



Vue Fundamentals

Routing basics

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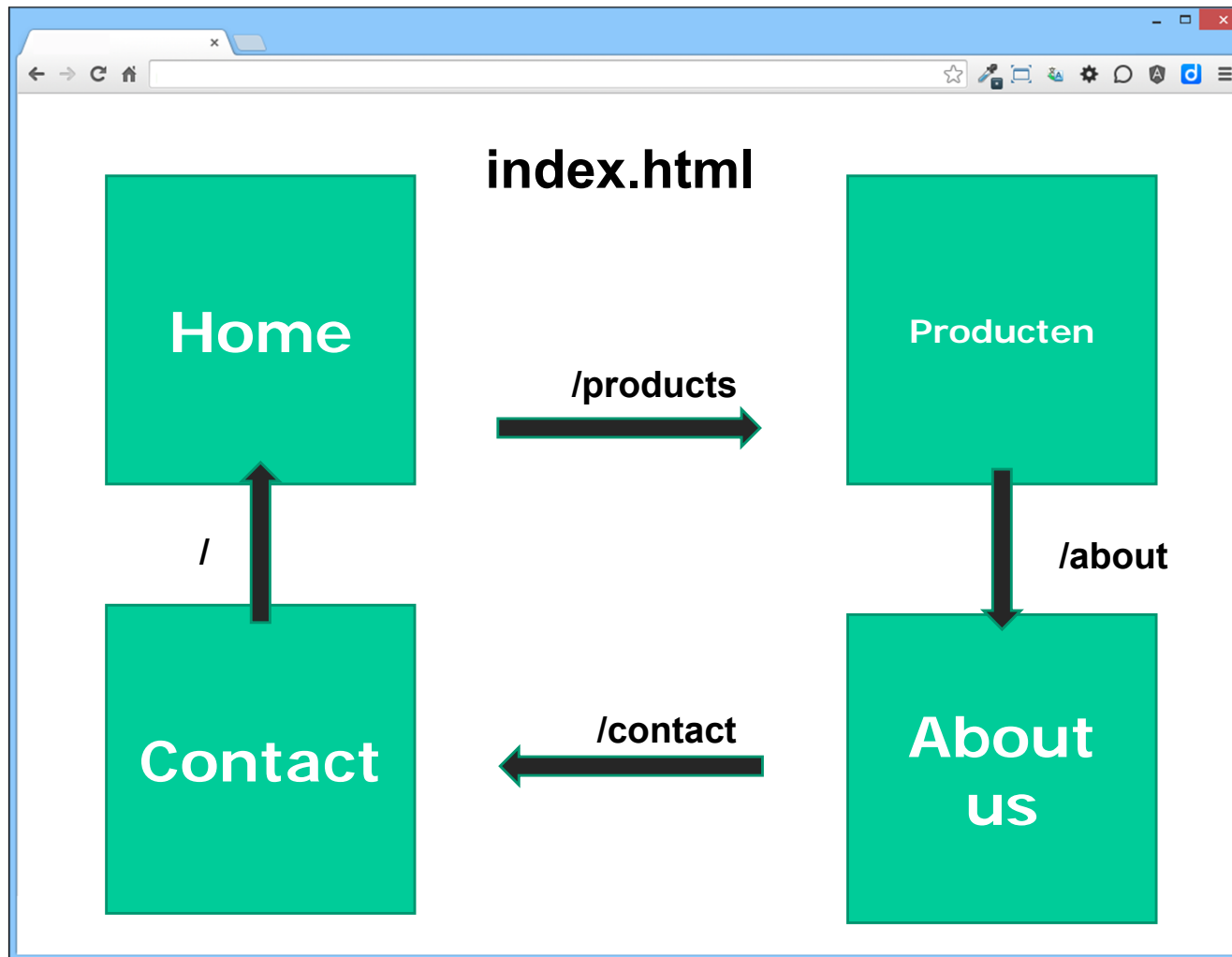
Chapter 6, P. 164

Client-side Routing

“For most Single Page Applications, it’s recommended to use the officially-supported `vue-router` library. For more details, see `vue-router`’s documentation.”

<https://router.vuejs.org/>

Routing architecture and goal



- Make use of SPA principle
- Making deep links possible

Router capabilities / characteristics

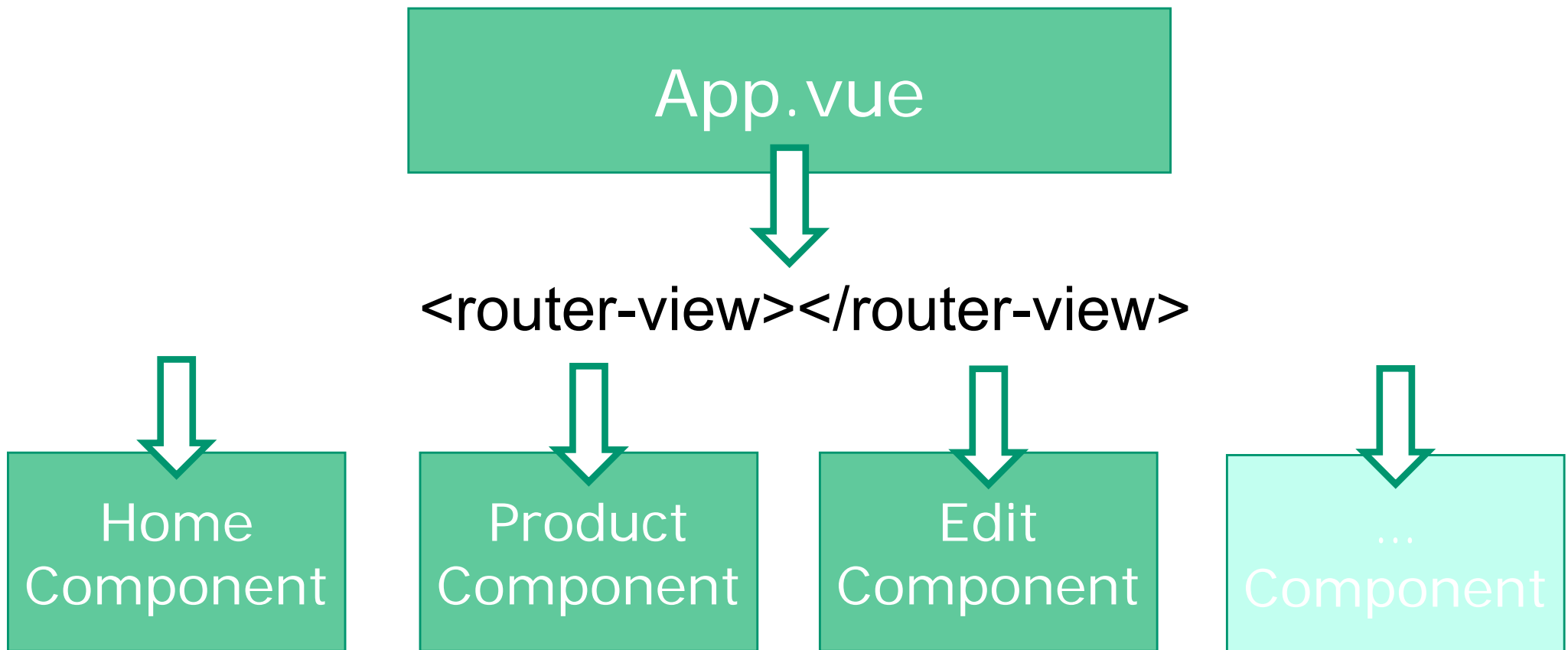
- Update URL when changing to routes/components
- Nested routes/view mapping
- Lazy Loading
- Modular, component based router configuration
- Route params, query, wildcards
- View transition effects
- Link with automatic active CSS classes to denote active route
- HTML5 history mode
- Prevent navigating to a route, or navigating away

<https://router.vuejs.org/>



Routing – every route is a Component

- `App.vue` gets a main menu (typically in its own component :-)
- Components are injected in `<router-view></router-view>`




Sidestep - routing via Vue CLI

- For instance: `npm create vue@latest`
- Select Yes with Vue Router (you can have multiple selections!)
- You get a fully featured, simple, but working example

