

GetYourGuide Virtual Products

A Design initiative for GetYourGuide's Search and Discovery experience.



GetYourGuide

GetYourGuide is a privately held global company headquartered in Berlin, Germany that operates an online marketplace and internet booking engine accessible via website and mobile.

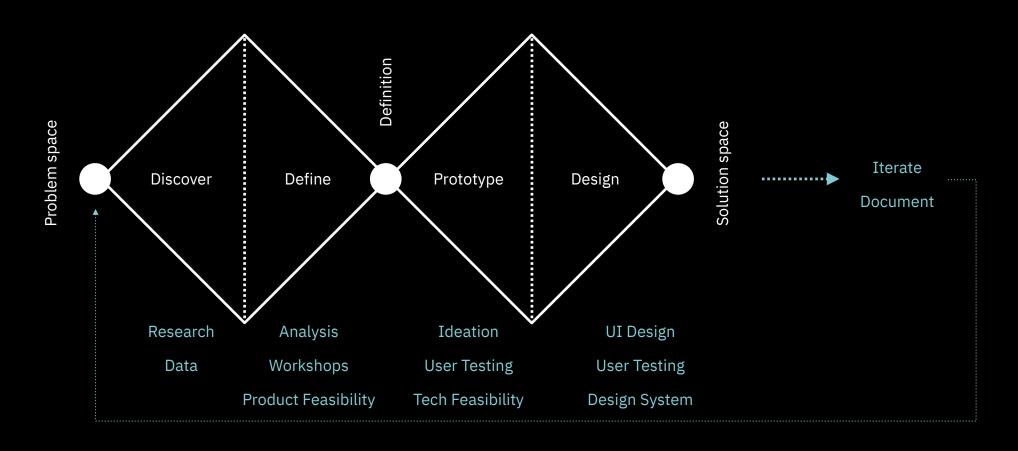
Currently, I'm the lead product designer responsible for the Search and Discovery experience in all platforms (desktop, mobile web, and native apps).

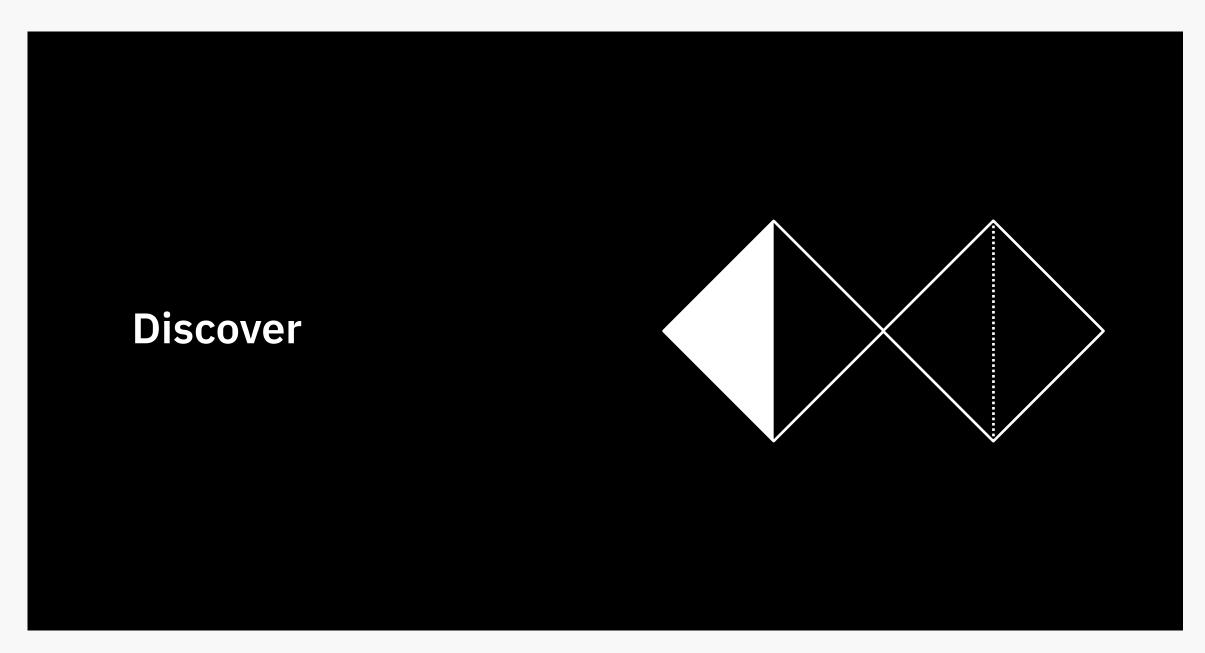
My role in this initiative and projects

I'm the product design lead for the Search and Discovery experience. At GYG, the Search and Discovery experience consists of everything that happens throughout the customer journey in the platform. Currently, the Search and Discovery initiative has 3 mission teams: Search, Landing Pages, and Detail Pages. Each mission team owns a step/page of the user journey, and I help these mission teams to design user-centred, consistent, and desirable solutions.

This initiative is about helping our users to discover more available options on the activities they're looking for, so they can book what they want at the time they want. The key aspect of this initiative was the aggregation of all tour suppliers in order to increase the availability of specific activities.

Design Process



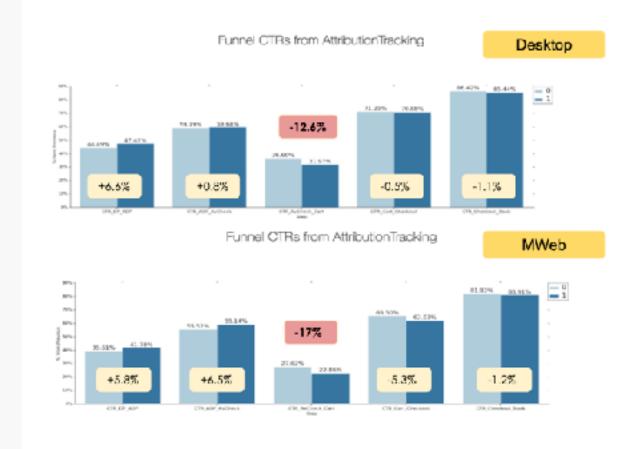


Framing the right problem

After extensive research, we've found out that our customers care about three things:

1) simplicity, 2) availability, and 3) inspiration.

- → **Simplicity**: Helps me to easily find what I want
- Travellers know that they want to visit a particular POI
- They want to book an entry ticket (and perhaps a tour) with minimal thought and friction
- → Availability: What I want, when I want it
- Travellers want to visit a POI at particular times to accommodate their schedule, and/or to avoid crowds
- Travellers have specific needs related to date, language, and many other options
- → **Inspiration**: Inspires me to engage in incredible travel experiences



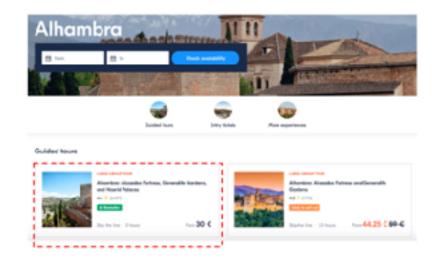
Problem

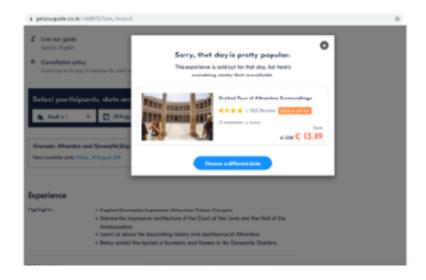
High customer drop-off after availability check.

