Narrative

Enhancement Two: Algorithms and Data Structure

The Destinations slide show is a program that provides the end user with a slide show of possible vacation destinations they may be interested in. This program was created February of 2019 as part of Computer Science 250 and required the developer to consider user stories to produce a program that would give a travel agency a method to provide the end user a visual snapshot of a possible travel destination.

The slide show program is is a neat program with a lot of potential to be updated with additional features. Initially the program only took images and text and applied them to a slide show in the order they appear in a loop. I felt since this program is for a travel agency it would be nice to be able to set a price and a way to set a location.

The enhancements showcases my ability to incorporate methods that can take an input from a user and then use that input in other methods to only show the destination slides requested. The inclusion of this enhancement required me to make additional methods that specify a country of interest. Previously the program only looped through a list from start to finish but now with the additional and modified lists the program can provide specific locations withing a country. The algorithm is now able to provide a customized and personal user experience.

This enhancement was very educational due to the fact that I tried many different methods in creating the location filter. I try to write out a logical plan and then execute. In this case I tried a switch statement that I really thought would work to add the location filter but could not get the loop to properly show the slides. I then tried separating all the inputs into several smaller functions but that became very messy and still didn’t work. After many failures I took a break and continued to think of the program and decided to create new methods for retrieving the images for the slides and I did this by making small modifications to the existing method that was used. After that thing began to move along faster. The main problem was I could not get what I imagined in my head in code and was trying to code outside of my existing skill set. After making the modified methods all I had to do was provide the necessary data for the specific countries for the loop to iterate through. Every assignment has been extremely humbling as they make me realize I still have a long way to go to get to the level I would like to be but I must say the small victories I had on this assignment made me very happy.