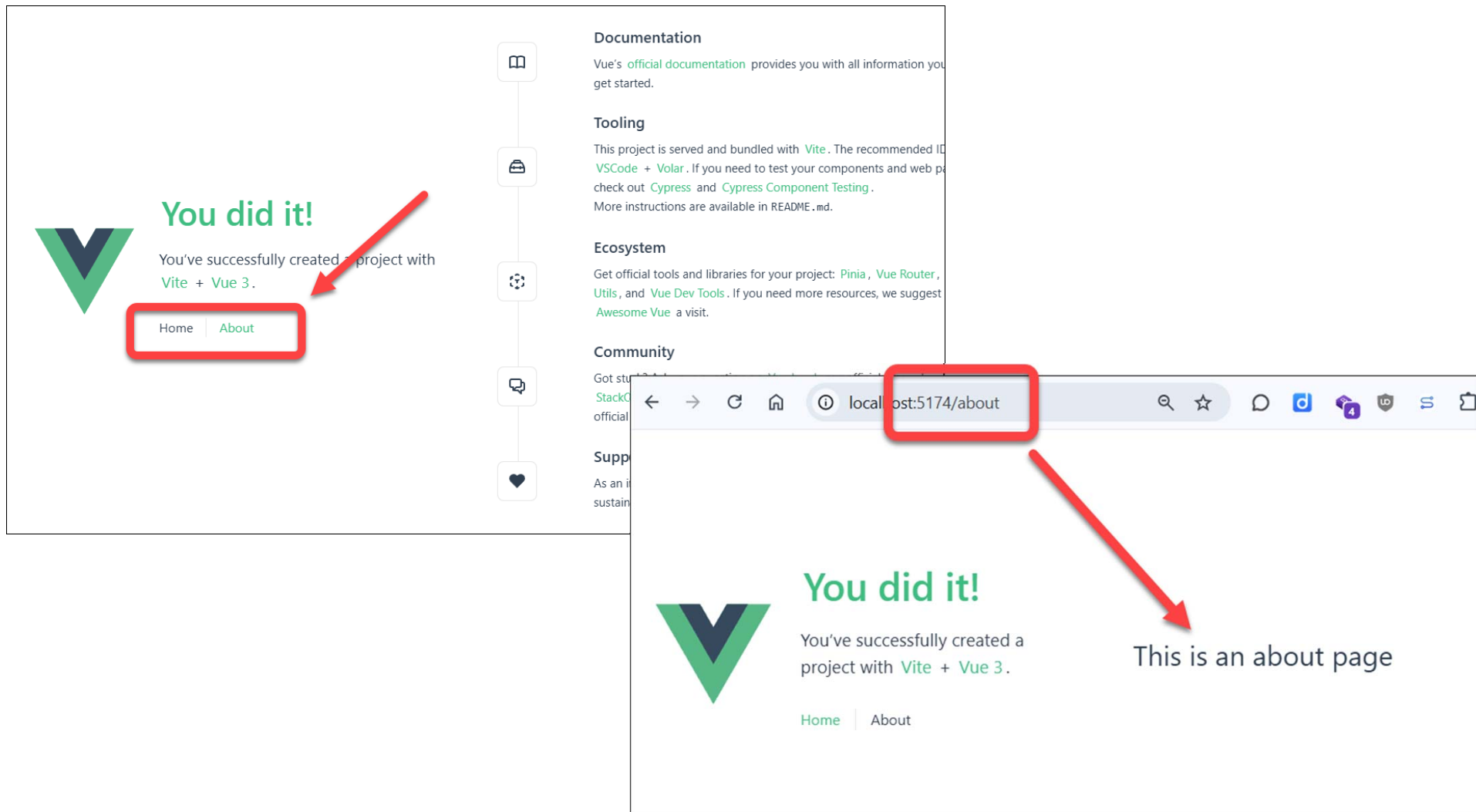
```
PS C:\Users\Gebruiker\Desktop> npm create vue@latest

Vue.js - The Progressive JavaScript Framework

✓ Project name: ... vue-routing
✓ Add TypeScript? ... No / Yes
✓ Add CSS Support? ... No / Yes
✓ Add Vue Router for Single Page Application development? ... No / Yes
✓ Add Pinia for state management? ... No / Yes
✓ Add Vitest for Unit Testing? ... No / Yes
? Add an End-to-End Testing Solution? » - Use arrow-keys. Return to submit.
> No
  Cypress
  Nightwatch
  Playwright
```



Result – a default routing app



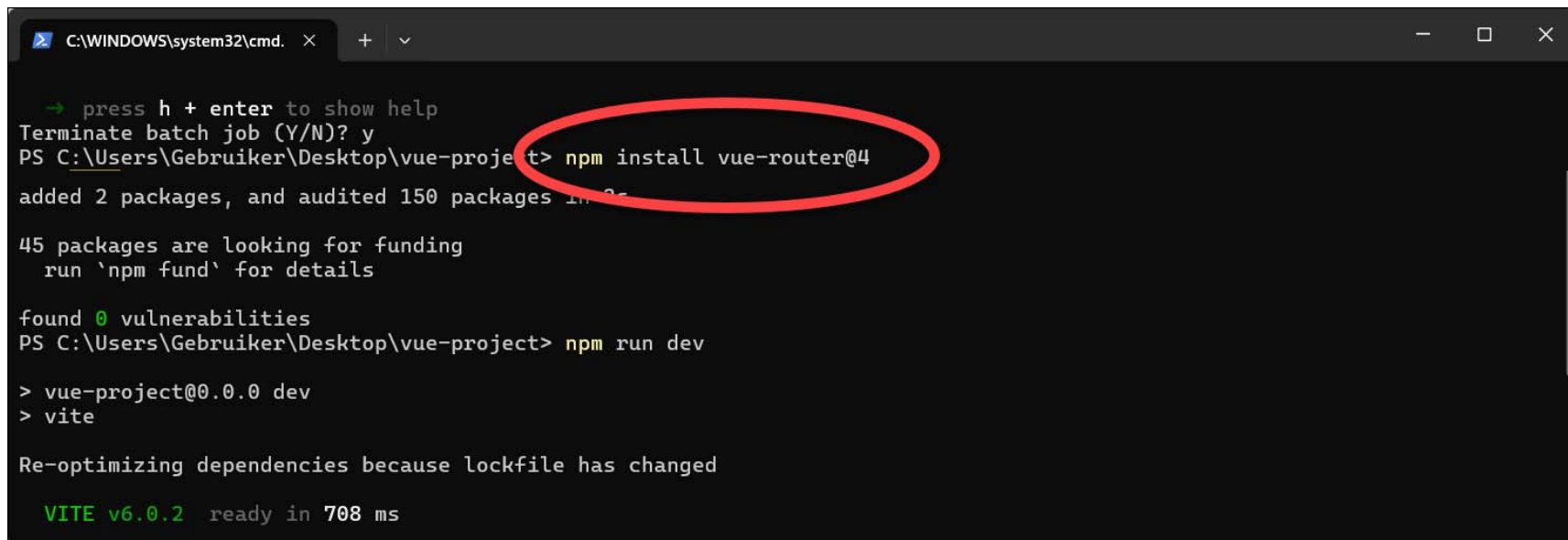
This is what we are going to create manually

Agenda - In this module

- **Adding** routing to an existing app
 - See before – start a new app with routing from scratch, using the CLI
- **Linking** to routed pages
- **Styling** links, based on the **active** route
- Working with route **params**
- **Nested** router views
- More info on routing

1. Installing the router to an existing app

- Install the router module: `npm install vue-router@4`
 - Yes, Vue 3 uses router V4
 - (Vue 2 used router V3 – we can't help the version numbering...)
- Check if the application still runs!
- Nothing is visible, but it should still run



```
C:\WINDOWS\system32\cmd. x + v
→ press h + enter to show help
Terminate batch job (Y/N)? y
PS C:\Users\Gebruiker\Desktop\vue-project> npm install vue-router@4
added 2 packages, and audited 150 packages in 2s

45 packages are looking for funding
  run `npm fund` for details

found 0 vulnerabilities
PS C:\Users\Gebruiker\Desktop\vue-project> npm run dev

> vue-project@0.0.0 dev
> vite

Re-optimizing dependencies because lockfile has changed

VITE v6.0.2 ready in 708 ms
```

2. Update App.vue

- We created a new navigation component, `<MainNavigation />`
 - If you want to, you can add navigation directly to `App.vue`
- Notice the usage of `<RouterLink />` and `<RouterView />`

```
<!-- MainNavigation.vue -->
<li class="nav-item">
  <RouterLink to="/" class="nav-link" >Home</RouterLink>
</li>
<li class="nav-item">
  <RouterLink to="add" class="nav-link">Add Country</RouterLink>
</li>
<li class="nav-item">
  <RouterLink to="update" class="nav-link">Update Country</RouterLink>
</li>
```

```
<!-- App.vue -->
<template>
  <div id="app" class="container">
    <MainNavigation/>
    <RouterView />
  </div>
</template>
```