- 1. Control and the opportunity to explore more options were not available.
- 2. Activities were recommended before knowing the customer's preferred dates and language.
- 3. The number of activities for users were restricted.

Variation	Path Type	To next step	To ADP	To Avail Check	To Add to Cart	Path CR
Status Quo (SQ)	ADP		26.9%	54.8%	33.6%	11.1%
Status Quo (SQ)	Structured Search	34.4%	70.3%	68.6%	40.2%	12.3%
Status Quo (SQ)	Text Search	1.2%	63.2%	56.2%	46.8%	13.3%
Persuasion Labels (PL)	ADP		44.3%	60.6%	31.9%	11.7%
Persuasion Labels (PL)	Experience Page	9.7%	70.3%	64.1%	36.8%	10.4%
Persuasion Labels (PL)	Text Search	1.9%	65.0%	65.1%	44.0%	13.3%
Diff PL vs. SQ	ADP		65%	11%	-5%	5%
Diff PL vs. 5Q	Experience Page	-72%	0%	-6%	-8%	-15%
Diff PL vs. SQ	Text Search	54%	3%	16%	-6%	0%

1. Previous experiments showed that giving customers less control on the Landing Pages reduced conversions



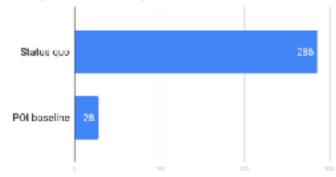


2. We recommend a Detail Page to user before we know the customer's dates or language preferences

Dates and Language are an important factor for selecting tour, and there is a higher proportion of "no availability" results if users don't select Dates and Language before, as they will land in a detail page with an unknown availability.

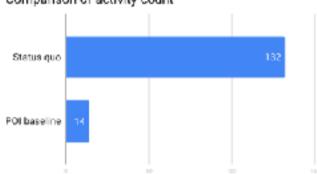
Vatican

Comparison of activity count



Alhambra

Comparison of activity count



3. We restrict the number of activities for users

This was a big experiment GYG has done in the past.

Unfortunately, it caused several problems on the search process. The experiment was a new "Discovery page" with a small group of activities.

Looking through multiple ADPs is...

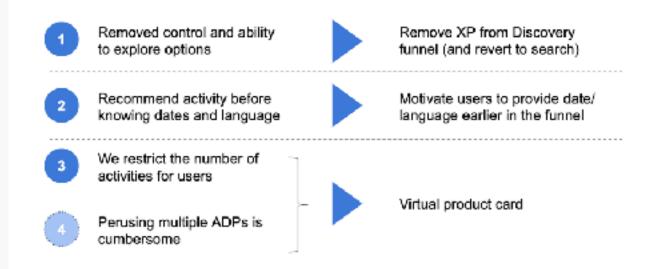
Common: median converted visitor checks 3 ADPs before deciding to convert (data from 2018). Each backtrack reduces CR by a factor of 3.

Time-consuming: users <u>need to open ADPs</u> to understand differences between activities

Difficult to understand differences: the lack of structured data on ADPs makes it <u>difficult</u> to directly compare activities side-by-side

Especially cumbersome on mobile: users can't see more than one ADP at the same time

4. Another problem (unrelated to availability): Reading multiple Detail Pages is cumbersome



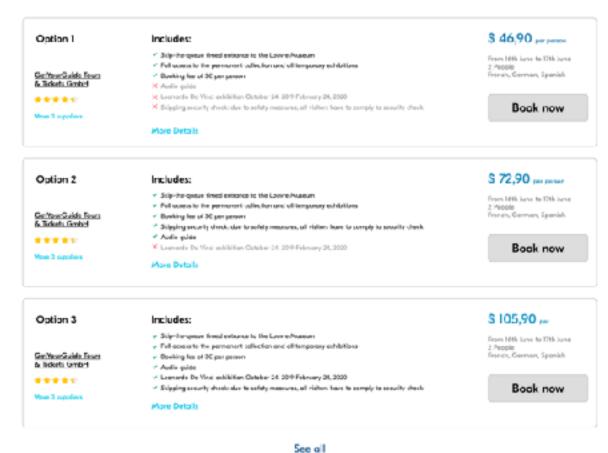
How might we tackle those problems?

Impact

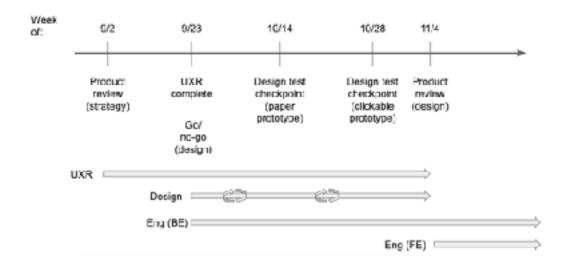
Option	Customer experience	Company	Cost	
Improved search/ filter experience on landing page (w/ existing activity IDs)	Med - Improves simplicity, but doesn't remove duplicates - May still require users to visit multiple ADPs	Low - Does not deliver any particular benefit to company beyond UX improvement	Med - Work required to improve catalog, filters UX, and search relevance	
Make experiences the "collections" and show activities in each "collection"	Low - Doesn't remove duplicates, requires visits to multiple ADPs, could result in many "collections"	Low - Does not deliver any particular benefit to company beyond UX improvement	Low - Small lift to change the hierarchy on the landing page	
Virtual products	High - Improves simplicity, removes duplicates - Doesn't require user to visit multiple ADPs	High - Reduces incentive for suppliers to "game the system," create different activity IDs	High - Map activity IDs to experiences, design virtual product page UX - Work required for 1st option (catalog, filters UX, etc.)	

Impact X Cost matrix (Done by the Product team to help the Design team get clarity).

Among the three options, virtual products have the highest impact, but also the highest cost

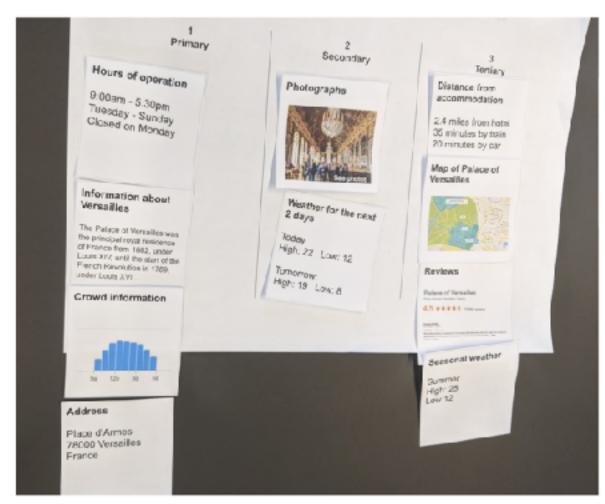


Availability: Virtual product page aggregates the availability from multiple suppliers.



