THEME CHOICE & URL

THEME & PLUGINS

The WordPress theme I chose for this project is called 'Astra'. After looking at the project requirements I realised that:

- 1. In order to create and display chalets dynamically, I was going to need a real estate plugin. I chose Estatik for this purpose. I would also need a plugin to deal with the contact form (Contact Form 7) and possibly other plugins.
- 2. A real estate agency for the luxury chalet market, which serves mostly rich clients who are used to perfection, needs a unique website and not the default look of any public theme.
- 3. I preferred to use the page builder Elementor to easily design the various pages.
- 4. (In a real-life situation, the client might ask for extra features, which the theme needs to be able to accommodate.)

In other words, I needed a versatile, clean theme, which is compatible with Elementor and many other plugins, has lots of options for customisation and possibly comes with addons. I found this in Astra, which is a free, fast, lightweight and highly customisable WordPress theme.

STYLING & DESIGN

In order to create the elegant, luxurious look the agency asked for, I mainly used custom fonts (Antic) and colours (gold, dark grey, beige). Styling the Estatik elements turned out to be more challenging, and I had to overwrite quite a bit of CSS to make it look the way I wanted and to force it to behave in the correct way as Estatik has a tendency to change class names on resizing the screen.

DOMAIN & CONTACT FORM

To host my demo site, I used a free plan on Pantheon, which resulted in a sandbox website. That means I do not have a custom domain name, nor (as far as I know) an email address that uses the site's domain name.

URL

http://dev-chalets-and-caviar-oc.pantheonsite.io