3. Create routes folder

- Create a routes folder, holding all router configuration
 - Not required, just for good code organization
 - Otherwise, define routes directly in router instance (see next)
- Create an index.js inside ../router
- Basic lay-out for routing table:

```
// router/index.js

// import the required components
import VacationPicker from "@/components/VacationPicker.vue";
...
export const routes = [
  // define all routes here....
  {
    path: '/',
    name: 'home',
    component: VacationPicker
  },
  ...
]
```

Tell Vue which
component to load
when a specific
route is requested

2a. Optional: lazy loading

- You can *lazy load* components, i.e. only load them once the user navigates to them
- Use the `import` statement for that
- Don't forget to remove the component from the list with `import` statements at the top of the file! (if applicable)
 - Otherwise it would still *always* be loaded, and not lazy loaded.

```
{  
  path: '/add',  
  name: 'add',  
  component: () => import('../components/AddCountry') // lazy loading  
},
```

Alternative w/ lazy loading

- Assign the lazy loaded component to a variable and use that variable in the routing table:

```
// alternative for lazy loading
const AddCountry = () => import('../components/AddCountry.vue')

export const routes = [
  // define all routes here....
  ...,
  {
    path: '/add',
    name: 'add',
    component: AddCountry, // lazy loaded component
  },
]
```

3. Create the router instance in main.js

```
// main.js
// 1. importing the router stuff
import {createRouter, createWebHistory} from "vue-router";
import {routes} from "@routes/index.js";

// 2. creating the router
const router = createRouter({
  history: createWebHistory(),
  routes
})

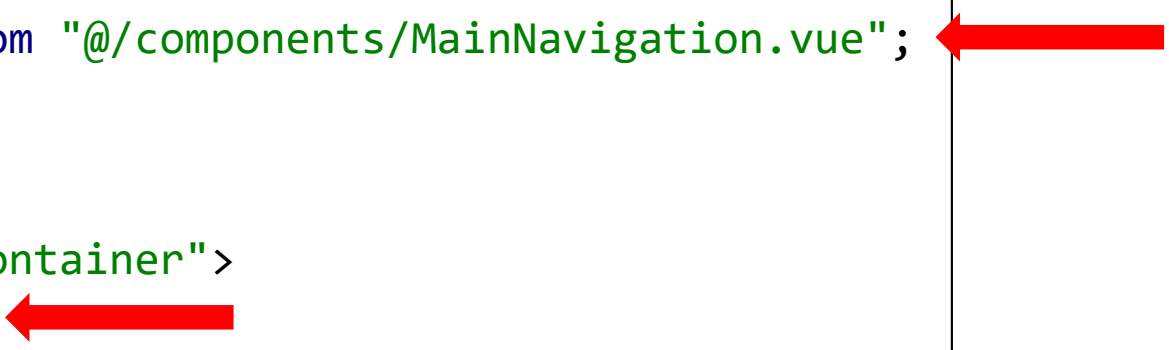
// 3. mounting the router to App
createApp(App)
  .use(router) // 'use' before 'mount'
  .mount('#app')
```


4. Tell Vue where to project routed content

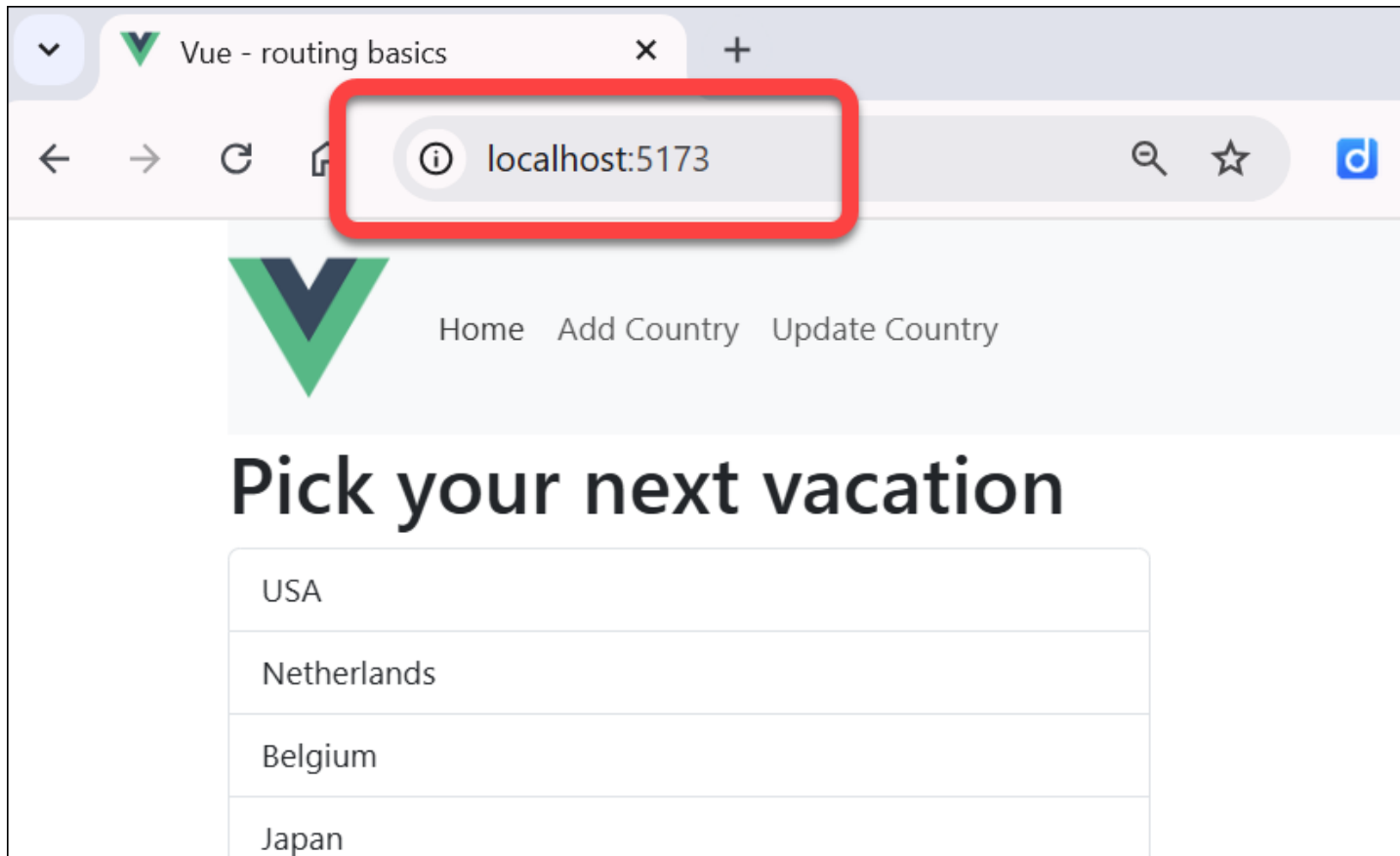
- Use `<router-view />` to tell Vue where to project the components
- You don't need the import for `VacationPicker` in `App.vue` anymore
 - We *do* need `MainNavigation`, b/c we placed it inside its own component

```
<!--App.vue-->
<script setup>
import MainNavigation from "@components/MainNavigation.vue";
</script>

<template>
  <div id="app" class="container">
    <MainNavigation/>
    <RouterView/>
  </div>
</template>
```



Result so far:

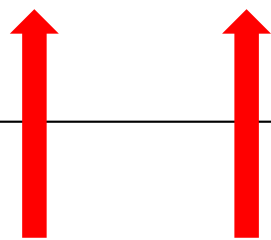


Everything should work now. Check this!

