

Team 6

BetterBnB

Team Members:

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Problem Statement:

Currently, listers on booking platforms such as Airbnb are generally allowed to omit details that a renter may consider significant. For instance, a renter would likely want to know if the property is in a bad neighborhood, if there isn't access to commercial stores and restaurants in the immediate proximity, and reviews both positive and negative about the booking. Consequently, there is a need for a service that provides these details automatically without much effort on the renter's end. Existing services are fragmented, will only factor in price, are oriented only towards the lister, or do not display all of the relevant information in an easy-to-access and intuitive way.

Project Objectives:

We aim to reduce the amount of time that renters have to spend researching a given listing on residence booking websites by providing a platform in which key supplementary information is readily and easily available. Our product objectives are to:

- Build a lightweight web browser extension that provides users with key information about listings on residence booking websites.
- Create a web application that allows users to save listings and the information provided by our service for future reference
- Create a web application that also allows anyone to find a detailed overview of information about a booking without having to register for our service
- Develop a recommendation system that takes into account the user's selected desires for a booking, the available data of a booking, and past reviews of that booking from multiple sources

Stakeholders:

Users: Our target users are people who travel—frequently or infrequently—that are simply looking for a better way to navigate the many different travel sites and services on the web. Our user stakeholder isn't someone who wants another site that can be found into the mix of services out there but rather someone who wants a lightweight way to compare them all.

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Deliverables:

- A lightweight Google Chrome extension that allows users to easily see relevant information about a certain booking
- A ReactJS front end web application that allows users to enter an address or booking and find relevant information about it. It will also be where the Chrome extension will be made available to download
- A tentative Node JS backend to interact with our database and service requests made from inputs into the front-end web application or Chrome extension.
- A NoSQL database to store registered users' data along with data we gather about different bookings
- A series of Python scripts to collect data regarding different booking locations and reviews from across the web