A screenshot of a cell phone

Description automatically generated

Technical Report

Project Exam 2

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# Goal

“To take the skills learned over the last two years and take on an extensive project where the finished product should reflect the candidate's general development capabilities, in addition to visual and technical skills.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

*Strapi API hosting with Heroku, Cloudinary and MongoDB.*

# Github link to project

Username: Admin / [martyfed@outlook.com](mailto:martyfed@outlook.com)

Password: HsdEWhEp9LJp

<https://github.com/Noroff-FEU-Assignments/project-exam-2-MarSkor>

# 1. Summary

This report will entail details about my project exam 2. We could choose between two options, and I decided to go with option number two, which was to build a hotel-booking website named Holidaze. And this website should have visitor pages as well as admin pages. The visitor pages would include; a homepage, a search bar typehead (with auto dropdown list with establishments matching what was typed), a result page with all ‘hotels’, the hotel specific page, and enquiry page and a contact page. The admin pages would include a login section, list of enquiries that the user has submitted through a form on the enquiry page, list of messages from contact form and a section making the admin able to create a new establishment.

First, I will go over the planning process, which I have provided a link to ([here](#_5.1_–_Gantt)). Second, I will then go over the design and the technical part of the project. I will answer ‘what went well on the project, what was difficult/did not go well and what would I do differently next time’ for design and the technical part. Last, I will give a conclusion where I self-evaluate with how I felt I did overall on the project.

# 2. Body

## 2.1. Introduction

I chose option 2 of the exam project, which was to build a hotel booking website and I built it in react js. We were to build both the visitor as well the admin pages of this booking website. I have mainly followed the recommended work process mentioned in the project brief with a few tweaks. The first two days I spent setting up my whole plan and the third day I finished the gantt chart and proceeded to start looking for design inspiration.

I looked for how the websites were built up in terms of layout, colors and fonts. After having concluded with the theme I wanted to use, I made the style guide (some of the colors I first opted for needed to slightly change, but I will mention more about this in the main section).

When that was completed I started to make the prototype, both a desktop and a mobile version which is found in the [appendices](#_5._Appendices). Approximately one and a half week was used for that. Finishing that I started on the technical part of the project. I had set of four weeks for that with the last one mostly consisting of bug fixes, report writing and making the whole project ready to be submitted.

## 2.2. Main section of report

### Design

*What went well on the project?*

Overall the whole design process went rather well. I managed to pair two fonts I felt was a good fit. Suitable and easy to read, I chose the FF tisa sans and Brandon Grotesque sans serif font to use in the project. Next was the color theme. I had first opted for a more blue themed website but as I looked around for inspiration I ended up with a more golden/orange themed palette because it fit the landing page image and can be associated with warmth as well as cheerful welcoming. This also fit the target audience I was going for, which is families or young adults.

*What was difficult/did not go well on the project?*

It was difficult to figure out how I should design the logout system. I was thinking if I should add two extra links on the main navigation bar? So instead of doing it that I opted to use a dropwdown menu from react bootstrap and added an option to navigate to the admin section or log out when clicked. Designing the admin section itself was also more difficult than anticipated. My first draft had a vertical menu on the left side but I felt it didn’t quite fit the theme and the rest of the website. So in my second draft I changed it to a horizontal navigation bar because I felt it would be easier to navigate that way, at least for this theme. Finding the right place to put the search bar was not as easy as I had initially thought. But I believe I found the right placement for it along with the heading on the establishments list page.

*What would you do differently next time?*

Next time I would design the admin section differently. Like I mentioned at first, I tried to make it vertical but I couldn’t get it to fit rest of the website, so I made it horizontal and made it fit in with rest of the theme. I think I would try and make the whole admin side(s) of the booking site around the vertical menu on the left side without bringing the ‘holidaze’ into that section. And then have the option to return to/view the visitor sites. For better understanding, I made quick visual example of how I would do this differently (*5.2 – Example of different admin section*).

### Technical

*What went well on the project?*

Setting up the mongodb database, cloudinary and strapi went well. I managed to connect them to strapi and continue on from there to the visual side of the project. I felt I had good control of my folder structure and placed everything in a good and organized order.

*What was difficult/did not go well on the project?*

Making a post request where I create an establishment to the strapi ended up being a little problematic, as well as deleting a specific establishment. At first, if the admin was logged in, I planned for the delete option to be in the establishment list, but it seemed to be a better solution to have that option on the specific establishment page. Another thing that did not go so well was the file validation on creating an establishment. Adding ‘supported file formats’ to the validation did not work as expected so I left it to only have a max file size of 200kb.

*What would you do differently next time?*

I would reorganize the api request codes. As I reached the end of my project I realized all these api requests in the different folders/files made the code in that specific file a bit big. I think I would gather all the api requests in the same folder/file as the base\_url and then export them out into the different files where they are needed to decrease the code size/length in that file.

## 2.3. Conclusion

Overall I think I have made good use of the seven weeks give to this project exam. The first two weeks went to planning and designing the website. I encountered some problems that I think I solved in a good way for the time I had. I made sure the theme, fonts and colors overall had enough contrast to not blend and turn invisible with other colors used. I kept testing as I worked on the api requests and the other functions to make sure it all worked and creates no confusion for the user.

# 3. Acknowledgements

## 3.1 – Feedback from another student

Florinda Zeida – FED October 19, full time

Some of the styling classes could be improved and follow an simpler/shorter and easier to understand naming convention. Your files with big code could be split into smaller components and also maybe have a short comment on what the code is supposed to do.

