20T15:35:19.443443693Z',
    'flagContentUri': 'https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report?postId=Ci9DQULRQUNvZENodHljRjlvT25oWVZWm9jSFkwYkU5SE9XcDFNVmczULMxa1JGRRAB&d=17924085&t=1',
    'googleMapsUri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!14m5!1m4!2m3!1sCi9DQULRQUNvZENodHljRjlvT25oWVZWm9jSFkwYkU5SE9XcDFNVmczULMxa1JGRRAB!2m1!1s0xd23a2a85bad0da1:0xa9e86289b89bc34f'},
    {'name': 'places/ChIJQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk/reviews/Ci9DQULRQUNvZENodHljRjlvT2tGWFRtazRlbXBpUVZNdGNtSnFXbTlpV2s1NWEzYxAB',
      'relativePublishTimeDescription': 'a month ago',
      'rating': 2,
      'text': {'text': 'According to the internet there is gluten-free burgers but not at this MC Donald's',
        'languageCode': 'en'},
      'originalText': {'text': 'According to the internet there is gluten-free burgers but not at this MC Donald's',
        'languageCode': 'en'},
      'authorAttribution': {'displayName': 'Nico Vogel',
        'uri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/118060400539640015713/reviews',
        'photoUri': 'https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjW6h_uhi0EFgooVYHqldnHfjIuxBASGbR3m1d0Q3QGf68frXsPp9Q=s128-c0x00000000-cc-rp-mo-ba4'},
      'publishTime': '2025-09-27T14:41:54.595874609Z',
      'flagContentUri': 'https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report?postId=Ci9DQULRQUNvZENodHljRjlvT2tGWFRtazRlbXBpUVZNdGNtSnFXbTlpV2s1NWEzYxAB&d=17924085&t=1',
      'googleMapsUri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!14m5!1m4!2m3!1sCi9DQULRQUNvZENodHljRjlvT2tGWFRtazRlbXBpUVZNdGNtSnFXbTlpV2s1NWEzYxAB!2m1!1s0xd23a2a85bad0da1:0xa9e86289b89bc34f'},
      {'name': 'places/ChIJQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk/reviews/ChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUNqamRXWEdREAE',
        'relativePublishTimeDescription': 'a year ago',
        'rating': 5,
        'text': {'text': 'Amazing how different and then similar it was to U.S. Different: lots of healthy menu options, beautiful patio, bakery counter, recyclable silverware. Same: was still fast food with traditional menu items.',
          'languageCode': 'en'},
        'originalText': {'text': 'Amazing how different and then similar it

```

```
was to U.S. Different: lots of healthy menu options, beautiful patio, ba
kery counter, recyclable silverware. Same: was still fast food with trad
itional menu items.',
  'languageCode': 'en'},
  'authorAttribution': {'displayName': 'Wendy Cooper',
  'uri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/116547373312518140582/
reviews',
  'photoUri': 'https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjV5-rKLybR1
42I_x_tp24SyofU2K_13dtnPWoelocxgEwioI0Xq=s128-c0x00000000-cc-rp-mo-ba
3'},
  'publishTime': '2024-04-24T12:24:26.938064Z',
  'flagContentUri': 'https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report?p
ostId=ChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUNqamRXWEdREAE&d=17924085&t=1',
  'googleMapsUri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!14m
5!1m4!2m3!1sChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUNqamRXWEdREAE!2m1!1s0xd23a2a85bad0da
1:0xa9e86289b89bc34f'}}],
  {'id': 'ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs',
  'location': {'latitude': 40.626367599999995, 'longitude': -8.647354
9},
  'displayName': {'text': 'Maria Pitanga Açaiteria - Aveiro',
  'languageCode': 'pt-PT'},
  'rating': 4.5,
  'reviews': [{'name': 'places/ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs/reviews/ChZD
SUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSURfeGFTNkh3EAE',
  'relativePublishTimeDescription': '9 months ago',
  'rating': 5,
  'text': {'text': 'Good self-service experience, good ingredients, v
ery nice staff. A bit expensive though.',
  'languageCode': 'en'},
  'originalText': {'text': 'Good self-service experience, good ingred
ients, very nice staff. A bit expensive though.',
  'languageCode': 'en'},
  'authorAttribution': {'displayName': 'Andre Jordão',
  'uri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/107684324651277383514/
reviews',
  'photoUri': 'https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a/ACg8ocJXjMEgoQH0v
2epIZMb8QPdFC4614mIQQxtay2UQqSABDIr=s128-c0x00000000-cc-rp-mo-ba4'},
  'publishTime': '2025-01-25T16:22:52.962106Z',
  'flagContentUri': 'https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report?p
ostId=ChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSURfeGFTNkh3EAE&d=17924085&t=1',
  'googleMapsUri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!14m
5!1m4!2m3!1sChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSURfeGFTNkh3EAE!2m1!1s0xd23a3ac267746f
5:0xb4efd1cee3f630c'},
  {'name': 'places/ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs/reviews/ChZDSUhNMG9nS0V
JQ0FnSUMzMDduRFN3EAE',
  'relativePublishTimeDescription': '12 months ago',
  'rating': 5,
  'text': {'text': 'Amazing and cheerful staff! I loved the açaí even
if it was my first try!',
  'languageCode': 'en'},
  'originalText': {'text': 'Amazing and cheerful staff! I loved the a
çaí even if it was my first try!',
  'languageCode': 'en'},
  'authorAttribution': {'displayName': 'Güven Kimençe',
  'uri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/115971183651333483808/
reviews',
  'photoUri': 'https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjV8Y21P8aXy
nUd9AxqSut2qDIclZUmRzm8vtLgTC6kL6gvi30bk=s128-c0x00000000-cc-rp-mo-ba
4'},
  'publishTime': '2024-11-08T23:09:06.275827Z',
```

