Food Delivery App - Complete Backend Specification

Express.js MVP + Security + Deployment Ready

Executive Summary

Enterprise-grade food delivery platform optimized for the Cameroon market with Mobile Money integration, SMS/USSD support, and low-internet adaptation. Built with Express.js, featuring comprehensive security, real-time capabilities, and production deployment on Render.com.

1. **E** System Architecture & Technical Stack

Core Technology Stack

- **Backend Framework**: Express.js (Node.js 18+)
- **Database**: SQLite (MVP) → PostgreSQL (Production)
- Authentication: JWT + Refresh Tokens + OAuth2
- Real-time: Socket.io with Redis adapter
- File Storage: Cloudinary / AWS S3
- Caching: Redis (sessions, rate limiting, caching)
- Queue System: Bull Queue with Redis
- Monitoring: Winston + Morgan logging
- Testing: Jest + Supertest + Artillery (load testing)

Security Infrastructure

- Encryption: AES-256-GCM for data at rest
- **Hashing**: Argon2id for passwords
- Rate Limiting: Express-rate-limit + Redis
- Input Validation: Joi + express-validator
- CSRF Protection: csurf middleware
- CORS: Configured for production domains
- Helmet.js: Security headers
- Content Security Policy: Strict CSP rules

Payment Integration Stack

- Mobile Money: CamPay API + NouPay API (dual provider)
- SMS Gateway: Twilio + Local Cameroon provider
- Push Notifications: Firebase Cloud Messaging (FCM)
- Maps & Geolocation: Yandex Maps API
- Al Recommendations: Custom lightweight model (<50MB) + Gemini integration

2. **11** Enhanced User Roles & Permissions

2.1 Visitor (Guest - Not Authenticated)

Permissions: READ_ONLY, CART_MANAGEMENT, GUEST_ORDER

- Browse restaurants & menus with search/filtering
- Add items to cart (session-based, 30min expiry)
- Place orders with mandatory phone verification (OTP)
- Track delivery via public tracking link
- Access limited promotions
- View restaurant ratings & reviews
- Convert to customer account post-order

Security Context: Rate-limited API access, session tracking, phone verification required

2.2 Customer (Authenticated User)

Permissions: All Visitor + LOYALTY_PROGRAM, WALLET_MANAGEMENT, PROFILE_MANAGEMENT

- Account Management: Multiple delivery addresses, payment methods, preferences
- Ordering: Quick reorder, scheduled orders, bulk orders
- Wallet System: Top-up via Mobile Money, refunds, bonus credits, transaction history
- Loyalty Program: Points earning (1 point per 100 XAF), tier progression, reward redemption
- Social Features: Rate/review restaurants & drivers, favorite lists, referral rewards
- **Notifications**: Push, SMS, email preferences with granular control
- Privacy: Data export, account deletion (GDPR compliant)

Security Context: 2FA optional, login attempt monitoring, sensitive action confirmation

2.3 Restaurant Owner

Permissions: RESTAURANT_MANAGEMENT, MENU_CRUD, ORDER_PROCESSING, FINANCIAL_REPORTS

- **Restaurant Profile**: Hours, contact info, cuisine types, delivery radius
- Menu Management: Categories, items, modifiers, availability scheduling
- Order Processing: Real-time notifications, accept/decline with reasons, preparation time estimates
- Financial Dashboard:
 - Revenue tracking with commission breakdown
 - Payout requests to Mobile Money
 - Tax report generation
 - Promotional campaign ROI
- Analytics: Peak hours, best-selling items, customer demographics, delivery performance
- Promotions: Time-based discounts, combo deals, loyalty integration

Security Context: Business verification required, IP restrictions for admin functions, audit trail

2.4 Delivery Driver (Agent)

Permissions: ORDER_ACCEPTANCE, LOCATION_SHARING, EARNINGS_TRACKING

- Order Management: Accept/reject with smart matching algorithm
- Navigation: Integrated Yandex Maps with optimized routes
- Real-time Tracking: Live location sharing with ETA updates
- Delivery Proof: OTP verification, photo confirmation, digital signatures
- Earnings Dashboard: Daily/weekly/monthly reports, tip tracking, fuel reimbursements
- Performance Metrics: Rating trends, delivery success rate, customer feedback
- Vehicle Management: Registration, insurance tracking, maintenance reminders

Security Context: Background check required, real-time location verification, fraud detection

2.5 Support Agent

Permissions: TICKET_MANAGEMENT, CHAT_SUPPORT, ESCALATION_RIGHTS

- Ticket System: Multi-channel (chat, email, SMS) with priority levels
- Live Chat: Real-time customer support with chat history
- Knowledge Base: FAQ management, canned responses, escalation procedures

