Booking on AirBnB through the eyes of a Data Scientist

If you have ever booked on AirBnB, you know what it is like to scroll through endless pages of listings, comparing prices, and reading reviews. After severals hours later, you make a decision and book a property after evaluating all the different factors that you are looking for.

Have you ever wondered how would a data scientist choose a property. Now, here is your chance.
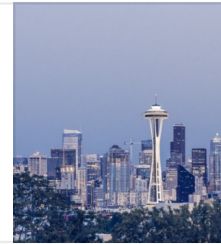
.   .   .

Step 1: Data.Data.Data.

Data, data, data…Without data, you won't have data scientist. First step to a data scientist is to collect data. Fortunately, there are plenty of data on AirBnb available online. For this project, we will be looking at data with information on pricing throughout the year for both Seattle and Boston. We will also be looking at data on listing information, with information like property types, price, location, etc. Below are links to the file.

Seattle Airbnb Open Data

A sneak peek into the Airbnb activity in Seattle, WA, USA

www.kaggle.com

Boston Airbnb Open Data

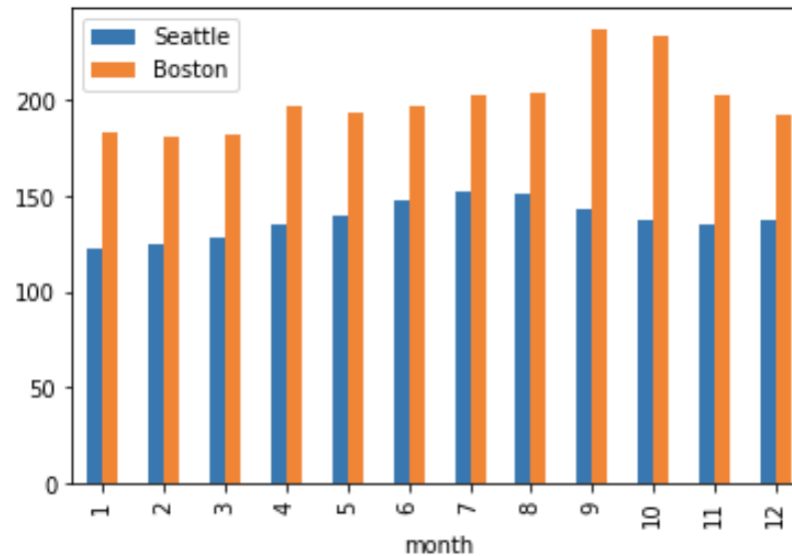A sneak peek into the Airbnb activity in Boston, MA, USA

www.kaggle.com

Step 2: Questions???

After looking at the data, we begin asking questions. What questions do you want to answer with the data you have collected? My questions is where and when is the best place to book a property at. For me, the best is the cheapest.

Step 3: Let's look at some data!!!

I am undecided between booking in Seattle or Boston. I would like to find which city is cheaper and when is the best time to book?
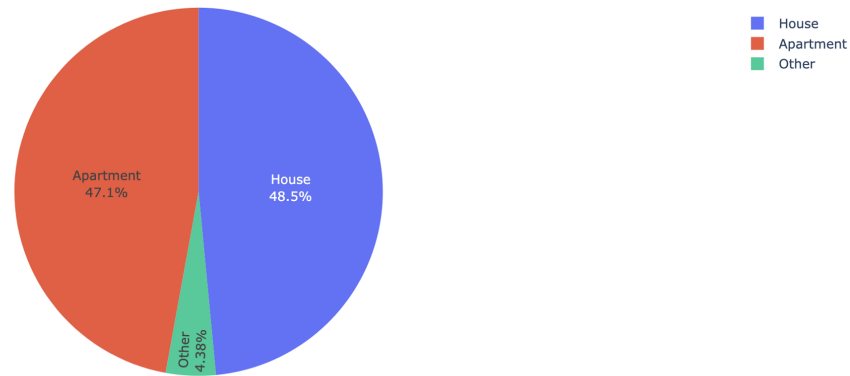

From the data, we could clearly see that Boston is much more expensive than Seattle, averaging over $100 per listing. Seattle is the clear winner here.
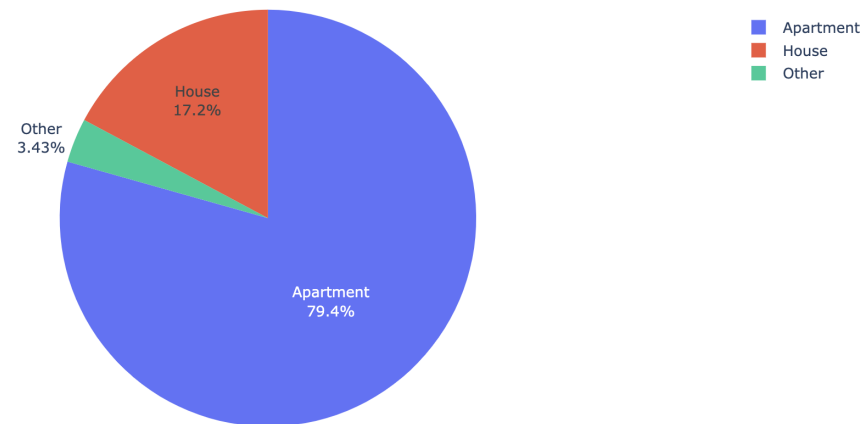The best deal could be found in January and February time frame.

Personally, I don't like apartments. I prefer to stay in a house or townhouse. Isn't that the whole point of booking on Airbnb. If I want to stay in an apartment, I would just book a hotel. So, which city has the best selection for house listings. Let's look at some more data.

Seattle AirBnB Property Types

- House
- Apartment
- Other

Boston AirBnB Property Types

- Apartment
- House
- Other

Seattle has a much larger selection of house listings and Boston. When looking to book a house, Seattle is the place to be.

Looking at the two data so far, Seattle is the winner. But which neighborhood should I book at. Let's look at more data of course.

Average Price per Neighborhood

To get the best deals in Seattle, we should be looking in the Olympic Hills, Dunlap, or Rainier Beach.

. . .

Recommendation:

From a data scientist. Seattle is a much better place to book than Boston. You get cheaper prices, more selection of homes. I also

recommend booking in the January and February in the area of Olympics Hills, Dunlap, or Rainier Beach. So, that is how a Data Scientist would book on Airbnb.