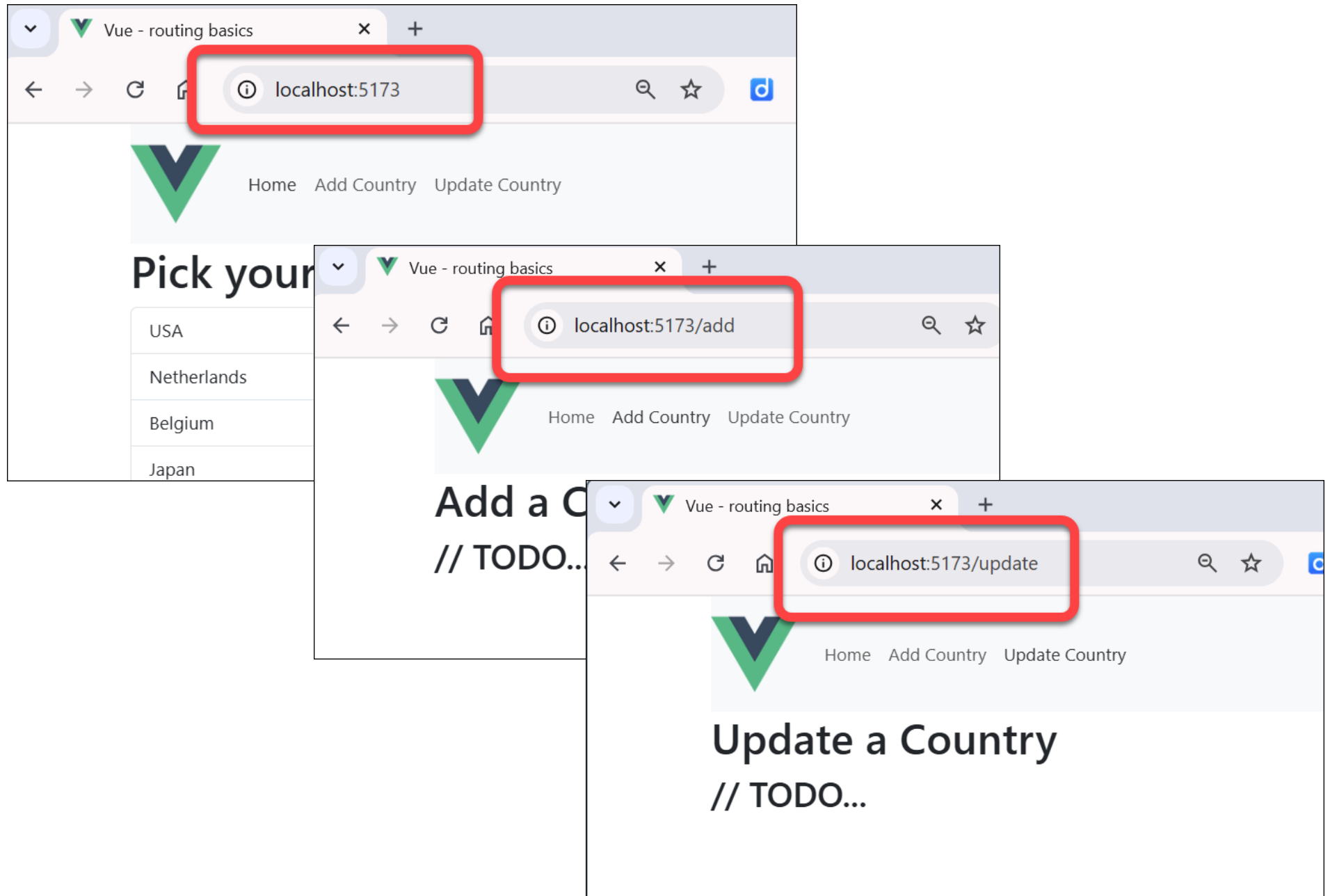
6. Recap: linking to routed pages

- We can route to pages by typing the route in the address bar.
 - But, nobody wants to do this!
 - We want to achieve this by clicking links!
- No more `` -tags!
- Use Vue-specific `<router-link to=“name-of-route”>` tags

```
...  
<li class="nav-item">  
  <router-link to="/" class="nav-link">Home</router-link>  
</li>  
<li class="nav-item">  
  <router-link to="add" class="nav-link">Add Country</router-link>  
</li>  
...
```



Result



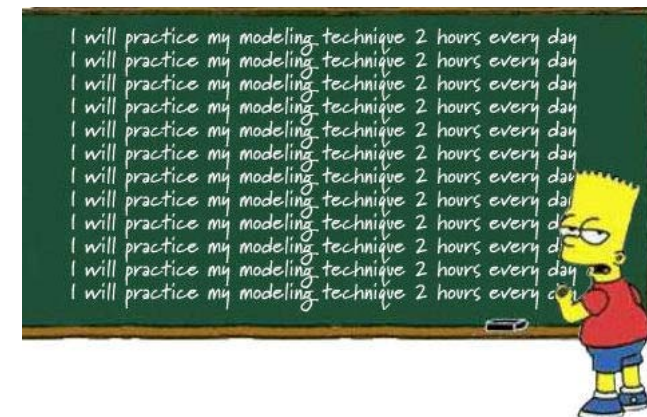
Alternative syntax – navigating by binding

- We also defined a `name` property for our routes
- Use the `name` to **navigate by binding** to `:to`
- By clicking the logo, we navigate to the home page (i.e. `VacationPicker` component)
- This is completely **optional**, but you see how you can also link to routes and bind via code.
- You can create **dynamic** routes this way, because `name` is a variable on your component

```
<router-link class="navbar-brand" :to="{name: 'home'}">  
    
</router-link>
```

Workshop

1. Add routing to your own application, using the steps in this module. **OR:**
2. Start a new project from scratch, using the CLI
 - Add routing via the prompt
 - Add a few components, route to them
 - Don't forget to link to the new routes/components, **OR:**
3. Generic example: **../300-routing-basics**
 - Add a new component
 - Add a route to that component
 - Update the `<MainNavigation />`
 - Optional: use lazy loading
 - Make sure it works





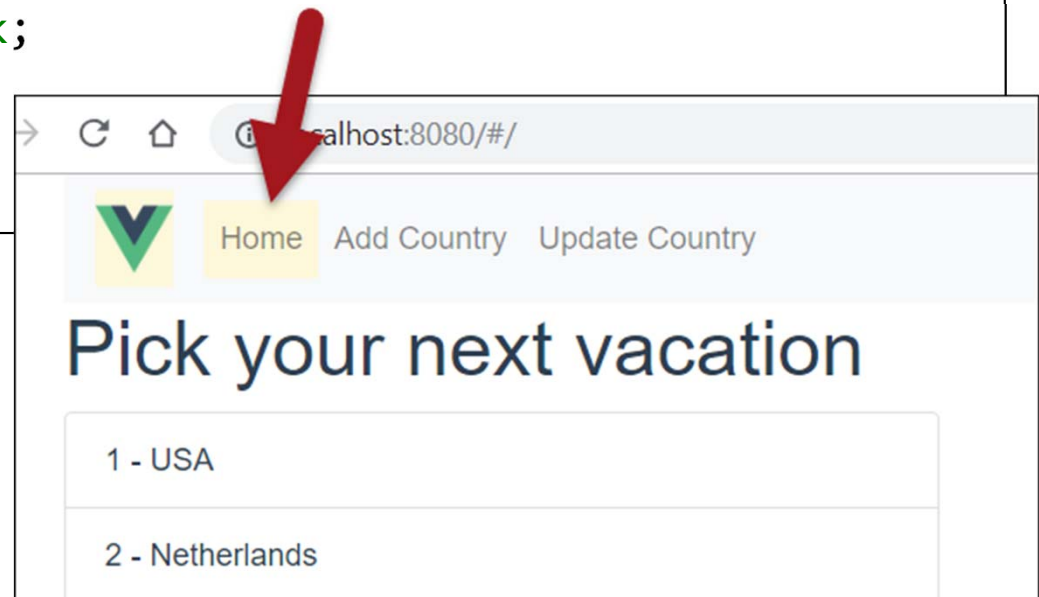
Styling the active link

Emphasizing the current route in the UI, based on a URL match

Special class names

- Vue assigns a `router-link-active` class to the current active route.
- You can write a CSS-class for that
- No need to update the HTML/UI. Vue assigns it automatically.
- Of course you can add any property you want/need

