# Notes on Travel App Competition

* **TripAdvisor**
  + Large crowd-sourcing
    - Rating
    - Reviews
    - Ranking
  + Many categories:
    - Hotels
    - Flights
    - Vacation Rentals
    - Restaurants
    - Things to do
    - Best of 2017
    - More…
  + Integrated with Google Maps
  + Photos
  + Free
  + Issues with uploading reviews + photos using phone
    - Traveler Photos
    - Professional Photos
    - Search “Walk…Walking Path…Walking Trail”
      * Provides suggested area w/ points of interests
      * No recommended walking paths
    - Critiques – Google App store:
    - TERRIBLE! Horrible! Bullshit app! Not offline, addresses of "attractions" can not be copied to a REAL app. Most attractions (italy) missing. Public transport unavailable. Walking routes non exists. Only advises hotels. Nothing less, nothing more.
    - I use this when planning a trip to get ideas and sometimes booking activities. While overseas I use it to navigate and get up to date news. I appreciate the help from people who are not affiliated with any of the places. You get a broad range of ideas and tips. I always try to post as many reviews as possible to "pay it forward " in thanks for the info provided to me, which has been so wonderful.
    - “Started out working fine. Lately wont let me upload photos to my reviews. Wont let me view average, poor, and terrible reviews unless they are ticked off with good or very good. Makes everyone a judge of food when based on a personal experience.”
* **Google Trips**
  + Automatically maps out half day or full day with suggestions for things to see and do
  + Pulls info from Gmail
    - Flight itineraries
    - Hotel reservations
    - Airbnb reservations
    - Rental car
    - Restaurant reservations
    - No edit capabilities – cannot manually add hotel/ flights
    - Only tied to Gmail and no other email accounts
    - Buggy
  + Day plan options:
    - Morning
    - Afternoon
    - All day
  + Nearby attractions
    - Popular attractions
    - Reviews and ratings
  + Things to Docategories:
    - Top Spots
    - Indoors
    - Outdoors
  + Offline Access
  + Free
  + Critiques – Google App store:
    - A good start, but this product has nothing on Kayak or Trip Advisor (who both automatically scan emails to add to trips). The biggest missing item is the ability to be able to merge trips, or edit trip details properly. Most of the 'trips' on my account are actually different legs of the same trip.
    - First, i want to be able to manually edit out my entire trip planning in details. Especially, the reservations of hotels and etc (because the app doesn't pick it up from my gmail), the destinations from my bookmark and special events that unavailable in google trips. Second, i want to be able to share it with my travelling partner. Best, if they doesn't have to download the app too. Third, please create confirmation question of the offline button.
    - It is a Unlike other trips like Checktrip, Tripit, Kayak, which work kinda flawlessly when booked from their associate websites, Google trips is a hit and miss game. The entire trip almost never gets imported fully and one cannot even edit is manually like some of the apps. Also the visual representation is kinda boring. Some of the apps feature airline and hotel logos, which makes it very appealing to look at and easy to identify, especially when you are in a hurry. As of date, this is more of a holiday planning app and less of a trip planning app. Hoping to see a Flight Check In button in this app in the near future
    - food? 3 michelin star restaurants getting terrible reviews? Pfff... They would not have stars if they were so terrible. More likely it is that the reviewers palette is poor and simple and not understanding what their eating. But still they judge
* **Walc**
  + Get directions based on what you see
  + First navigation app built by walkers for walkers
  + Community driven app
  + Uses businesses and landmarks for turn by turn navigation
  + Future features 🡪 Waze-like 🡪 share hazards, shortcuts, pro-tips and others
  + Critiques – Google App store:
    - Terrible! I try to orient myself in Downtown Seattle, with all the new tall skyscrapers going up, I get lost easily. I've tried using the app several times, it has made me go down dangerous alleys, directed me to take a longer route, has been up to 8 blocks off from my destination, or taken me in a completely wrong direction. Would not use if lost, strangers on the street are more reliable.
    - Perfect for directionally challenged people Google maps will tell you to walk in a direction like east or west, but if I'm traveling to a new city or walk out of the metro and have not oriented myself yet, I love the easy, straightforward guidance this app provides!!!
    - It's works pretty good for walking. Need to be able to edit. It wants me to walk along a Freeway feeder road to get to Kroger, that doesn't have a sidewalk. It's a great start.
    - Garbage This app is utter garbage. It only works while connected to wifi. It doesn't update your progress without you telling it to. If I could rate it lower I would. Don't waste your time.
* **Field Trip**
  + Runs in background of phone
  + Get close to something interesting 🡪 card pops with location info
  + No click required
  + Headset or Bluetooth 🡪 reads info to you
  + Select different types of feeds: history, places to eat, stores, etc.
  + Info imported from outside specialists and experts such as Arcadia, TimeOut, Thrillest, Zagat, etc.
  + Emphasis on local, off beaten path, and obscure history
  + Places and experiences under following categories:
    - Architecture
    - Historic places and events
    - Lifestyle
    - Offers & Deals
    - Food Drinks & Fun
    - Movie Locations
    - Outdoor Art
    - Obscure Places of Interest
  + Three different modes to set frequency of notifications
  + Detects when you’re driving and automatically “talks” about interesting places and experience around you.
  + Mark your favorite story, restaurant, etc.