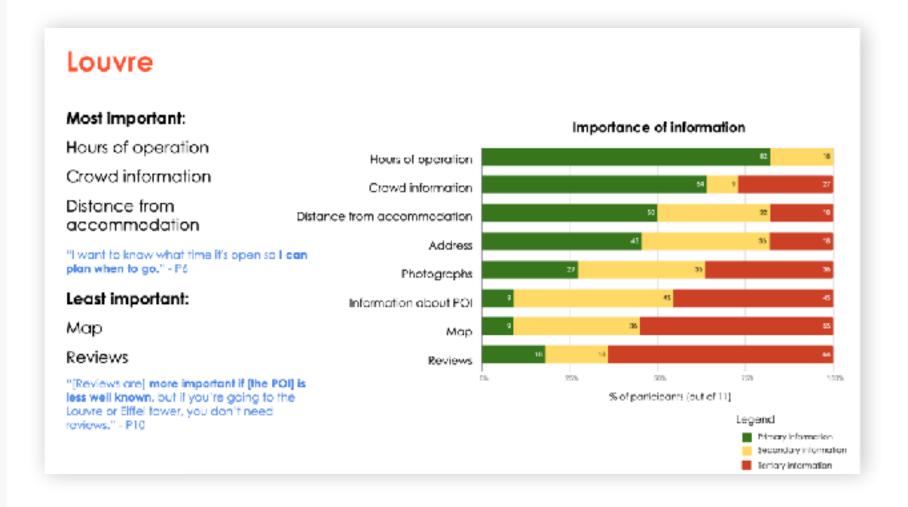
Setting Schedules and Goals



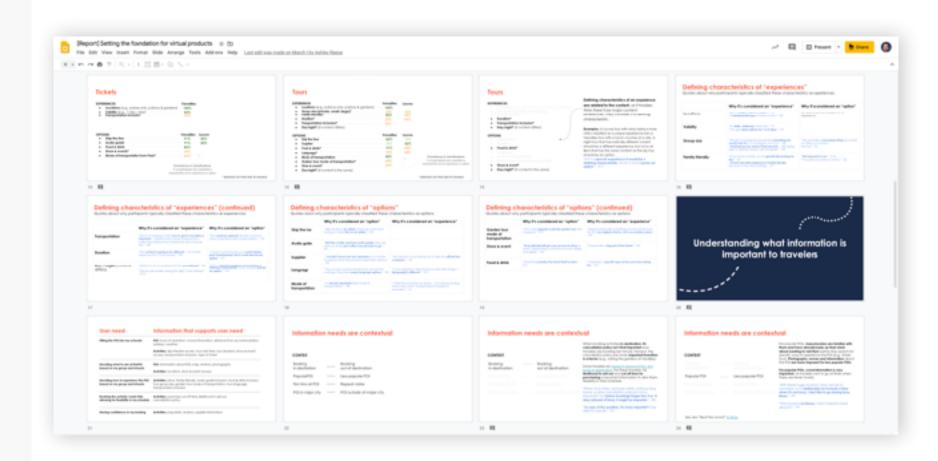


An example of a participant sorting information about the Palace of Versailles

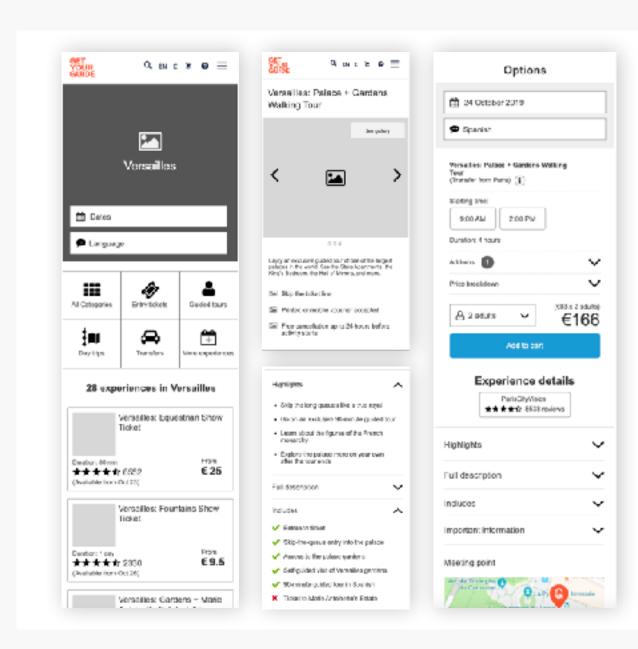
Card sorting



Results



Results

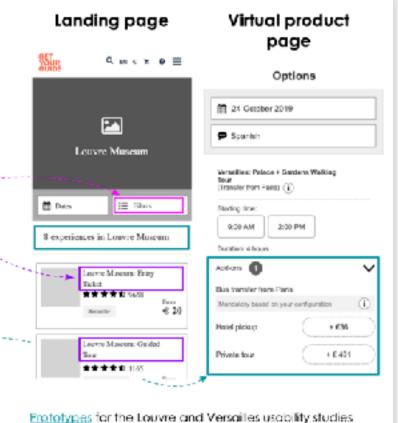


Based on the insights of this exploratory research, we've designed the first to-betested prototype.

What we tested

In both prototypes, we tested the following:

- Filters: we added new filters on the landing page.
- Titles: we simplified the titles and made the structure consistent.
- Curation: we removed similar activities from the landing and grouped them together on virtual product pages. To show the breadth of inventory, we also updated the booking assistant with filters and add-ons.