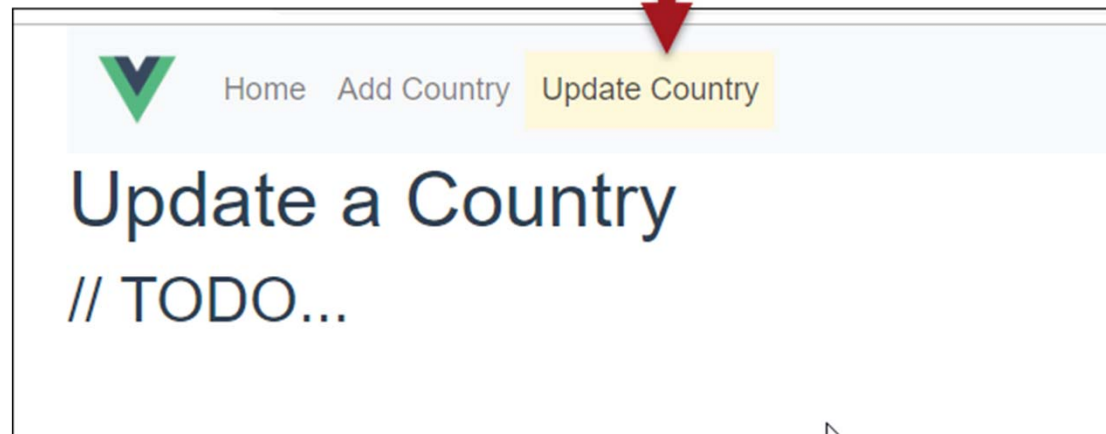
```
<style scoped>
  /*Automatic assignment of this class by Vue, based on router state*/
  .router-link-active{
    background-color: cornsilk;
    color: black;
  }
</style>
```



Also: use custom CSS with exact



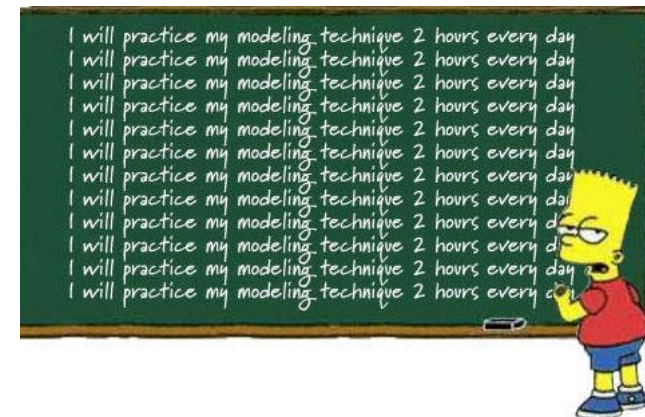
```
<style scoped>
  .router-link-exact-active {
    /* ...your styling ... */
  }
</style>
```



(Now only the logo still has a yellow background, b/c this links to the homepage, but IRL you will overcome this.)

Workshop

- Add a style to your active links, as described in this section.
 - Create a style for your active links
 - Add the style to the Navigation component
 - Use the `exact` keyword to highlight only the correct style
- Use:
 - 1. The `exact` keyword on your navigation links, **OR**
 - 2. The `router-link-exact-active` class in your CSS





Navigating from code

Using the router from JavaScript, instead of HTML

Navigating from code


- We're going to navigate to the `<CountryDetail />` component via code
- We'll use this page later on for route params
- First – create a route for it in `../routes/index.js`.

```
export default new Router({
  routes: [
    // define all routes here....
    ...
    {
      path: '/detail',
      name : 'detail',
      component: CountryDetail
    }
  ]
})
```

Navigate from code

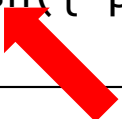
- Next, define a method that uses the router in the VacationPicker component
- With the Composition API, import `useRouter` instance and use its methods and properties

```
<li class="list-group-item"
  @click="showCountry(country)"
  v-for="country in data.countries" :key="country.id">
  ...
</li>
```



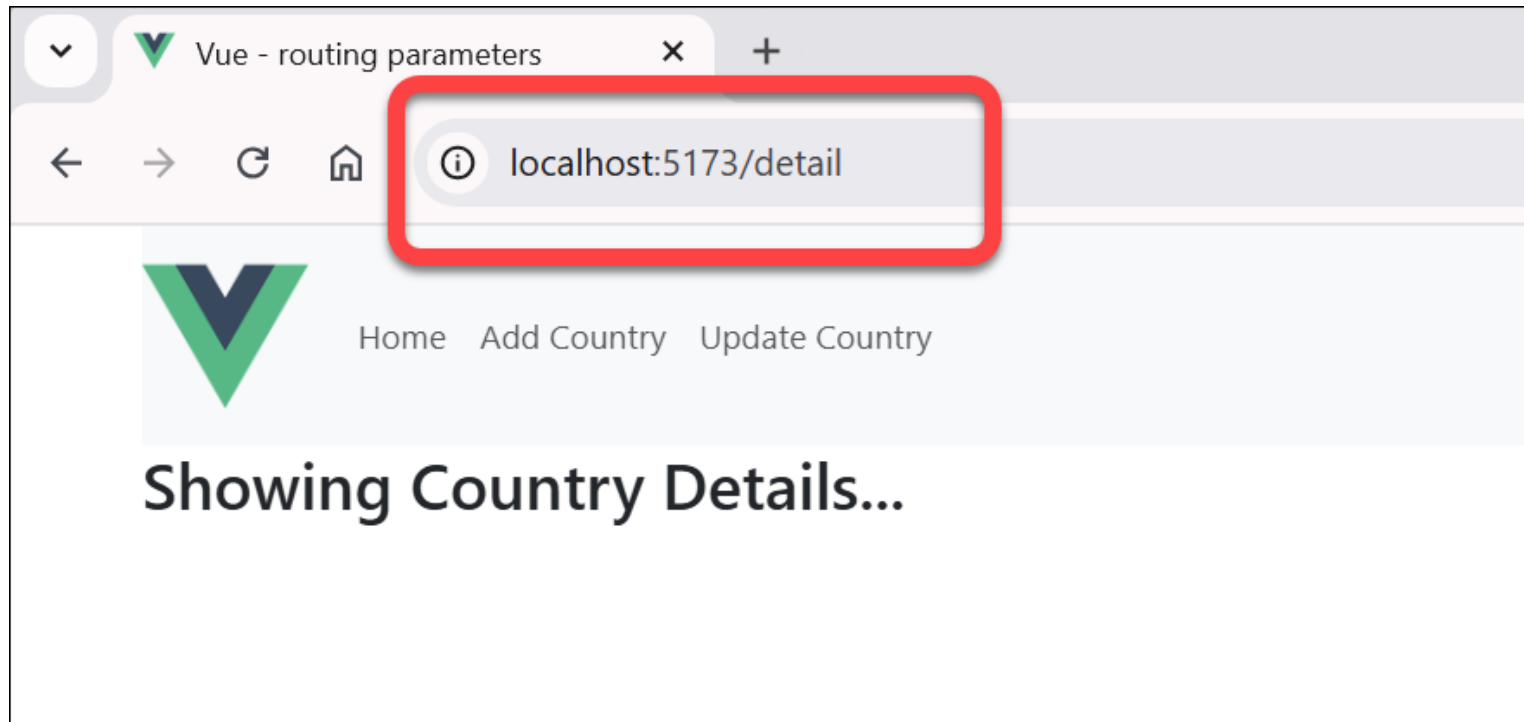
```
// Routing from code
import {useRouter} from "vue-router";
const router = useRouter()

const showCountry = (country) => {
  console.log('navigate to: ', country.name);
  router.push({ path: '/detail' }); // you can use 'name' if desired
}
```



Result

- Hardcoded text for now – we're going to solve that by using *route parameters*.





Using Route Parameters

Passing detail parameters to the next view

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So far, we're just displaying **hardcoded text** on the
Detail page.

The goal of course, is to **show data** from the passed in
country.

