



Rik Wanders

Senior Full Stack Developer

Profile



📍 Ronda, Spain

✉ rik@rikwanders.tech

🗣️ Fluent English, Native Dutch

🌐 www.rikwanders.tech

☎ [+31 649118511](tel:+31649118511)

🌐 linkedin.com/in/rik-wanders-software/

Summary



Dutch Senior Full Stack Developer residing in Spain, with 18+ years experience specializing in Python & Node.js ecosystems. Experienced in scaling complex & high-traffic applications and leading development teams.







Seeking challenging remote freelance project or part-time role in a dynamic agile team building innovative products.

Key Qualifications









- 💎 **18+ years of full stack development experience.**
- 🔗 Expertise in modern **Python, JavaScript & Node.js** ecosystems.
- 👥 **Team leadership** and **project management** experience.
- 📦 Additional experience in **Linux, DevOps & CI/CD**.
- 🚀 Skilled in developing scalable solutions for **high-traffic applications**.
- 🏠 **5+ years remote work** and distributed team collaboration experience.
- 🔒 **AI-accelerated development** skills, with business security in mind.

Expert Knowledge 

<div> Python</div> <div>Django, REST Framework, Celery, Channels, Silk</div>	<div> JavaScript / Node.js</div> <div>React, Svelte, Web Components</div>
<div> SQL Databases</div> <div>PostgreSQL, MySQL/MariaDB, SQLite Schema design, indexing, optimization</div>	<div> Frontend Tools</div> <div>Webpack, Vite, ESLint, Prettier, Tailwind CSS, Sass</div>
<div> Git (GitHub, GitLab)</div> <div>GitHub, GitLab, advanced workflows, submodules</div>	<div> AI / LLM development tools</div> <div>Claude Code, Cursor</div>

Working Knowledge 

<div> DevOps</div> <div>CI/CD, Docker (Compose), Ansible</div>	<div> Cloud Platforms</div> <div>Vercel, Linode</div>
<div> JavaScript / Node.js</div> <div>TypeScript, React Native, Vue.js</div>	<div> NoSQL Databases</div> <div>Elasticsearch, Redis, MongoDB</div>
<div> Serving, Caching & Load Balancing</div> <div>Nginx, Varnish, Memcached, HAProxy</div>	<div> Additional Languages</div> <div>Lua, C, Objective-C, PHP</div>

Exploring 

<div> Python</div> <div>FastAPI, pandas, scikit-learn, LangChain</div>	<div> JavaScript / Node.js</div> <div>Next.js, Zustand, Jest, Prisma</div>
<div> Cloud Platforms</div> <div>AWS, Azure, GCP</div>	<div> DevOps</div> <div>Terraform, GitHub Actions, Kubernetes</div>



Personality Traits

Responsible

Independent

Disciplined

Organized

Proactive

Creative

Problem solving

Result-oriented

Determined

Development Methodologies

Agile

Scrum

Kanban

Extreme Programming (XP)

AI-accelerated development

Secure by design

Test-driven development (TDD)

User experience design (UXD)

Component-based development

Extensive code reviewing

Writing and maintaining documentation

Pair-programming



Chipta

Lead Developer September 2014 – June 2024
 Ticketing Service Amsterdam, The Netherlands
 chipta.com/



Joined this innovative ticketing startup as Lead Developer, scaling the platform from concept to processing thousands of tickets per minute during peak events. Successfully led technical development through 10 years of growth, making Chipta a competitive alternative for independent event organizers.

Key Achievements:

Team Leadership Built and managed diverse development teams of 3-5 developers, using agile methodologies that optimized efficiency and delivery speed	Platform Scalability Architected and optimized systems to handle extreme traffic spikes, delivering 40-60% speed improvements through strategic query optimization, caching, and infrastructure scaling
System Reliability Created extensive testing suite (+80% coverage) and CI/CD system, radically improving deployment reliability & speed and enabling regular releases	Payment Integration Implemented and maintained payment service provider integrations with multiple providers (Mollie, Pay.nl, PayPal), ensuring reliable transaction processing for the platform
Technical Innovation Developed custom authentication, mailing, and localization systems, supporting custom needs and backward compatibility	Market Expansion Created multi-language & country platform capabilities that enabled international market expansion and supported global event organizers

Impact:

Transformed a proof of concept into a robust, scalable ticketing platform serving thousands of events and processing high-volume traffic reliably.

