



# Rik Wanders

Senior Full Stack Developer

## Profile



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## 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.

## Technical Highlights



- 18+ years** of full stack development experience.
- Expertise in modern **Python, JavaScript & Node.js** ecosystems.
- Team leadership** and **project management** experience.
- Additional experience in **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 security best practices.

## Expert Knowledge 🏰

### Python

Django, REST Framework, Celery, Channels, Silk, REST APIs, OOP, Requests, BeautifulSoup, uv

### JavaScript / Node.js

React, Svelte, SvelteKit, Web Components, Lit, Drizzle, MobX, async/await

### SQL Databases

PostgreSQL, MySQL, MariaDB, SQLite, Schema design, indexing, optimization

### Frontend Tools

Webpack, Vite, ESLint, Prettier, Tailwind CSS, Sass

### Git (GitHub, GitLab)

GitHub, GitLab, advanced workflows, submodules

### AI / LLM development tools

Claude Code, Cursor

## Working Knowledge 🏠

### DevOps

CI/CD, Docker (Compose), Ansible

### Cloud Platforms

Vercel, Linode

### Additional JavaScript / Node.js

TypeScript, React Native, Vue.js

### NoSQL Databases

Elasticsearch, Redis, MongoDB

### Serving, Caching & Load Balancing

Nginx, Varnish, Memcached, HAProxy

### Additional Languages

Lua, C, Objective-C, PHP

# Professional Experience



## Chipta

Lead Developer | 2014-09 - 2024-06  
Ticketing Service | Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
[chipta.com/](http://chipta.com/)



Led technical development of innovative ticketing platform for 10 years, scaling from concept to processing thousands of tickets per minute during peak events. Transformed proof of concept into robust, scalable platform serving thousands of events.

### 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

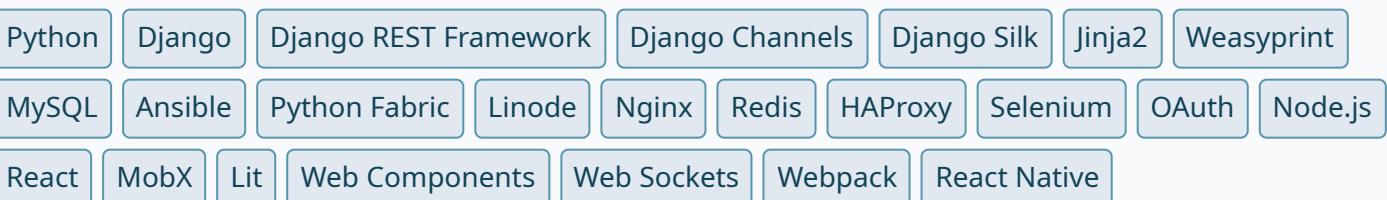
#### Technical Innovation

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

### Technologies Used:





## Tender-it

Lead Developer



2015-03 - 2022-06

Tender Discovery Platform



Amsterdam, The Netherlands



Built comprehensive tender discovery platform from scratch, enabling companies to efficiently find and track public procurement opportunities. Delivered complete platform with intuitive interface and administrative tools as part-time engagement.

### Key Achievements:

#### Product Development

Designed and developed entire platform (backend and frontend) from concept to production

#### Search Innovation

Implemented an extensive search engine using Elasticsearch, making it easy and time effective for users to find suitable tenders

#### Data Automation

Created automated web crawling system that index thousands of public tenders daily, providing comprehensive market coverage

#### Revenue Model

Built subscription-based authentication with recurring payments that supports sustainable business model and user growth

#### User Experience

Delivered intuitive 'saved searches' interface and email notification system that supported user engagement and retention

#### Frontend Optimization

Successfully collaborated with frontend developer to optimize frontend experience using Vue.js

### 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

2013-03 - 2014-08

Online Travel Agent

Amsterdam, The Netherlands

[travelbird.com/](http://travelbird.com/)



TravelBird

Contributed to mobile app development during rapid growth phase (50 to 250+ employees), supporting European market expansion. Delivered iOS app and mobile website during critical period for travel industry mobile adoption.

### 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

### 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



## SWIS

👤 Mid-level Web Developer 📅 2011-08 - 2013-02  
🏢 Web Development Agency 📍 Leiden, The Netherlands  
✉️ swis.nl/



Delivered web solutions for high-profile clients including major e-commerce and government organizations as part of dedicated Scrum team. Maintained agency's reputation for quality while meeting diverse client requirements.

### Key Achievements:

#### ⌚ Client Success

Successfully delivered web projects for major clients including Bol.com, EP, Gemeente Amsterdam, and Gemeente Haarlemmermeer

#### ⌚ Agile Workflow

Contributed to Scrum team that consistently met client deadlines and budget requirements

#### ⌚ Frontend Skills

Developed advanced jQuery and UX skills that improved user engagement metrics across client projects

#### ⚙️ Custom CMS Expertise

Mastered in-house built CMS system, enabling rapid development and client customization capabilities

### Technologies Used:

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



### Gamepoint

👤 Junior / Mid-level Web Developer 📅 2007-06 - 2011-06

🏢 Casual Gaming / Community 📍 The Hague, The Netherlands

✉️ gamepoint.biz/



**GamePoint**

Progressed from junior to mid-level developer at established gaming community platform serving hundreds of thousands of users. Contributed to platform stability, feature development, and system enhancements.

#### Key Achievements:

##### \$ Payment Systems

Successfully implemented multiple payment integrations that supported platform monetization and user transactions

##### 🌐 International Expansion

Contributed to internationalization and localization system that enabled platform expansion in other countries

##### ⌚ Database Design

Designed and optimized MySQL database structures that improved query performance and system reliability

##### 👥 Team Collaboration

Worked effectively in 10+ developer team environment, contributing to large-scale PHP codebase maintenance and feature development

##### 👉 Career Growth

Advanced from junior to mid-level developer, demonstrating consistent skill development and increasing responsibility

#### Technologies Used:

PHP MySQL Linux nginx Memcached HTML CSS JavaScript jQuery AJAX  
YUI Library

## References



### Michaël de Groot - Founder of Chipta

*"Rik modernized our client-facing interfaces and implemented optimizations that delivered substantial performance improvements. His work enabled us to process thousands of tickets rapidly during our busiest periods."*



### Elmar Krack - Co-founder of Tender-it

*"Rik demonstrated exceptional technical leadership by designing and developing our entire platform from the ground up, handling both backend and frontend development with impressive skill."*



Contact details available upon request.