For that we use *Route Parameters*

1. Update the route

`../router/index.js` → add `/:id` and possible other parameters to the detail route

```
{  
  path: '/detail/:id/:name',  
  name : 'detail',  
  component: CountryDetail  
}
```

2. Update the `<CountryDetail />` component, to grab the parameters from the route. We can do this with the `useRouter()` composable

```
// using the current URL with useRoute().  
const route = useRoute();  
  
// convert string from URL to number  
const id = parseInt(route.params.id, 10);  
const name = route.params.name;
```

3. Update routerlink, to send the parameters

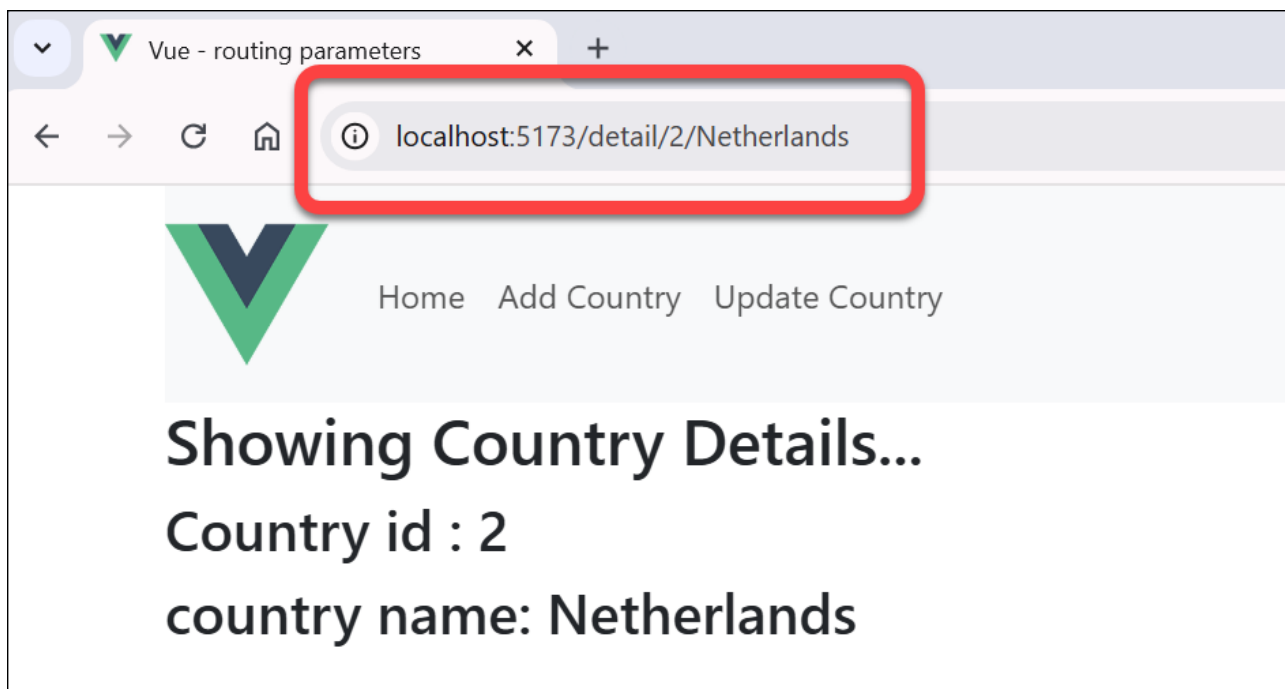
- Update the `<VacationPicker />` component to send the correct `id` and `name` in the URL
- Vue needs an object notation for that.
 - We **can't** just send a manually composed string like `'detail/1/Netherlands'`.

```
router.push({
  name: 'detail',
  params: {
    id: country.id,
    name: country.name,
  }
}); // When using 'params', you MUST use 'name'
```

4. Show the parameter in the UI

- Start simple – just show the passed parameter in the UI.

```
<h2>Showing Country Details...</h2>  
<h3>Country id : {{ id }}</h3>  
<h3>country name: {{ name }}</h3>
```



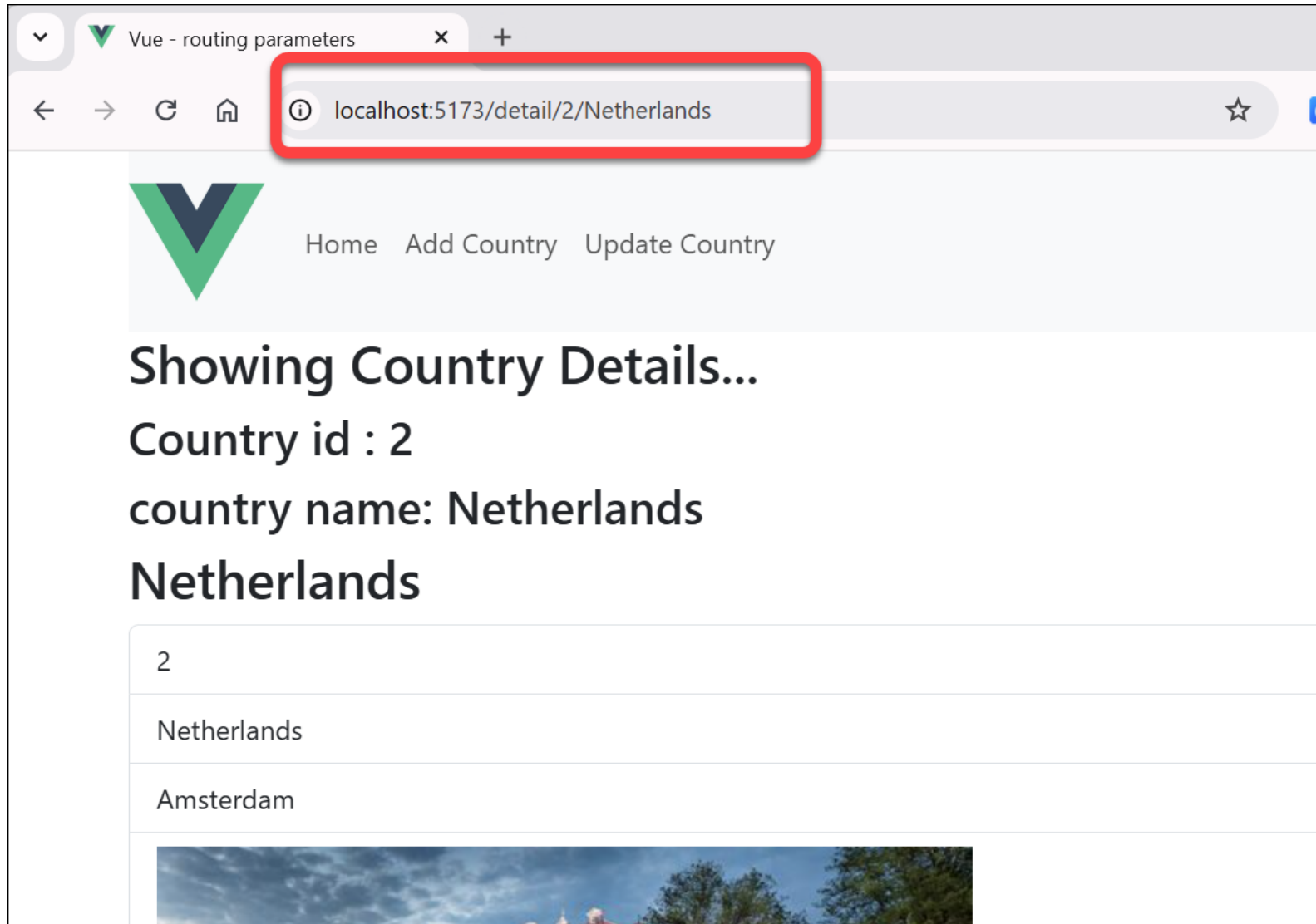
Show country data

- Grab the data (for now: local, to get the correct country)
 - We're going to fetch data from a **real API** later on!
- Look for the data based on the id

```
import countryData from "@data/CountryData.js";
```

```
// get correct country, based on route parameter  
const country = countryData.countries.find((country) => country.id === id);
```

Result



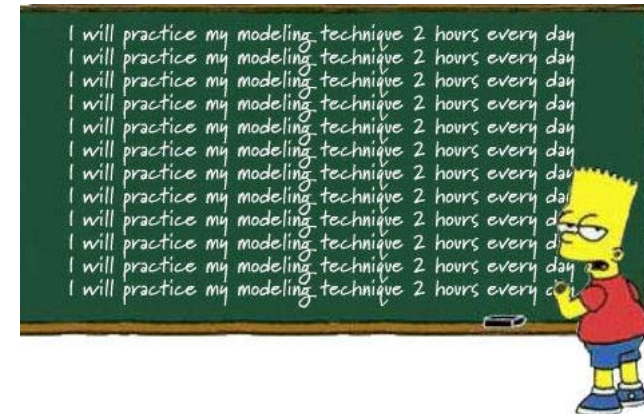
Remember:

*useRouter() gives access to the
(application wide) **router instance***

*useRoute() gives access to the
currently selected route inside a
component!*

Workshop

- Add routing parameters to your own application, using the steps in this module
 - Create a parametrized route, using `/ :<name>` notation
 - Use `useRoute()` and `route.params.*` in the detail component to fetch the route parameters
 - Push a parametrized object to the `router` when element is clicked
- Generic example: [../310-routing-parameters](#)

