A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated

# Project Exam 1

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Word count

Summary: 72 | Main text: 473



## Summary

The project's primary goal was to design and develop a blog site with specific features, including a carousel on the home page, dynamic blog post pages, and a contact form with validation. The content for the website was sourced from a WordPress installation used as a Headless CMS. The project was executed in multiple phases, from prototyping to user testing, and adjustments were made based on feedback and insights from the user.

## Design

### ***What went well on the project:***

I'm quite pleased with the overall design. The design of “Urban Traveller” is user-centric, with clear navigation and a well-organized layout. The inclusion of a carousel on the home page to showcase the latest posts enhances user engagement. The goal was to achieve simplicity and avoid a cluttered appearance. In my online research, I noticed that numerous travel blogs tended to be quite chaotic

### ***What was difficult/didn’t go well on the project:***

Designing a responsive carousel and design that provides a seamless experience across devices can and was challenging. Ensuring that the modal for images is intuitive and doesn't disrupt the user's reading flow required careful consideration.

### ***What would you do differently next time:***

Include more interactive design elements to further engage users. For example, making mobile nav more user-friendly and creating a more exciting design.

## Technical

### ***What went well on the project:***

The integration with the WordPress REST API was successful, allowing for dynamic content rendering on the blog site. The contact form's JavaScript validation ensures data integrity and enhances user experience by providing immediate feedback.

### ***What was difficult/didn’t go well on the project:***

Ensuring that the website seamlessly fetches and displays content from the WordPress API, especially when dealing with dynamic query string parameters, posed challenges. Handling potential errors or delays in API responses required additional error-handling mechanisms.

### ***What would you do differently next time:***

Consider implementing caching mechanisms to optimize API calls and improve page load times. Explore more advanced features like allowing users to submit comments directly through the website to WordPress, and establishing a working subscriber and login page.

## WCAG guidelines, content management and SEO

### ***What went well on the project:***

The use of semantic HTML elements potentially enhances the site's accessibility and SEO. The content sourced from WordPress ensures that the website remains updated with fresh content, improving its relevance and ranking.

### ***What was difficult/didn’t go well on the project:***

Ensuring full compliance with WCAG guidelines was intricate. Initial accessibility tests revealed issues like insufficient color contrast and missing alt text for some images. While the content is dynamic, optimizing it for search engines posed challenges. For instance, ensuring that dynamically loaded content was indexed correctly by search engines and that metadata was appropriately set for each individual blog post required additional attention.

### ***What would you do differently next time:***

Invest more time in detailed accessibility testing and SEO audits. Implement schema markup to further enhance the website's SEO.

## Conclusion

Taking on this project was no walk in the park, but it was a real eye-opener. It gave me a firsthand look at how design, tech skills, and content can come together beautifully. Using a Headless CMS, especially something as familiar as WordPress, was like peeking into the future of web design. And I can't stress enough how tools like Hotjar helped fine-tune everything. As the digital world keeps changing, this project reminded me of the need to stay flexible, always put the user first, and find ways to smoothly blend different tech tools.

## Wave:

* As you can see in the picture below, I get "contrast errors" in Wave. On the Hero image, it looks like Wave thinks the background is white, as it does not take into account images that are behind text. I tried to change to about the same color as the background, and then it goes through Wave. Therefore, this has not been changed.
* On the footer there are also "contrast errors". This applies to the bottom text. Not sure if this is a mistake, as Wave does not point to the other texts in the footer.

Et bilde som inneholder tekst, skjermbilde, Multimedieprogramvare, programvare

Automatisk generert beskrivelseEt bilde som inneholder tekst, programvare, Nettsted, Nettside

Automatisk generert beskrivelse

## Hotjar:

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Automatisk generert beskrivelseEt bilde som inneholder tekst, nummer, Font, line

Automatisk generert beskrivelse

Et bilde som inneholder tekst, Landkjøretøy, skjermbilde, kjøretøy

Automatisk generert beskrivelse

## References:

(place references to websites, books, forums etc. that helped you in the project)

* All images are from unsplash
* Logo made with myfreelogomaker.com

YouTube:

* Web Dev Simplified
* Kevin Powell
* CodingLab

Inspiration:

* <https://theworldtravelguy.com/>
* https://againstthecompass.com/en/
* <https://www.saltinourhair.com/>
* <https://www.indietraveller.co/>

## Appendices:

* Figma desktop: <https://www.figma.com/proto/0ESTfTSzVXXj3Uks9udJFF/Urban-Traveller?page-id=0%3A1&type=design&node-id=19-2&viewport=-542%2C21%2C0.12&t=0GWefzb0rCW8LCez-1&scaling=scale-down&starting-point-node-id=19%3A2&mode=design>
* Figma mobile: https://www.figma.com/proto/0ESTfTSzVXXj3Uks9udJFF/Urban-Traveller?page-id=25%3A640&type=design&node-id=24-1258&viewport=-1855%2C-2615%2C0.31&t=F1CeGAjuZlDUlAn0-1&scaling=min-zoom&starting-point-node-id=24%3A1258&mode=design