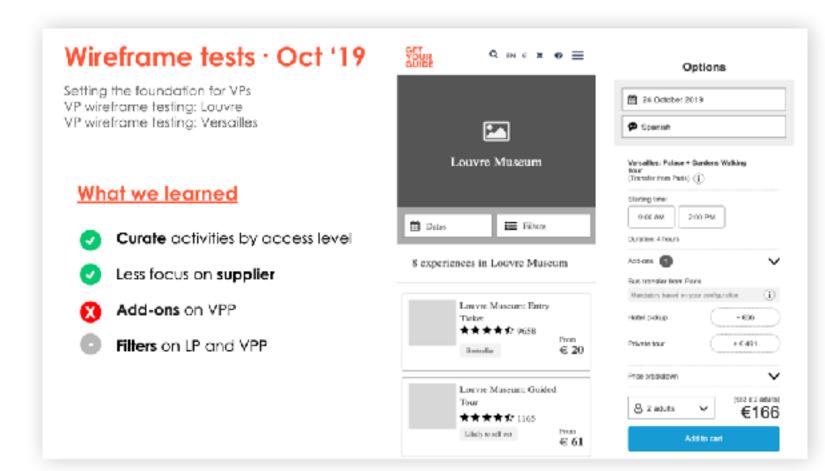


Rational and UX Writing logic

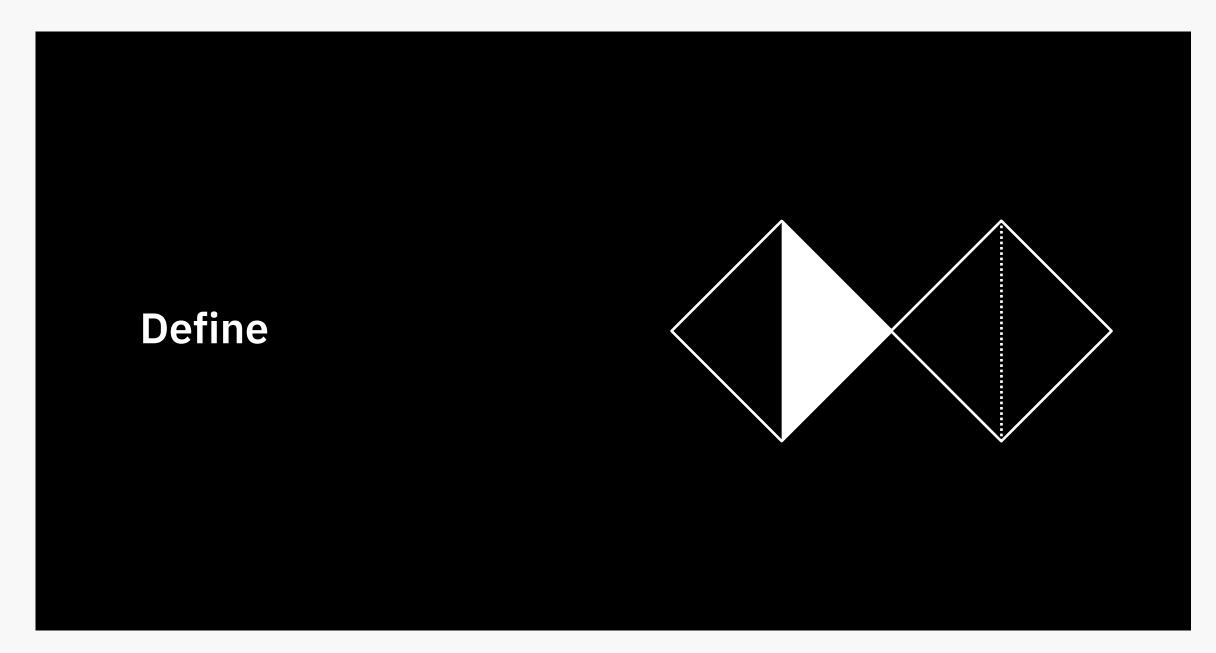
12 prototypes

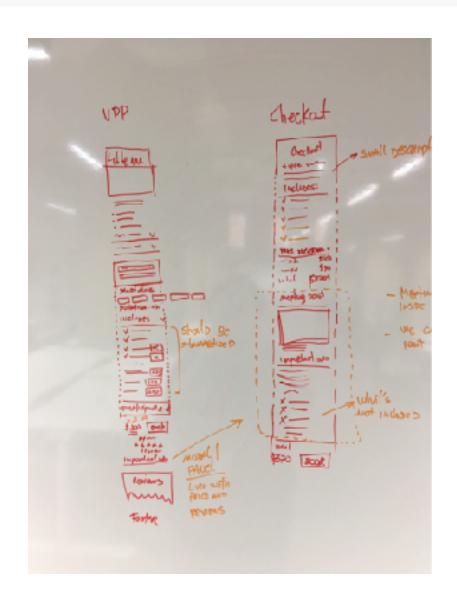
3 40 Research Videos sessions

40h+
Videos



Learnings





Definition Workshop

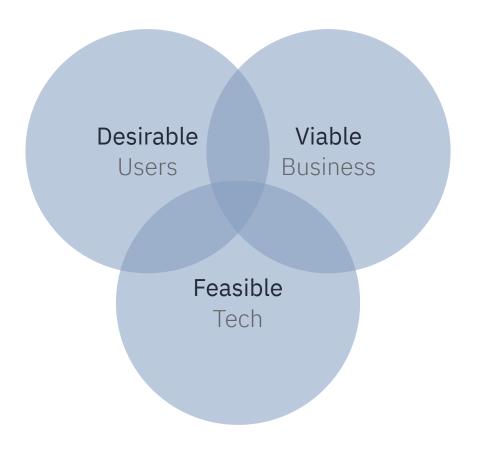
With the set of the most critical problems, the Development,

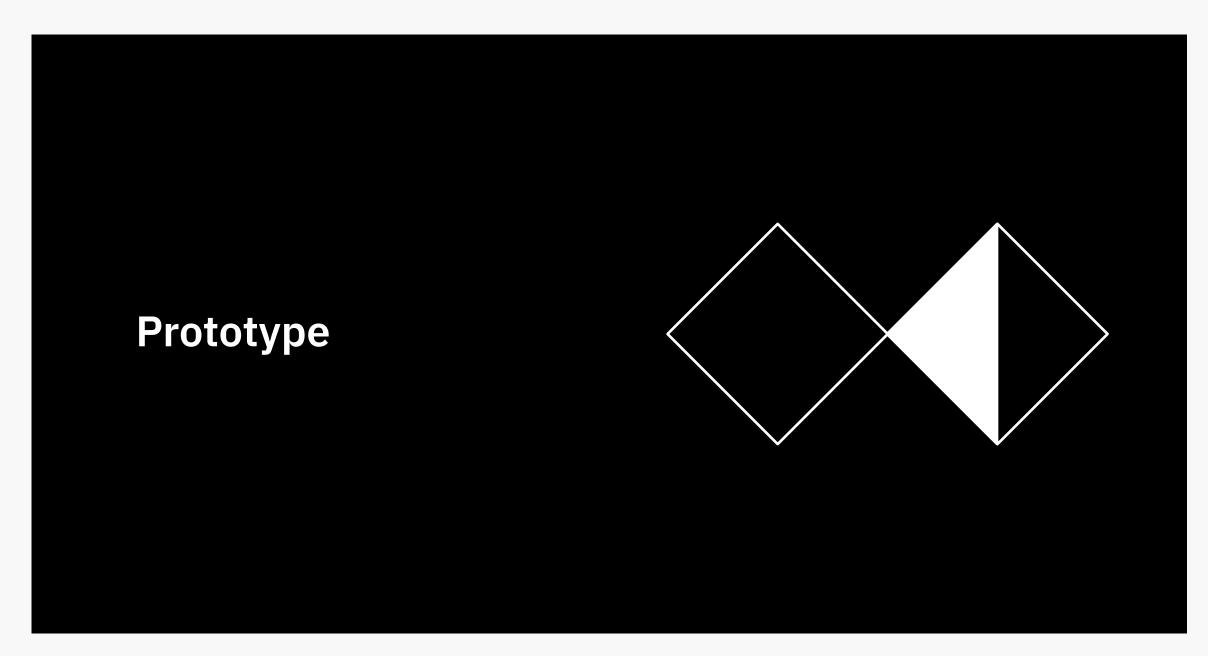
Business, and Design teams met together for a definition session.

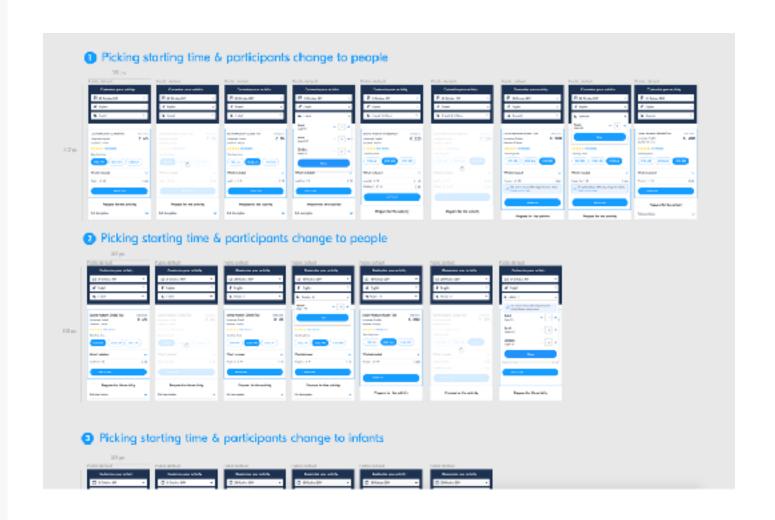
This is one of the moments where we work collaboratively towards a unique goal.