  + Capture memory and share through email, Google+, Twitter, and Facebook
  + Finding recent discoveries in “recent” section
  + Covers large area
  + Critiques – Google App store:
    - Okay App is a great idea, but doesn't seem to actually do much. Despite there being dozens of interesting food places in my town, the closest one it shows is almost 50 miles away. There are dozens of interesting historical places and sites with neat architecture in my city, none of which are listed. Not sure if this is something that's being worked on, but for right now I don't see a point in using this app.
    - Loved it with one fatal flaw I really really love this app and I had it on my old phone perfect ten. But after installing on my new phone it is worthless. I understand the need to make money but I don't want notifications saying business are near by. I know i can select another category but I want all the categories except shopping. Make them tic boxes instead of all or nothing choices and this app is an eleven out of ten. Thanks for all your hard work nitanic labs. I love all that you do.
    - I love to learn history, but I live in a big city and was a little overwhelmed with so much information. It would help if it could stop the repeats. Also, I think it's important to add the ability to zoom in on those very small photos and increase the size of the font a little. I really enjoyed the app. It's a wonderful learning tool. Unfortunately, I just don't have the time.
    - Must Have Location Turned On This didn't show anything but museums if I used the manually entered location. Once I turned on location finder on my phone, it started working. It seems to be missing a few restaurants and drinking establishments or places for fun in Plano and the Dallas Metroplex. But, I think the app is just passing what it gets from the Internet from Google and other places it uses. This would be useful as a general locator of these places for a new visitor to the area. I will start using it and update my review.
    - fun, but not always the most current info It's a fun app because it just runs and notifies you when you're near something interesting. Of course, you can pull it up and search manually if you like. you can filter out things you are not interested in. My only issue is that a lot of the things it recommends pull up articles from several years ago. This is important to me as a I live in an area that has seen a lot of growth and development just the last couple years, so current information would make this more useful.
    - I have to agree with Melissa Jensen on this. It's a great idea, but not fully organized yet. There are plenty of locations not mentioned, and there are plenty of junk locations that are there instead. Also, they've partnered with a number of different web sites to bring this information to their app. Great. Why can't I pick one of the partners and only view theirs? For example one partner is Food Network. Why can't I view only Food Network's cards? Also, if I'm on blue tooth, I shouldn't have to tap read aloud. If I have a blue tooth it should automatically read it. According to the help page, it says I have to tap it. No. I'm really a bit
    - Not enough in my area I am going to be moving to Hervey Bay soon, and I checked the area I am moving to, however there is apparently only one thing to do in the area, and that is whale watching. Surely there must be more than just that, as the area is a major tourist destination which I agree is famous for whale watching, however it is also the gateway to Fraser Island and the southernmost point of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park, which is renowned across the world as a major tourist attraction.
  + Information overload
* **Cool Cousin**
  + Connect with a “Cousin” at destination
    - Someone you find interesting and relate with
    - Get local knowledge and recommendations
  + As a Traveler:
    - View recommendations on list or map
    - Access to locals’ city guidebook
    - Message local for personalized advice and recommendations
    - Add places you want to visit on your wish list
    - Collaborate with your friends for their city recommendations
    - Explore spot with location sensitive maps
    - See opening hours, addresses, websites and directions to each spot
    - Request an Uber through the app directly to your selected destination
  + As a Cousin
    - Share love of hometown
    - Curate your favorite local businesses and things to do in your city
    - Share your knowledge in style with friends, family and visitors
    - Connect with like-minded internationals who are thirsty for your insight
    - Join a community of young and fabulous professional from around the world
    - Make sure visitors don’t think your hometown is boring
  + Added features:
    - Drop a pin on your map to add and save your own spots. Basically, BYOS to the party; but only if you want to.
    - Collect spots from friends - No need to write notes and send yourself emails. Grant your friends access to your CC map to add their recommendations for the city.
    - "Points of Interest" - Never miss the Eiffel Tower again, now that all city landmarks are marked clearly on your map.
    - Updated "Around Me" feature - More precision and beauty have never hurt anyone.
  + Cover large area
  + Free
  + iOS only, Android in development
  + Twitter – 3,194 followers
* Triposo
  + Free
  + Provides electronic version of travel guide books
  + Provides list of walking tours and price 🡪 does not show preview of path in map
  + “Create Path” feature
    - Select search distance 🡪 auto generates points of interests and routes
      * Points of interests and routes cannot be edited directly by user
      * To make changes, select new search distance 🡪 new route and points of interests automatically generated
    - Paths are computer generated from Triposo database
  + Downloadable offline guides
    - Reports of glitches and downloaded guides being lost after restarting device
  + Offers robust information and features:
    - Book hotels
    - Tours
    - Activities
    - Transportation
  + Takes time to process heavy data
    - Reports of crashes
  + Reviews from Google Apps store
    - Good app but... Really good for the information on locations but I spent hours! downloading the areas then when returning to the app they had all deleted! Frustrating! This app would be no use to me if this continues to happen.
    - Good guides, but loses them when reboot Great guides, and fantastic that you can have them offline, BUT switching the tablet off and on again deletes the offline guides. Please fix then it will be 5 stars. (Hudl2)
    - Downloaded city gone Downloaded city data are gone after restarting app. Only got it to work after signing up for an account
    - Unfortunately, Triposo has stopped That's all I get when I open the app. Freshly installed and reinstalled and reinstalled and reinstalled and...