Technologies Used:

Python

Django

Django REST Framework

Django Channels

Django Silk

Jinja2

Weasyprint

MySQL

Ansible

Python Fabric

Linode

Nginx

Redis

HAProxy

Selenium

OAuth

Node.js

React

MobX

Lit

Web Components

Web Sockets

Webpack

React Native

Tender-it

👤 Lead Developer

📅 March 2015 – June 2022

🏢 Tender Discovery Platform







📍 Amsterdam, The Netherlands



Built a comprehensive tender discovery platform from scratch, enabling companies to efficiently find and track public procurement opportunities. Delivered a complete solution that automated manual tender search processes for businesses.

***Note:** This was a part-time engagement that I combined with my main focus on Chipta.*

Key Achievements:

 Product Development	 Search Innovation
Designed and developed entire platform (backend and frontend) from concept to production	Implemented an extensive search engine using Elasticsearch, making it easy and time effective for users to find suitable tenders
 Data Automation	 Revenue Model
Created automated web crawling system that index thousands of public tenders daily, providing comprehensive market coverage	Built subscription-based authentication with recurring payments that supports sustainable business model and user growth
 User Experience	 Frontend Optimization
Delivered intuitive "saved searches" interface and email notification system that supported user engagement and retention	Successfully collaborated with frontend developer to optimize frontend experience using Vue.js

Impact:

Transformed a startup idea into a complete, extensible tender platform with a intuitive interface and solid administrative tools.

Technologies Used:

Python	Django	Django REST Framework	Django Celery	Python Requests	MySQL		
Beautifulsoup	Elasticsearch	Linode	Nginx	Node.js	React	Vue.js	Webpack

TravelBird

👤 Senior Full Stack & iOS Developer

📅 March 2013 – August 2014

🏠 Online Travel Agent

📍 Amsterdam, The Netherlands

🌐 travelbird.com/



Joined during rapid growth phase (50 to 250+ employees) and contributed to scaling mobile presence during the company's expansion across European markets.

Key Achievements:

📱 Mobile Development

Built and maintained iOS application as part of mobile team, supporting mobile bookings during a period of rapid company growth

🔌 API Architecture

Designed and implemented robust REST API using Django REST Framework, that accommodated iOS & Android apps and mobile website

🌐 Cross-Platform Integration

Ensured consistent user experience across multiple mobile platforms and web interfaces

✉ Email Marketing Platform

Worked on comprehensive email marketing system that supported customer acquisition and retention campaigns

Impact:

Successfully delivered mobile apps and mobile website as part of an agile team during a critical period when mobile app presence was becoming essential for travel industry competitiveness.

Technologies Used:

Objective-C

Xcode

Python

Django

Django REST Framework

Django Celery

Django South

Django Compressor

Sendgrid

PostgreSQL

MongoDB

Linode

Nginx

Varnish





JavaScript

gulp.js

Sass

Delivered web solutions for high-profile clients including major e-commerce and government organizations, working as part of a dedicated Scrum team in a fast-paced agency environment with diverse project requirements.

Key Achievements:

 Client Success	 Agile Workflow
Successfully delivered web projects for major clients including Bol.com, EP, Gemeente Amsterdam, and Gemeente Haarlemmermeer	Contributed to Scrum team that consistently met client deadlines and budget requirements
 Frontend Skills	 Custom CMS Expertise
Developed advanced jQuery and UX skills that improved user engagement metrics across client projects	Mastered in-house built CMS system, enabling rapid development and client customization capabilities

Impact:

Delivered high-quality web solutions that met diverse client needs while maintaining agency's reputation for quality and reliability.

Technologies Used:

PHP	MySQL	Apache	Linux	XAMPP	HTML5	CSS3	JavaScript	AJAX	jQuery	jQuery UI
Underscore.js	Bootstrap	Responsive design	Firebug							



To confirm my experience with full stack development in dynamic, agile and startup environments, my most recent employers are willing to provide references by telephone. Feel free to ask me for their contact details.

Michaël de Groot

Founder of Chipta

Former employer - willing to provide references by telephone

**Elmar Krack**

Co-founder of Tender-it

Former employer - willing to provide references by telephone