POI	Four Tour Title	Beekings Tour Four Option Teur Option Title	Bearings Tour White Product Entity	
JUNE 1	Pare: Louise Meseum Timed-Entrance Tidals	145779 Pane: Louve Messure Timed Enforce Ticket	218301 Lauwe Missouric Entry Tisket	
OWNER	Ultimate Lowne: Fast-Track Guided Tou: With Ticket.	175122 Four in Griglish	200007 Laure Meseum: Dulped Your	
curre	Parts Louvre Museum: Guided Tour with Tickets	3383 English Guided Teurichine Louve Museum	3393 Louvre Misseum: Guloed Tour	
OWNER	Pens; blees Lisc and pest of the Louvre 1.5 Frour Your	100038 Pensi Mena Lise and pest of the Louvre in longish	158804 Lauve Meseum: Duteel Teur	
GMT9	Louver Museum: SHiour Compethensive Your with Skip the Line	12585 English Group Tour	10505 Laure Meseury Solded Year	
JOUNTS	Parts Louvre Museum: Guided Tour with Tickets	3393 Spanish Gelded Your of the Louvre Moseum	27251 Louvre Misseum: Duloed Tour	
Journ	Ultimate Louvie: Fast Track Guided Tour With Tiskel.	179122 Tour in German	877013 Lauve Weseum: Dated Tear	
COMP.	Louvre Museum: Lest Entrance English Your and Mona Line	MICON Lower Measure Last Entrance English Your and Monattine	124646 Laure Massury Solded Year	
JUNE	Parks: 5-Hour Small Group Louves Highlights Teur	(00347 Paris: 3-Hour Small Group Louves Highlights Teur	843041 Louvre Misseum: Gulded Tour	
OWER	Mast-Seas of the Louvre Museum: 1.6 Hear Guided Tear	186384 Mast Seas of the Lourse Museum: 1.6 Hear Caided Tour	287163 Laure Weseum: Duloed Tour	
cuere	Louvre Museum Sicp-the-Tobel-Line Guided Tour	68079 Louvre Museum Stig-the-Tobal-Line Guided Tour in German	65972 Louve Massury: Suiced Tour	
Louers	Louvre Museum Skip-the-Tellef-Line Entry and Dated Tour	195134 Lauvre Museum Skip-the-Tellel-Line Entry and Dalced Tour	802774 Laure Meseum: Dated Tear	
Louere	Peris: Lauvre by Night Skip-the-Ticket-Line Guided Tour	190079 Parks: Lauvre by Night Skip-the-Ticket-Line Daked Tear	304409 Lauvre Weseum: Duloed Your	
Laure	Louvre Museum Skig-the-Tobel-Line Guided Tour	48079 Louvre Messum Skig-the-Tebel-Line Guided Tour	60166 Louvre Misseum: Guided Tour	
Louero	Louvry Museum Skip-the-Tellef-Line Guidet Tour	48079 Layvre Mesoum Skip-the-Tellef-Line Guided Tour in Relan	17623 Lauvre Weseum: Dateed Tour	
Louis	Louver Museum Stigether Tubet-Line Shided Your	48070 Louve Massam Stigether Tubet-Line Shided Tour in Spenial	(61106 Laure Meseuric Solded Year	
Louise	Were Lies and Best of the Louens: Semi-Private Your	50066 Parts: Louvre Messeure Skip-the-Line Small Group Tour	676+6 Louvre Misseum: Guloed Tour	
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Louise	Louver Museum Skigether Tubel-Line Builded Tour	48070 Lauren Massam Skip-Ser Tabel-Line Skided Tour in Parlaguese	RISHB Laure Maseurs: Dolded Year	
Laure	Louvra Highlights Skip-the-Line Small Group Tour	140871 Lauvre Highlights Skip-the-Line Small Group Tour	219736 Louve Wessum: Dutoed Tour	
Louero	Peris Lourne Museum: Guided Tour with Tidkets	3383 Portuguese Guided Tour of the Louvie Museum	27264 Laure Weseum: Duloed Tour	
CHAPTE	Perio: Louve Must-See Tour with Stip-the-Ticket-Line	613/39 Louvre Musidiee Semi-Private Tour in English	Thirtie Louve Misseum: Guined Tour	
Louers	Small Group 3-How Guided Louvre Highlights Tour	122784 Small Group 3-How Geoled Leavine Highlights Tour	191727 Louvre Weseum: Output Tour	
course.	Paris: duited Visit of the Lorane Moneyon	\$19014 Suicind Visit of the Louvre Morecon	179251 Lauren Massauric Dokied Year	
JOLHER	Parts Louvre Museum: Guided Tour with Tickets	3393 German Gelded Tour of the Louvre Museum	27252 Louvre Wessum: Guloed Tour	
Louero	The Lourne: Small Group Tour with Skip-the-Line Access	20028 Small Group Tour in English	35293 Louvre Weseum: Guided Tour	
cours.	Peris Louve Museum: Chailed Your with Takets	2003 French Swided Your of the Louvre Misseum	20250 Louise Massaury Disloyd Year	
Louise	The Secrets of the Louvry: Ascient Codes & Hidden Massages	225649 The Secrets of the Louise Ancient Copies & Prioden Messages	986125 Louvre Wessum: Guided Your	
Louero	Plerie: Lauwie De Vinci Delle Guidled Tour	143647 Peris: Louvre De Who: Dode Guided Tour	254707 Louvre Weseum: Duloed Your	
COLUMN TO SERVICE	Paris Louve Museum Guided Tour with Tubets	2393 Italian Solded Tour of the Louve Measure	992/53 Livere Messeury Solded Year	
Journ	Planic: Louvre Tour with Skip-the-Tickel-Line	199039 Paris: Louvre Tour with Skip-the-Tickai-Line	909523 Lauvre Vissaum: Dulped Tour	
Louere	Marders and Mysteries of the Louvre Museum	177721 Marders and Mysteries of the Louvre Museum	858187 Lauren Meseum, Dulded Tour	
CHAPTE	Louvre Museum Sirp-the-Line Guided Tour	62433 Perior Louve Moseure Scip-The-time Guided Your	561:54 Literate Misseum: Suined Your	
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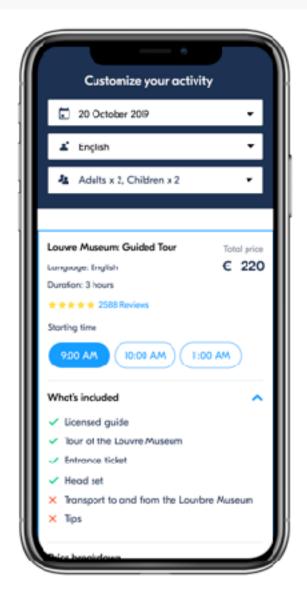
UX Writing: Curation