```

        'flagContentUri': 'https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report?postId=ChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUMzMDduRFN3EAE&d=17924085&t=1',
        'googleMapsUri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!14m5!1m4!2m3!1sChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUMzMDduRFN3EAE!2m1!1s0xd23a3ac267746f5:0xb4efd1cee3f630c'},
        {'name': 'places/ChIJ9UZ3JqyjIw0RDGM_7hz9Tgs/reviews/ChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUMeHRDRVNREAE',
         'relativePublishTimeDescription': 'a year ago',
         'rating': 5,
         'text': {'text': 'Excellent team! Original açaí from Brazil, with a nother options to the people. I strongly recommend!!!',
                  'languageCode': 'en'},
         'originalText': {'text': 'Excellent team! Original açaí from Brazil , with another options to the people. I strongly recommend!!!',
                          'languageCode': 'en'},
         'authorAttribution': {'displayName': 'Jose Carlos Germino',
                                'uri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/contrib/102915745241614936078/reviews',
                                'photoUri': 'https://lh3.googleusercontent.com/a-/ALV-UjUi8eLohkToYDsLCwmMptYaoh9hxxzNzj07vgbeMpC01Cr8U5Rxp=s128-c0x00000000-cc-rp-mo-ba3'},
         'publishTime': '2024-06-18T14:41:47.519274Z',
         'flagContentUri': 'https://www.google.com/local/review/rap/report?postId=ChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUMeHRDRVNREAE&d=17924085&t=1',
         'googleMapsUri': 'https://www.google.com/maps/reviews/data=!4m6!14m5!1m4!2m3!1sChZDSUhNMG9nS0VJQ0FnSUMeHRDRVNREAE!2m1!1s0xd23a3ac267746f5:0xb4efd1cee3f630c'}}]]}}

```

The API returns a list of nearby places that match the search criteria. The response includes:

- **id** : The unique **Place ID**.
- **location** : Location of the place.
- **displayName** : The name of the place.
- **reviews** : Google Reviews of the place.

Python example: fetch Place Details and load reviews into a DataFrame

It shows how to call the Place Details endpoint from Python and convert the returned reviews into a DataFrame for downstream analysis.

```

In [3]: import requests
import time
import os
import pandas as pd

GOOGLE_API_KEY = os.getenv('GOOGLE_API_KEY', 'AIzaSyAwme_k4xStLv2_bLFAckn
SLEEP_BETWEEN_REQUESTS = 0.25 # seconds to avoid hitting rate limits
RADIUS_METERS = 500 # Search within a 500-meter radius by default
MAX_PLACES_PER_RUN = 10 # Number of places to query

def places_search_nearby(lat, lon, radius=500, types=["restaurant"]):
    """
    Use Google Places Nearby Search to search for places within a given r
    Returns the places found and the API call status.

```

```
"""
url = "https://places.googleapis.com/v1/places:searchNearby"
payload = {
    "locationRestriction": {
        "circle": {
            "center": {
                "latitude": lat,
                "longitude": lon
            },
            "radius": radius
        }
    },
    "includedTypes": types,
    "maxResultCount": (MAX_PLACES_PER_RUN or 10),
}
params = { 'key': GOOGLE_API_KEY }
headers = {
    "X-Goog-FieldMask": "places.displayName,places.id,places.reviews",
    "X-Goog-API-Key": GOOGLE_API_KEY,
    "Content-Type": "application/json",
}