# 4. Appendices

## 4.1 – Gantt chart, style guide & prototype

Gantt chart

http://papermemo.one/fed/pe2/2021-06-09\_pe2\_gantt-chart.pdf

Style guide

http://papermemo.one/fed/pe2/2021-12-07\_pe2\_style-guide.pdf

Prototype desktop

https://xd.adobe.com/view/02f4462a-0466-4f92-b25d-44d3971d3818-57a7/?fullscreen

Prototype mobile

https://xd.adobe.com/view/e3106aab-b11c-4dd4-9dbd-584fa1762b8b-b643/?fullscreen

## 4.2 – Example of new admin section

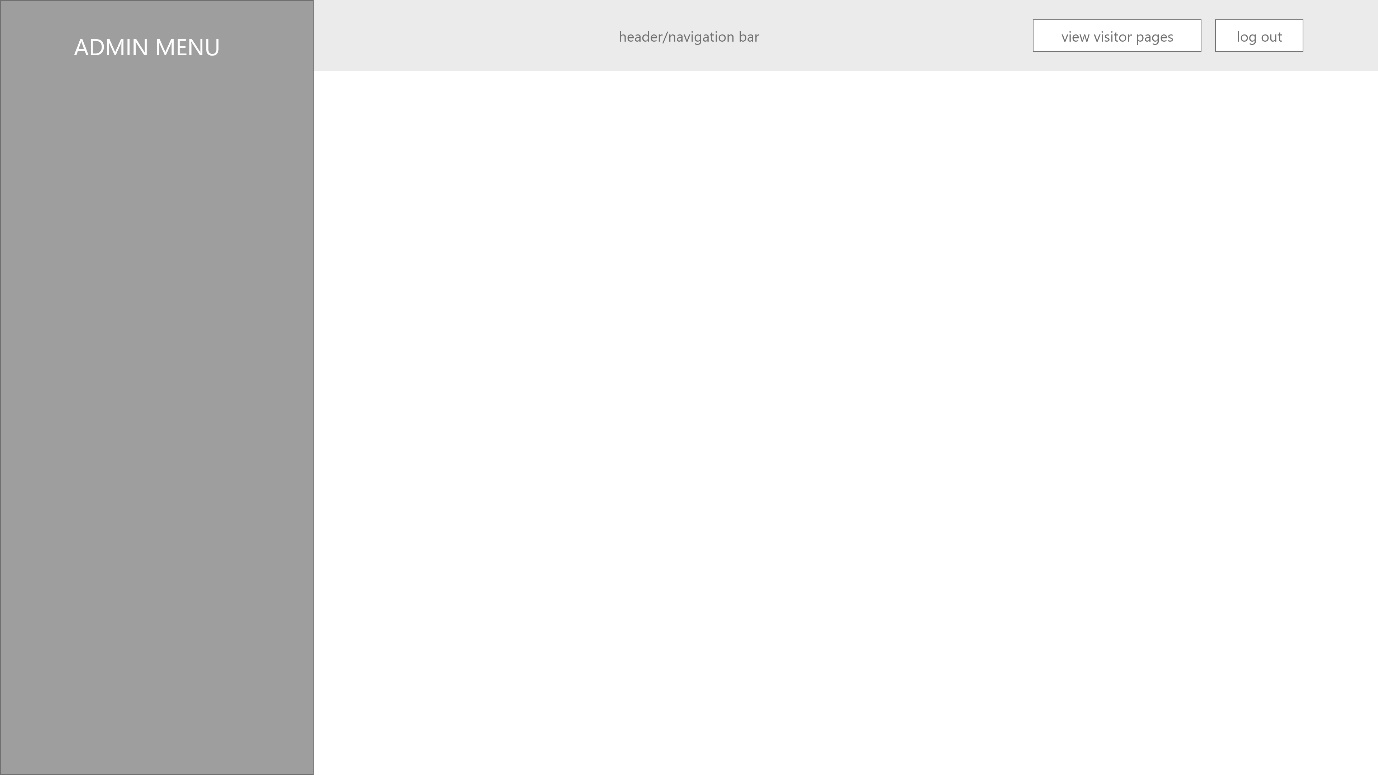


Figure 1 - (technical) What i would do differently

# 5. Resources

For building the website:

* <https://strapi.io/> - headless CMS
* <https://cloudinary.com/> - storing media
* https://www.mongodb.com/cloud/atlas - database
* <https://heroku.com/> - hosting
* <https://reactjs.org/> - skeleton
* <https://sass-lang.com/> - CSS Preprocessor
* <https://react-bootstrap.netlify.app/> - CSS framework
* <https://react-icons.github.io/> - icons (font awesome)

Content

* <https://unsplash.com/> - media
* <https://airhostacademy.com/airbnb-title-description-generator/> - accommodation content

Code used

* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tYGTjxhzrqY> - How to Validate File Uploads With React Hook Form, 15.09.21
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q2aky3eeO40> - React autocomplete search from API, 13.09.21
* <https://reactrouter.com/web/example/auth-workflow> - protected route, 06.09.21
* <https://ui.dev/react-router-v5-protected-routes-authentication/> - protected route, 06.09.21
* <https://codesandbox.io/s/showhide-password-on-toggle-in-react-hooks-95qcz?file=/src/styles.css:535-571> , toggle show password, 05.09.21
* <https://strapi.io/documentation/developer-docs/latest/development/plugins/upload.html#upload-files-related-to-an-entry> – file upload to strapi (related to an entry)

1. Noroff – Project Exam 2 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)