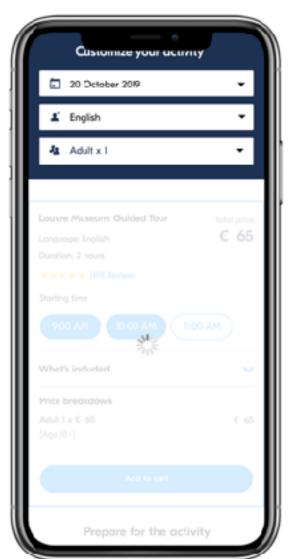


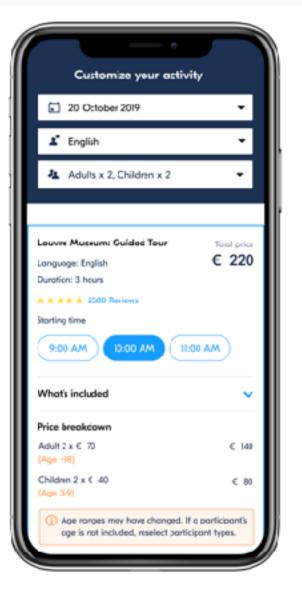


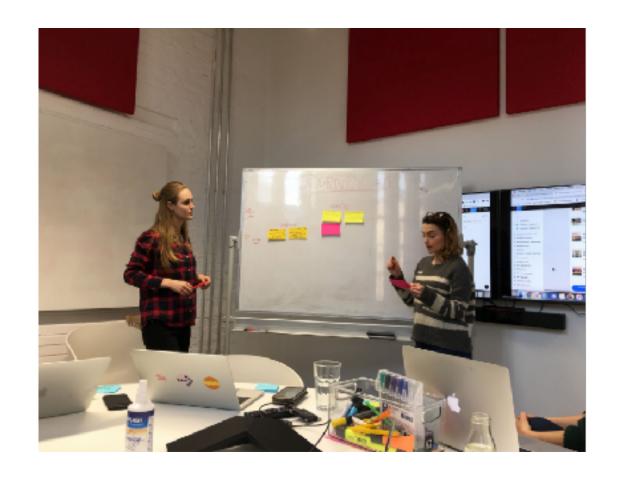


UI/visual language and engineering effort calculation

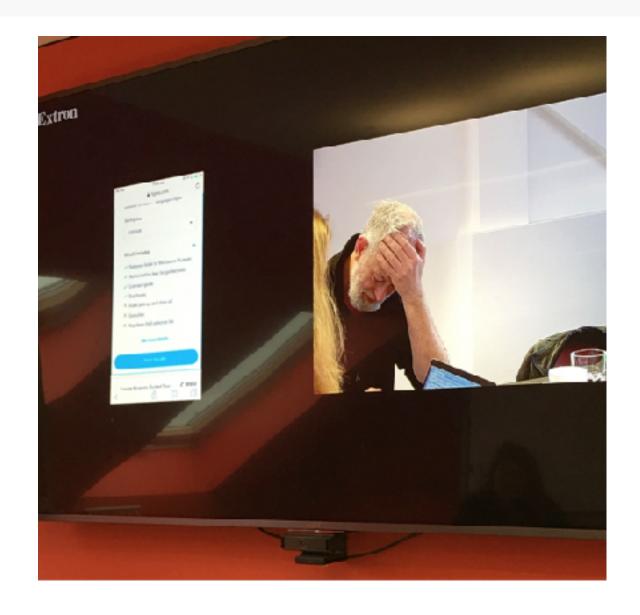








Heuristic evaluation: identify UX issues in a low-cost, fast way to work towards usable and understandable builds.



Testing final design with customers

Insights

The name "add-ons" was confusing and didn't match expectations in the last study

How do we deal with similar (e.g., bus transfer, train transfer) and mandatory add-ons?

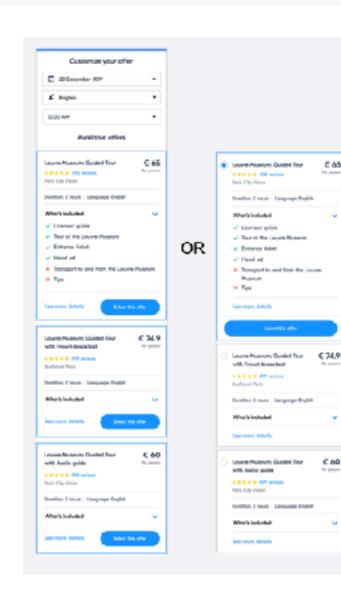
Price per person for add-ons was confusing. How can we solve it?

How do the add-ons affect other parts of the configurator? See above scenarios.

What error messages and states do we have?

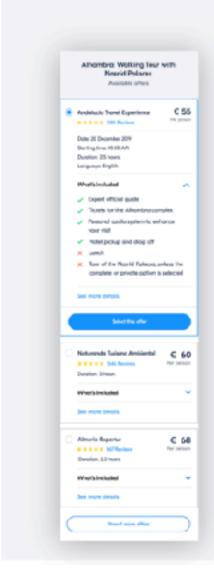
What do we show in the price breakdown?

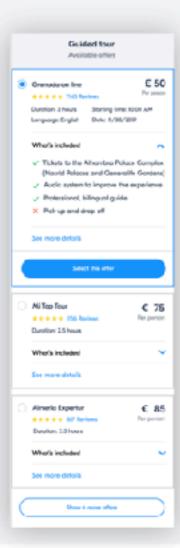
What's the upper limit on the # of add-ons for a virtual product based on our catalog?



- Add-ons as different offer boxes.
- No pagination,
- No possibility to change the suppliers, or navigate through the offers with same characteristics.
- List with different offers, considering an Add-on as the differentiator factor.
- Supplier/Offer changes when selecting any attribute (dates, language, starting time)
- Box with Add-one may disappear when not available for any attribute.
- Core activity (with no add-on) may disappear when not available for any attribute.

Design reviews



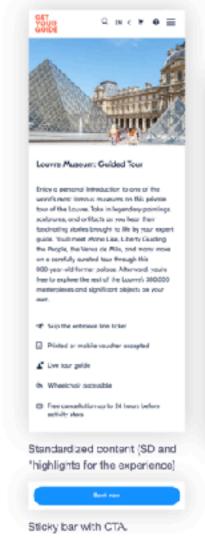


Aiming to help users to compare offers and discover if comparison is important.

- Supplier name doesn't communicate the changes in the offer.
- Suppliers have weird names and possible will harm the UX.
- Users don't care about the supplier name.
- The main thing changing is the Price.

From a copy perspective...

- The title of the offer should be for "the thing" they're buying.
 The supplier name is not what they're buying.
- 2) It's not immediately obvious that the title = supplier name. We know it's the supplier because we work here. What would a random person off the street think they were buying by selecting "Granada on line"?
- 3) Even if the user knew this was a supplier, some of the supplier names are very odd/spelled strangely and look spammy. Why would they pick these?
- 4) We learned in attractions research that price is the top thing users scan for. Shouldn't we lead with that differentiator?
- 5) We also learned that resellers are not trusted. By elevating the supplier name, we're highlighting the fact that we are not the supplier, when the user may not have otherwise noticed.



We've changed the add-ons structure aiming for simplicity. Now we have the price of each "option" on the same title, and the button is just "add"

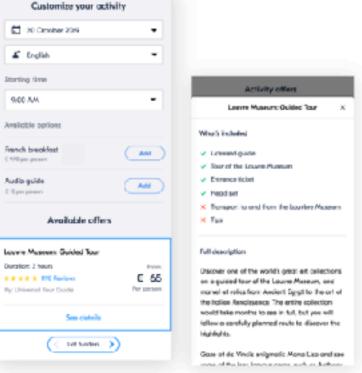
Configurator and different

offers from different suppliers

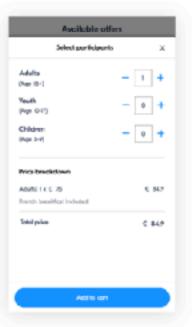
for the same configuration.