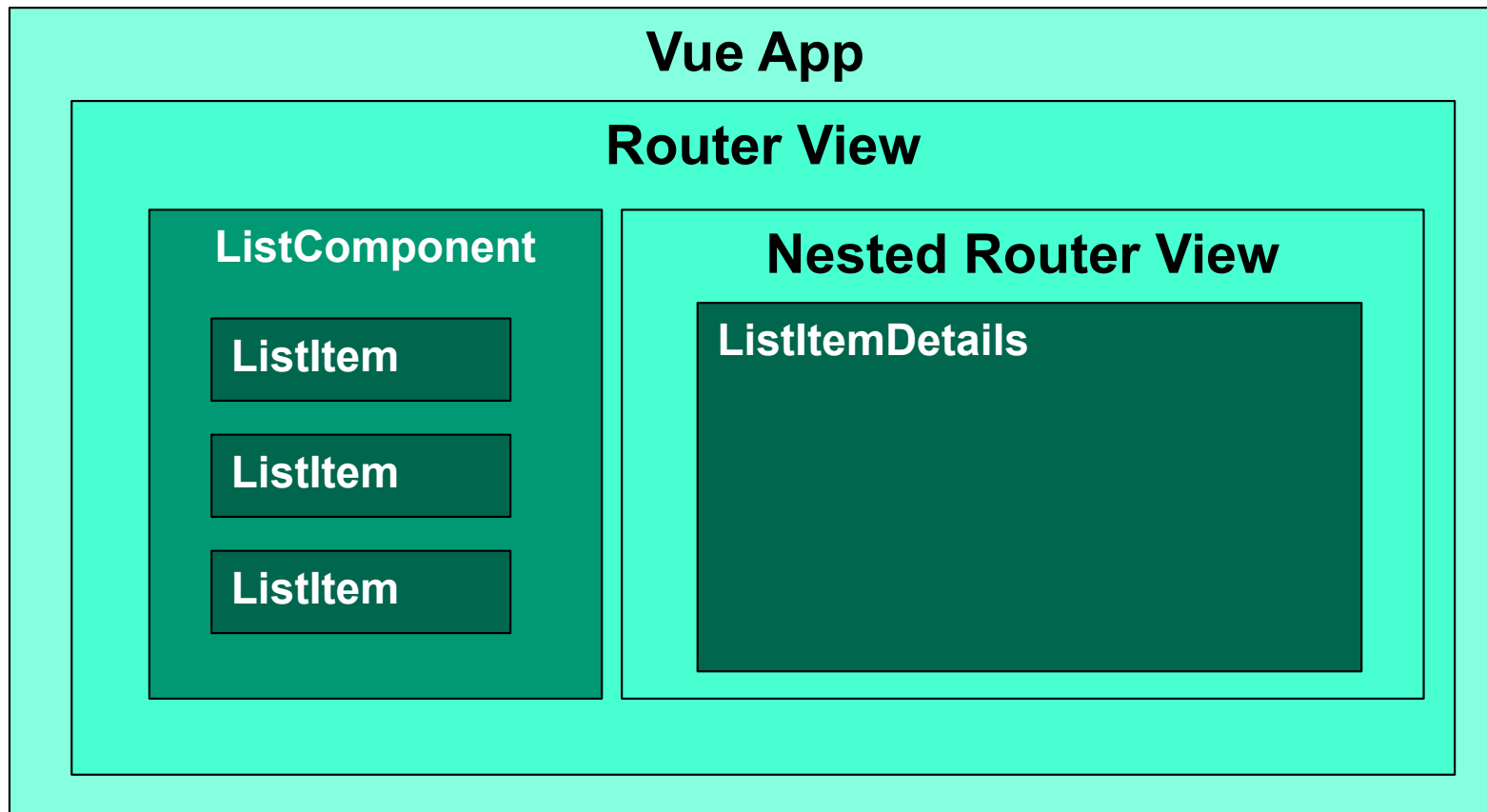




Nested Router Views

Enabling Children: views inside views

What are nested router views?



Show router links *inside* another router view, but still update the URL

Adding a nested router


- Add a new `<router-view>` to the component you want the nested routes to appear
 - In our case: `<VacationPicker />`
- Add an array of `childroutes` to the main routing table
 - ```
children: [
 { <child-router-path-1> }
 { <child-router-path-2> }
]
```
- Don't forget to remove other dynamic routes (if you have some, of course)

```

<div class="row">
 <div class="col-md-6">
 <h1>{{ header }}</h1>
 <ul class="list-group">
 <li class="list-group-item"
 @click="showCountry(country)"
 v-for="country in data.countries" :key="country.id">
 ...

 </div>
 <div class="col-md-6">
 <!--The Nested router view here-->
 <router-view></router-view>
 </div>
</div>

```




```

routes: [
 // define all routes here....
 {
 path: '/',
 name: 'home',
 component: VacationPicker,
 children: [
 {
 path: ':id',
 name: 'detail',
 component: CountryDetail
 },
]
 },
]

```

# Now it works...the first time

→ ↻ 🏠 ⓘ localhost:8081/2



[Home](#) [Add Country](#) [Update Country](#)

## Pick your next vacation

1 - USA

2 - Netherlands

3 - Belgium

4 - Japan

5 - Brazil


6 - Australia

## Country Details

1

USA

Washington



# Updating the nested view

- A nested view is (by default) *not* recreated once the route updates
  - Better for performance
  - You need to tell the component to watch for changes
  - Use the `watch()` function on the Detail component
- BUT: you *have* to use **reactive variables** then
  - Because we now want the **update the variable** inside the component when the route changes.

# Updating the nested view

- Set a watcher on `route.params.id`.
  - The component is updated on route change

```
// ref()'s for local variables
const id = ref(parseInt(route.params.id, 10));
const country = ref(countryData.countries.find((country) => country.id === id));

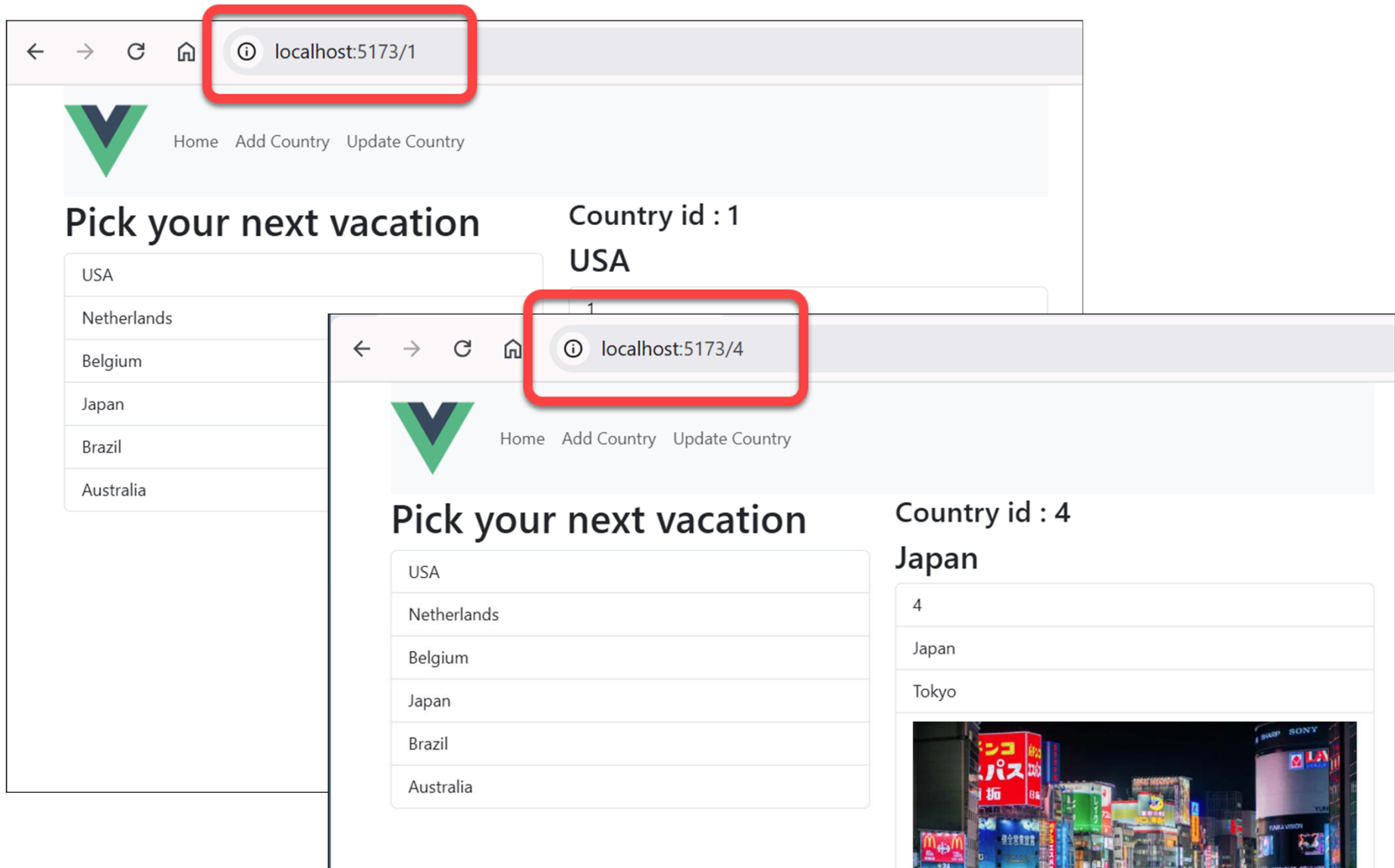
// Update country once the url/route changes
watch(
 () => route.params.id,
 (newId) =>{
 console.log('load newId:: ', newId);
 id.value = +newId; // shortcut for parseInt(newId, 10);
 country.value = countryData.countries.find((country) => country.id === id.value);
 }
)
```

