Rik Wanders

Senior Full-Stack Developer

Building scalable web applications for remote teams

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SUMMARY

Dutch Senior Full-Stack Developer residing in Spain. 10+ years Python & Node.js experience, scaling complex, high-traffic & data heavy applications with Django & React, and leading development teams. Additional skills in DevOps, CI/CD & UXD. Current with industry trends, AI & security. Thrives in agile teams / startup environments. 5+ years remote work experience.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Chipta | Amsterdam, NL | Lead Developer | 09/2015 - 03/2025

• Led distributed development team (3-5 devs) with agile methods and strict code review processes, optimizing output 25%
• Enabled processing thousands of orders per minute, by optimizating SQL & Python/Django process up to 60% & caching
• Increased user engagement by +30%, by modernizing frontend UX using React, responsive design & web components
• Contributed to scalability & 40% revenue growth by leading ticket scan app development with React Native & WebSockets
• Decreased regression with 90%, by establishing TDD with quality testing suite using Django & Selenium (+80% coverage)
• Reduced deploy time -80% & enabled regular releases, by orchestrating CI/CD systems on Linode using Ansible & Python
• Streamlined onboarding, by coordinating development environment setup of 4 Docker microservices in Docker Compose

Tender-it | Amsterdam, NL | Lead Developer | 06/2014 - 06/2015

• Delivered complete platform with Python, Django & React in consultation with non-technical founders
• Transformed thousands of tenders daily into structured data, by making web crawlers & importers with Django & Celery
• Developed industry-first Elasticsearch-powered search engine for filtering & scoring hundreds of thousands of tenders

TravelBird | Amsterdam, NL | Senior Full-Stack Developer | 03/2013 - 08/2014

• Shipped iPhone & Android booking apps in scrum team (4) within 5 months, handling 15%+ of bookings in 3 months
• Designed REST API with JWT auth using DRF, deployed on AWS, accommodating iOS & Android apps and mobile website
• Supported acquisition by sending thousands of emails with marketing system using Python, Django, Celery & SendGrid

SWIS | Leiden, NL | Mid-level Web Developer | 08/2011 - 02/2013

• Delivered web projects for major clients (Bol.com) as part of company's best of 5 Scrum teams using custom PHP CMS
• Cultivated advanced frontend & UX skills with jQuery & CSS3, increasing user product engagement & client satisfaction

Gamepoint | The Hague, NL | Junior / Mid-level Web Developer | 08/2007 - 06/2011

• Implemented payment integrations, internationalization, and optimized MySQL database structures & queries
• Promoted to mid-level developer in 10+ developer team, maintaining large-scale PHP codebase & Linux servers setup

Budget Advies Groep | Cruquius, NL | Junior Web developer | 09/2006 - 06/2007

Festivalinfo | Amsterdam, NL | Internship Web Developer | 03/2006 - 08/2006

SKILLS

• **Backend:** Python | Django | Django REST Framework (DRF) | Flask | FastAPI | RESTful APIs | LLM integrations | pytest
• **Frontend:** JavaScript | Node.js | TypeScript | React Native | React | Svelte | Tailwind CSS | Jest
• **Databases:** PostgreSQL | MySQL | MariaDB | SQLite | SQL optimization | Elasticsearch | MongoDB | Redis
• **Development Tools:** Git | GitHub | Git Flow | Claude Code | Cursor | Neovim | tmux
• **DevOps:** Docker | Docker Compose | GitLab CI/CD | GitHub Actions | Ansible | Python Fabric | Caching strategies
• **Cloud Platforms:** Amazon Web Services | AWS EC2 | AWS S3 | AWS Lambda | Vercel | Linode
• **Dev Methodologies:** Agile | Scrum | XP | AI-Assisted Development | Secure by design | TDD | UXD

SIDE PROJECTS

Smart Job Seeker | ⌨ gitaarik/smart-job-seeker

An intelligent job search and application management platform that helps you create a detailed profile, discover matching opportunities, and optimize your job application process with AI assistance. Built with TypeScript, Sveltekit, Prisma ORM, Directus CMS, PostgreSQL, Docker Compose and Tailwind CSS.

LitState | ⌨ gitaarik/lit-state ★ 155

Reactive state management library for Lit Web Components, open-sourced on GitHub & NPM. Used in production at Chipta (ticket shop). Lit + LitState is a simpler, lightweight and browser-native alternative to React + Redux.

Git Submodules Guide | ⌨ gist.github.com/gitaarik/8735255 ★ 1028

Popular GitHub Gist explaining Git submodules fundamentals. Helped many developers understand submodules effectively.

EDUCATION

Software Development, Dutch Vocational Education (MBO), Graduation Year 2007

Nova College, Hoofddorp, NL

- Comprehensive 4-year program including foundational computer science, algorithms, and data structures.

Audio technician, Dutch Vocational Education (MBO), 08/2003 - 06/2004

Mediacollege Amsterdam, Amsterdam, NL

- I liked many aspects of the field (music & tech), but ultimately decided that it wasn't something I wanted to pursue in.

Pre-vocational education, Dutch VMBO-t education, Graduation Year 2003

Kaj Munk College, Hoofddorp, NL

- Educated in topics like maths, physics, chemistry, biology, geography, economy, history, social studies, Dutch & English.

Primary education, Dutch primary education, Graduation Year 1999

Valkenburgschool, Heemstede, NL

- Educated in core subjects like Dutch, maths, science, history, geography, gym & creative activities (art, music).

LANGUAGES

Dutch: Native
English: Fluent

REFERENCES

Elmar Krack

"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."

Michaël de Groot

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

Contact details available upon request