"Sea details" shows the offer

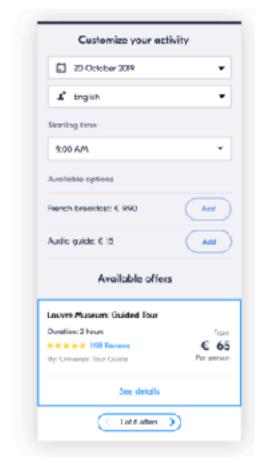
content.



Content is displayed in a backdrop layer. Closing the layer keeps users in the same scroll position.



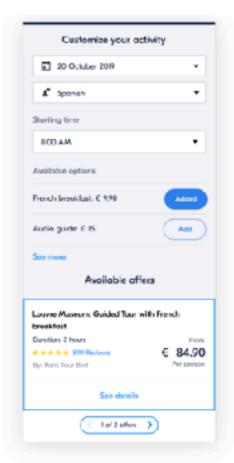
Showing the participants selection in a backdrop layer. Added the Add-ons close to the price per adult.



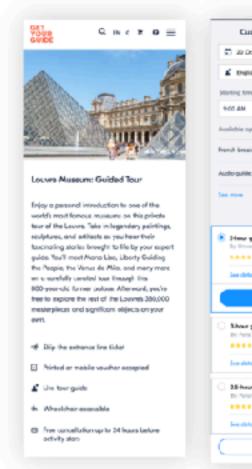
On the first state, users see the default supplier for the specified configuration. In this version, we kept the title similar to the top of the page and also closer to the current Virtual Product title.

Customize your activit	Y
20 October 2019	•
≰ Spcrish	-
Starting time	
MA 008	•
Available options	
French breakfast: € 990	Add
Available offers	
Louvre Museum: Guided Tour	
By: Universel Tour Guide	€ 70
By: Universel Your Guide 📆	
Updating your offers	
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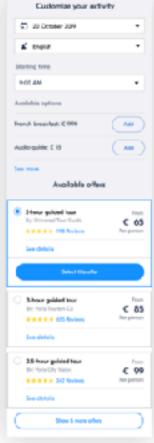
When changing any attribute, we update the available offers and add-ons (options). We can have more or less add-ons. The Loader has a message to help users to identity that offers will charige.



When users "Add" an add-on to the current offer customization, the button becomes "Added" and the title in all offers change. Now we display the default activity + the add-on.

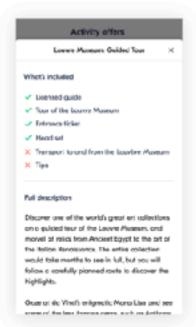


Standardized content (SD and 'highlights for the experience)

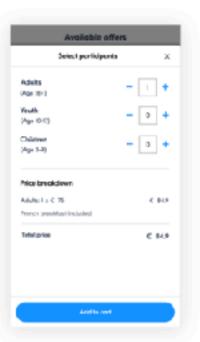


Multiple offers are displayed in a list format. Hitting the "Show more" button shows more offers in the column.

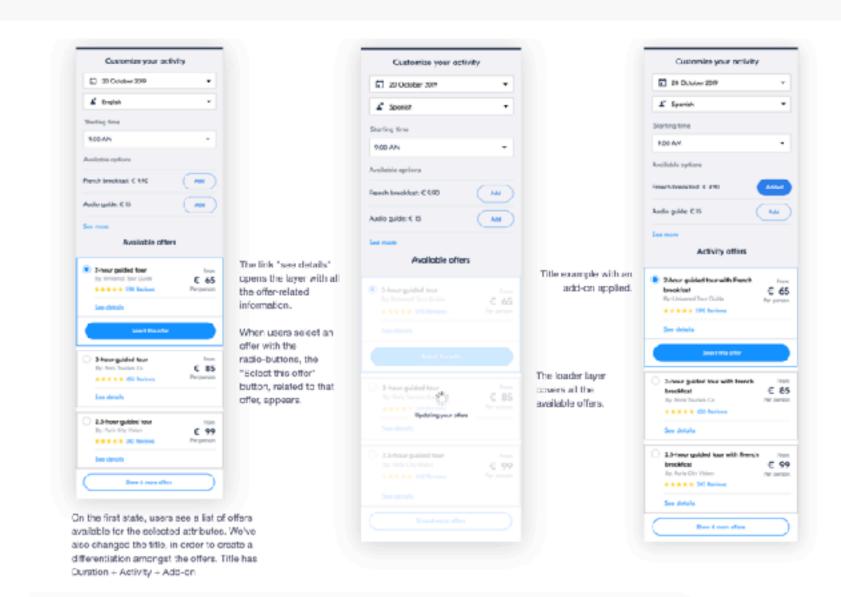
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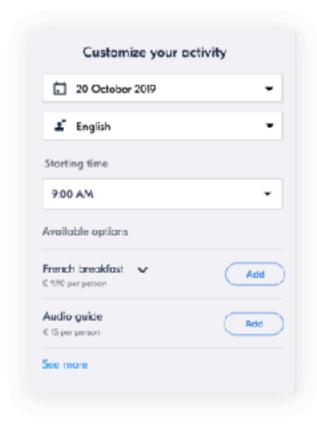


Content is displayed in a backdrop layer. Glosing the layer keeps users in the same scroll position.

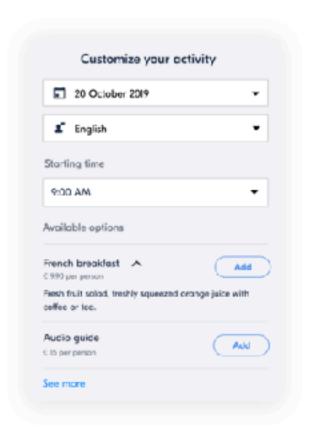


Showing the participants selection in a backdrop layer. Added the Add-ons close to the price per adult.