- **Dispute Resolution**: Order issues, refund processing, mediation tools
- **Performance Tracking**: Response time, resolution rate, customer satisfaction

Security Context: Limited data access, action logging, supervisor oversight

2.6 Admin (Super Admin)

Permissions: FULL_SYSTEM_ACCESS, USER_MANAGEMENT, FINANCIAL_OVERSIGHT, SECURITY_MONITORING

- **User Management**: CRUD operations, role assignments, bulk actions
- Financial Control:
 - Platform wallet management
 - Commission settings per restaurant
 - Payout approvals and fraud detection
 - Revenue forecasting and reporting
- Security Dashboard: Login attempts, fraud alerts, system health monitoring
- Content Management: Newsletter campaigns, partnership requests, promotional content
- System Configuration: Feature flags, maintenance mode, API rate limits
- Audit & Compliance: Activity logs, data retention, regulatory reporting

Security Context: Multi-factor authentication mandatory, IP whitelisting, session timeout

3.1 Authentication & Authorization

javascript

// JWT Strategy with Refresh Tokens

- Access Token: 15 minutes expiry, contains user role & permissions
- Refresh Token: 7 days expiry, secure httpOnly cookie
- Token Rotation: New refresh token on each access token renewal
- Logout: Blacklist tokens in Redis with TTL
- Brute Force Protection: Progressive delays after failed attempts

3.2 Password Security

• Hashing: Argon2id with salt (memory: 64MB, time: 3, parallelism: 4)

- Password Policy: Min 8 chars, complexity requirements, breach detection
- Reset Flow: Secure token (32 bytes), 1-hour expiry, rate limited

3.3 Input Validation & Sanitization

- Request Validation: Joi schemas for all endpoints
- SQL Injection Prevention: Parameterized queries, ORM validation
- XSS Protection: Input sanitization, output encoding, CSP headers
- File Upload Security: Type validation, size limits, virus scanning

3.4 API Security

- Rate Limiting:
 - General: 100 requests/15 minutes per IP
 - Auth: 5 attempts/15 minutes
 - Payment: 3 attempts/5 minutes
- API Keys: Rotation every 90 days, encrypted storage
- **CORS**: Strict origin validation for production
- Request Signing: HMAC-SHA256 for sensitive operations

3.5 Data Protection

- Encryption at Rest: AES-256-GCM for PII data
- Encryption in Transit: TLS 1.3 minimum
- Data Masking: Log sanitization, debug mode restrictions
- Privacy Controls: Data anonymization, retention policies

4. II Enhanced Database Schema

Core Tables

sql

-- Users with enhanced security

Users: id, email, phone, passwordHash, salt, role, status, lastLogin, failedAttempts, lockedUntil, twoFactorSecret, emailVerified, phoneVerified, createdAt, updatedAt

-- Restaurants with business validation

Restaurants: id, ownerld, businessName, legalName, taxld, location, latitude, longitude, deliveryRadius, status, verificationStatus, avgRating, totalOrders

-- Enhanced menu system

Menultems: id, restaurantId, categoryId, name, description, price, costPrice, discountPrice, images, allergens, nutritionalInfo, availability, preparationTime

-- Comprehensive order tracking

Orders: id, customerld, restaurantld, driverld, status, items, subtotal, deliveryFee, tax, discount, total, paymentMethod, paymentStatus, estimatedTime, actualTime, customerNotes, restaurantNotes, driverNotes

-- Advanced wallet system

Wallets: id, ownerType, ownerld, balance, frozenAmount, currency, status, dailyLimit, monthlyLimit

-- Transaction audit trail

Transactions: id, walletld, type, amount, description, referenceld, status, metadata, ipAddress, userAgent, createdAt

Security Tables

sql

-- Session management Sessions: id, userld, token, refreshToken, ipAddress, userAgent, lastActivity, expiresAt -- Security audit AuditLogs: id, userld, action, resource, oldValue, newValue, ipAddress, userAgent, timestamp -- Login attempts tracking LoginAttempts: id, identifier, ipAddress, success, attemptedAt, userAgent

-- Two-factor authentication

TwoFactorAuth: id, userId, secret, backupCodes, lastUsed, createdAt

5. Some Functionalities & Enhanced Flows

5.1 Advanced Customer Journey

```
mermaid

graph TD

A[Guest Browse] --> B{Register?}

B --> |Yes| C[Account Creation + OTP]

B --> |No| D[Guest Checkout]

C --> E[Profile Setup]

E --> F[Browse with Personalization]

F --> G[Add to Cart]

G --> H[Loyalty Points Applied]

H --> I[Payment Selection]

I --> J[Order Confirmation]

J --> K[Real-time Tracking]

K --> L[Delivery + Rating]

L --> M[Loyalty Points Earned]
```