# Send POST request to the Nearby Search API
try:
    response = requests.post(url, params=params, json=payload, headers=headers)
    time.sleep(SLEEP_BETWEEN_REQUESTS)
    if response.status_code != 200:
        print('Nearby Search HTTP', response.status_code)
        try:
            print('Response body:', response.json())
        except Exception:
            print('Response text:', response.text)
            response.raise_for_status()
    except requests.exceptions.RequestException as e:
        print(f"Error during API request: {e}")
        return None, "ERROR"

    data = response.json()
    places = data.get("places", [])
    return places, "OK" if places else "ZERO_RESULTS"

def process_reviews(reviews):
    """
    Extract the reviews from the response and format them into a list of
    """
    reviews_data = []
    for review in reviews:
        reviews_data.append({
            "author_name": review.get("authorAttribution", {}).get("displayName"),
            "rating": review.get("rating"),
            "review_text": review.get("text", {}).get("text", ""),
            "publish_time": review.get("publishTime"),
        })
    return reviews_data

def get_reviews_for_nearby_places(lat, lon, radius=500):
    """
    Fetch nearby places and their reviews within the specified radius.
    Returns a list of reviews and the status of the operation.
    """
```



```
places, status = places_search_nearby(lat, lon, radius)
if not places:
    return [], f"No nearby places found. Status: {status}"

all_reviews = []
for place in places:
    place_id = place.get("id")
    place_name = place.get("displayName", {}).get("text", "")
    place_location = place.get("location", {})
    place_rating = place.get("rating")
    reviews = place.get("reviews", [])
    processed_reviews = process_reviews(reviews)

    for review in processed_reviews:
        review["place_name"] = place_name
        review["place_id"] = place_id
        review["place_location"] = place_location
        review["place_rating"] = place_rating
        all_reviews.append(review)

return all_reviews, "OK"

def main():
    # Example coordinates (latitude, longitude) for the center point
    latitude = 40.6292089
    longitude = -8.6477953

    # Fetch reviews for nearby places
    reviews_data, status = get_reviews_for_nearby_places(latitude, longit

    if not reviews_data:
        print(f"No reviews found or failed to fetch data. Status: {status}")
        return

    # Create a DataFrame to store the reviews data
    df = pd.DataFrame(reviews_data)

    # Results
    print(f"Fetched {len(df)} reviews for nearby places.")
    print(df.head())

    # Save the DataFrame to a CSV file
    df.to_csv("../outputs/nearby_reviews.csv", index=False)
    print(f"Saved reviews data to 'nearby_reviews.csv'.")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

Fetched 50 reviews for nearby places.

| | author_name | rating | \ |
|---|------------------|--------|---|
| 0 | Camille Phan | 5 | |
| 1 | Nico Vogel | 2 | |
| 2 | Wendy Cooper | 5 | |
| 3 | Daniela Da Silva | 5 | |
| 4 | Çiğdem AKRAY | 5 | |

| | review_text | \ |
|---|---|---|
| 0 | Free parking underground. Spacious. Nice staff... | |
| 1 | According to the internet there is gluten-free... | |
| 2 | Amazing how different and then similar it was ... | |
| 3 | It's just a McDonald's, but I like the aesthet... | |
| 4 | Beautiful fasfood place, service is so nice, p... | |

| | publish_time | place_name | place_id |
|---|--------------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| \ | | | |
| 0 | 2025-08-20T15:35:19.443443693Z | McDonald's | ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk |
| 1 | 2025-09-27T14:41:54.595874609Z | McDonald's | ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk |
| 2 | 2024-04-24T12:24:26.938064Z | McDonald's | ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk |
| 3 | 2024-04-10T01:43:04.020798Z | McDonald's | ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk |
| 4 | 2025-08-02T20:45:32.983595881Z | McDonald's | ChIJoQ2tW6iiIw0RT80buIli6Kk |

| | place_location | place_rating |
|---|---|--------------|
| 0 | {'latitude': 40.632467, 'longitude': -8.650501} | 4.3 |
| 1 | {'latitude': 40.632467, 'longitude': -8.650501} | 4.3 |
| 2 | {'latitude': 40.632467, 'longitude': -8.650501} | 4.3 |
| 3 | {'latitude': 40.632467, 'longitude': -8.650501} | 4.3 |
| 4 | {'latitude': 40.632467, 'longitude': -8.650501} | 4.3 |

Saved reviews data to 'nearby_reviews.csv'.