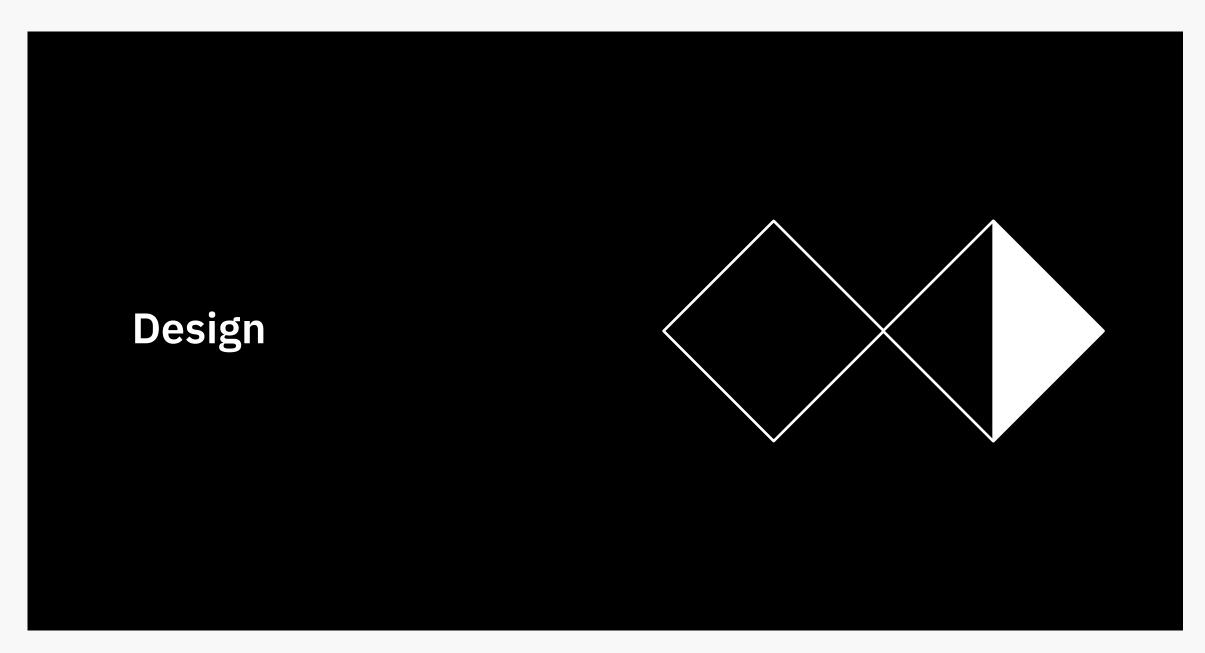


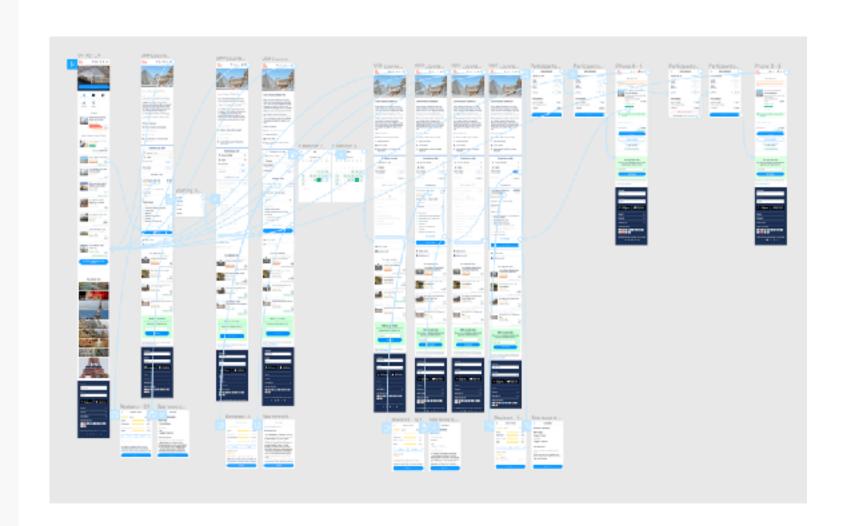


Add-one with a dedicated area for a small description if needed. This would require new content. The reason behind this is because sometimes some add-one may be difficult to understand.

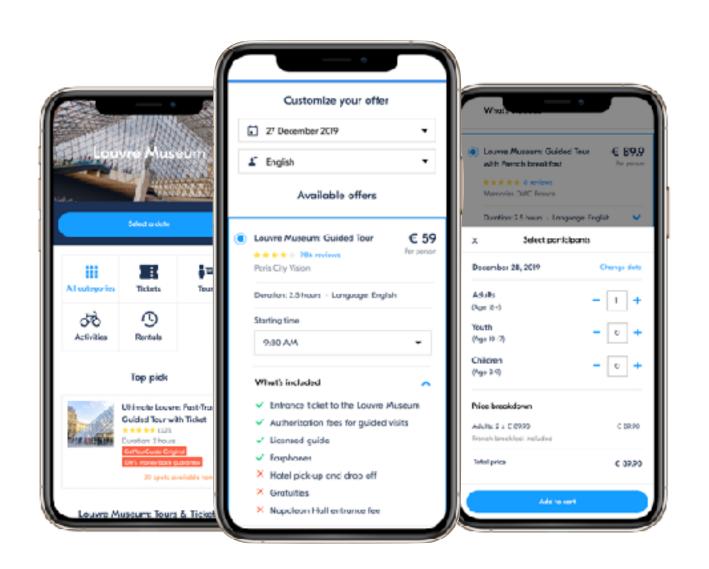


This state shows the small description opened.



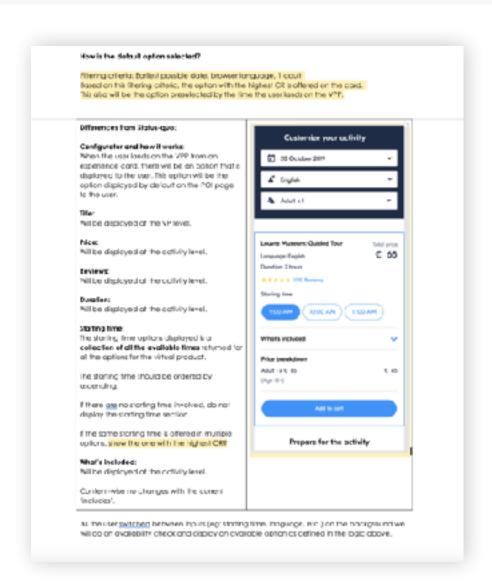


Final Prototype



<u>Check the prototype here</u>





Experiments and AB Testing planning

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Metrics

~25% fewer

availability error

5% decrease in cart conversion (+3% desktop, -8% mobile)

5.5% decrease in conversion rate (-5% desktop, -10% mobile)

Results and learnings

- 1. Due to the experimental design and Covid-19, the sample sizes were too small to conclude the experiment with statistical significance.
- 2. The high-level experiment metrics (cart conversion, conversion rate) is not statistically significantly different. We also shouldn't focus much on these metrics due to dilution, it is explained here. Thus, the experiment is analyzed separately for LP and Activity Page for specific funnel metrics.
- 3. **Landing Page**: The conversion on the landing page is flat however the characteristics of activities are different. As we group similar activities together we end up with higher-priced and less reviewed activities on the Landing Page. It shows that for the success of VP, an excellent experience for the rest of the funnel is essential.

4. Activity Page:

- There is ~25% fewer availability error in the test version.
- Conversion metrics are flat but when we isolate the specific virtual product funnel, we observe a ~5% drop in both cart conversion and conversion rate (mobile is worse than desktop). There is already a list of planned improvements.
- Among users interacted with the configurator: 17% run into "reselect participants warning" and 80% run into multiple prices on the same page. However, we can't estimate the negative impact of these sub-optimal experiences.

Next steps

VPP experience should be improved. The curation is increasing the diversity of LP but also increased the average price and decreased the average rating counts. For a better experience, it should be supported with an exceptional experience on VPP.

The fact that only part of the funnel is covered makes it very difficult to analyze and interpret the results. If we can include the whole funnel for some locations (i.e. fully curating a city and have a consistent experience at every page such as poi/city/activity/search, etc.) we can understand the impact better.

Improve the consistency of pricing across different touchpoints. Data do not prove the impact but among visitors interacted with the configurator, 80% have seen different prices for the same activity.

Thanks

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