

# Project Reflection

**Project Name:** Austin Tour Guide

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**Project URL:** <http://flip3.engr.oregonstate.edu:3737>

## Website Design:

The design of the website was pretty simple. I wanted to create a tourism guide for the city of Austin. I wanted things to be cleanly laid out, so I relied on the bootstrap library to cleanup the menus and the content cards. Admittedly, I probably over implemented the bootstrap jumbotron feature, but I just loved how it allowed me the ability to present different restaurants and venues as cards that were clearly defined and that hovered over the background. Using the jumbotron cards also made it easier to template everything as objects in handlebars.

## Website Techniques & New Skills:

Initially I was hard coding all of my HTML and CSS files but during the last week of the project, I decided to implement Handlebars, Express, and Node.js into my work. As mentioned above, using handlebars allowed me to template the website so that each new item could just be created as an object, added to an array, and processed on each page. I also liked using Node JS and Express to manage routing on the Flip Server. I'm really glad I decided to use handlebars because it forced me to learn more beyond just HTML and CSS. I also used some JavaScript to manipulate the DOM and control my Navigation menu dynamically, dependent on the page that had been loaded.

## Outside Sources:

**Bootstrap:** Used mostly for the image carousel and to layout a presentable navigation bar.

**Font Awesome:** Used for all the web icons throughout the website (like the camera).

**Google Images:** Used for all the high quality images throughout the site.

**Google Fonts:** Used to incorporate the Roboto font family as the default page font.

## Time and Difficulty:

Ultimately, the website took me awhile to build (at least 24 - 34 hours total). I got caught up in trying to design everything before actually implementing all of the requirements. I also wanted to include way too much initially and had to throttle back to actually get everything completed. I had started building an API for BandsInTown to display live event feeds but this turned out to be time consuming. The most difficult part was styling the content with CSS because I became obsessive over every detail. I plan to continue working on the website even after the course ends. I want to add more features and maybe get that API working.