# Update computed property imgUrl

- Because `country` is now a **reactive value**, wrapped in `ref()`, we need to update the `imgUrl`
  - Otherwise we can not load the correct image.

```
const imgUrl = computed(() => {
 // check if country exists and return the 'img' property from the 'ref()',
 // otherwise return an empty string
 return country.value
 ? new URL(`/src/assets/countries/${country.value.img}`, import.meta.url).href
 : '';
})
```

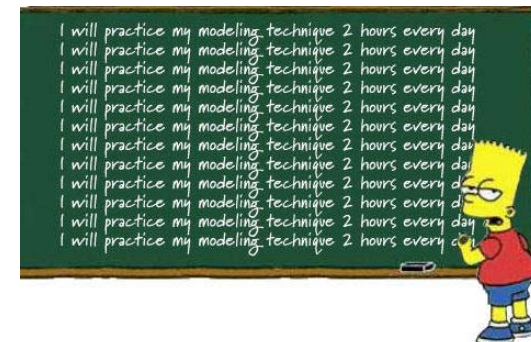




More info: <https://router.vuejs.org/guide/essentials/nested-routes.html>

# Workshop

- Use your own application, or start from `../310-route-parameters` (the *previous* example)
- Add a nested `<router-view>`, as shown in the previous slides
  - If a country is selected, the view is updated in the same page.
  - Update the application, so that not only the `id` is shown in the URL, but also the country name.
  - Optional – update the master view, so that no `@click` event handler is used, but dynamic binding on the `<router-link :to="...">` parameter
- Generic example: `../320-nested-routing`





# Guarding Routes

Globally using guards to prevent users from entering a specific route, or updating other stuff

# Before each route change

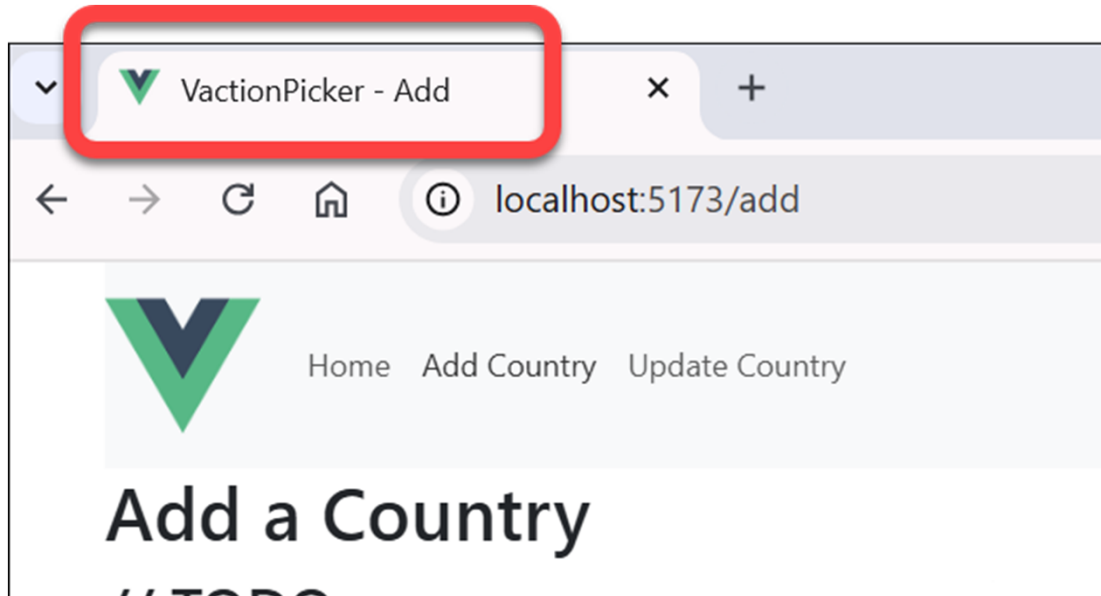
You can do different things before each route change.

For instance (this is global!):

```
router.beforeEach((to, from, next) => {
 // 1. Do something globally BEFORE entering a route, for instance setting the page title
 // Make sure to have a global .env file with a key and title.
 // Also see routes/index.js for the meta-information on the title per component
 const title = `${import.meta.env.VITE_APP_TITLE} - ${to.meta.title}`
 document.title = title || import.meta.env.VITE_APP_TITLE; // Fallback to app title;
 next(); // Don't forget to call next() to allow navigation

 // 2. Authenticate a user before entering a route
 // ...call authentication process....
 // return true | false, based on auth.
})
```

Bottomline: use `router.beforeEach(to, from, next)`



More info: Router Navigation Guards

<https://router.vuejs.org/guide/advanced/navigation-guards.html>

## Param/query changes:

*"params or query changes **won't trigger** enter/leave navigation guards. You can either watch the route object to react to those changes, or use the `beforeRouteUpdate` in-component guard"*

# Local route guards

- Not guarding all global routes, but on a per-route base
- Use the `router` configuration object:

## Per-Route Guard

You can define `beforeEnter` guards directly on a route's configuration object:

```
const routes = [
 {
 path: '/users/:id',
 component: UserDetails,
 beforeEnter: (to, from) => {
 // reject the navigation
 return false
 },
 },
],
]
```

js

# More on Navigation Guards

The screenshot shows the Vue Router documentation page for Navigation Guards. The browser address bar displays `router.vuejs.org/guide/advanced/navigation-guards.html`. The left sidebar contains a navigation menu with sections: Setup, Essentials, and Advanced. The 'Advanced' section is highlighted with a red box, and 'Navigation guards' is the selected item. The main content area has a dark theme and includes a search bar, navigation links (Guide, API, v4.x, Links), and a 'Watch a free video lesson on Vue School' button. The text explains that navigation guards are used to guard navigations by redirecting or canceling them. A code block shows how to register global before guards using `router.beforeEach`.

**Vue Router**

Search  Ctrl K

Guide API v4.x Links ...

On this page >

## Navigation Guards

[Watch a free video lesson on Vue School](#)

As the name suggests, the navigation guards provided by Vue router are primarily used to guard navigations either by redirecting it or canceling it. There are a number of ways to hook into the route navigation process: globally, per-route, or in-component.

### Global Before Guards

You can register global before guards using `router.beforeEach` :

```
const router = createRouter({ ... })

router.beforeEach((to, from) => {
 // ...
 // explicitly return false to cancel the navigation
 return false
})
```

<https://router.vuejs.org/guide/advanced/navigation-guards.html>



# Checkpoint

- You know how to add routing to a project
- You can create a routing table in an `index.js`, or `router.js`
- You can use `<router-view>` and `<router-link>`
- You can add styles and conditional styles to routes
- You know how to navigate from code, by using `router.push(...)`
- You can use route parameters (`/ :<some-name>`) to create dynamic routes
- You know how to enable HTML5 history mode on the router
- You are able to use nested router views