5.2 Restaurant Operations Flow

- Order Reception: Real-time notifications with sound alerts
- Preparation Time: Dynamic estimation based on kitchen load
- **Inventory Management**: Auto-disable items when out of stock

- Peak Hour Management: Surge pricing and delay warnings
- **Quality Control**: Photo verification for order accuracy

5.3 Driver Optimization System

- Smart Matching: Al-powered assignment based on location, rating, vehicle type
- Route Optimization: Multi-order batching with optimal sequencing
- Earnings Maximization: Peak hour incentives, bonus challenges
- Safety Features: Emergency button, incident reporting, speed monitoring

5.4 Admin Control Center

- Real-time Dashboard: Live orders, active drivers, system health
- Fraud Detection: Unusual patterns, fake orders, suspicious accounts
- Revenue Optimization: Dynamic pricing, commission adjustments
- Customer Insights: Behavior analytics, churn prediction, LTV calculation

6. = Payment & Financial System

6.1 Multi-Provider Payment Integration

```
javascript

// Payment Providers Configuration

const paymentProviders = {
    campay: {
        api: 'https://api.campay.net/collect',
        methods: ['MTN_MOMO', 'ORANGE_MONEY'],
        fees: { mtn: 2.5, orange: 2.0 }
    },
    noupay: {
        api: 'https://api.noupay.com/payments',
        methods: ['MTN_MOMO', 'ORANGE_MONEY', 'EU_MOBILE'],
        fallback: true
    }
}
```

6.2 Wallet System Features

• Multi-currency Support: XAF primary, USD for international

- Auto-topup: Scheduled refills when balance drops below threshold
- **Spending Controls**: Daily/monthly limits, category restrictions
- Transaction Categorization: Food, delivery, tips, refunds
- Escrow System: Hold payments until delivery confirmation

6.3 Commission & Payout Structure

```
javascript

const commissionStructure = {
    restaurants: {
        tier1: 15, // New restaurants (first 30 days)
        tier2: 12, // Established (>100 orders)
        tier3: 10, // Premium partners (>500 orders)
},

drivers: {
        baseFee: 500, // XAF per delivery
        distanceFee: 100, // Per km
        tips: 100, // Driver keeps 100%
        bonuses: 'performance-based'
}
```

7. Al & Recommendation Engine

7.1 Custom Lightweight AI Model (<50MB)

```
javascript

// Local AI Model Specifications

const aiModel = {
    size: '49.8MB',
    framework: 'TensorFlow.js',
    training: 'Transfer learning from Gemini base model',
    features: [
    'Dish recommendations based on order history',
    'Peak time predictions',
    'Cuisine preference learning',
    'Price sensitivity analysis'
    ]
}
```

7.2 Recommendation Logic

- Collaborative Filtering: Users with similar tastes
- Content-Based: Dish characteristics, cuisine types
- **Time-Based**: Breakfast/lunch/dinner recommendations
- Weather Integration: Hot soups on rainy days, cold drinks in heat
- Location-Based: Popular dishes in user's area

7.3 Gemini Al Integration

- Menu Description Enhancement: Auto-generate appealing descriptions
- **Customer Service**: Smart reply suggestions for support agents
- Fraud Detection: Pattern recognition for suspicious activities
- Business Intelligence: Market trend analysis, competitor insights

8. Real-time Communication & Notifications

8.1 WebSocket Namespaces

```
javascript

const socketNamespaces = {
   '/customer': ['order-updates', 'driver-location', 'promotions'],
   '/restaurant': ['new-orders', 'driver-assigned', 'customer-messages'],
   '/driver': ['order-assignments', 'route-updates', 'earnings-updates'],
   '/admin': ['system-alerts', 'live-analytics', 'support-tickets'],
   '/support': ['new-tickets', 'customer-chat', 'escalations']
}
```

8.2 Multi-Channel Notification System

- Push Notifications: FCM with custom sounds, images, actions
- SMS Fallback: When app is uninstalled or push fails
- **Email Campaigns**: Newsletter, promotional, transactional
- WhatsApp Business: Order confirmations, delivery updates (future)
- In-App Notifications: Persistent notification center

8.3 Offline-First Approach

- Menu Caching: 7-day local cache with delta updates
- Order Queue: Store orders locally, sync when online
- Critical Data Sync: Priority sync for orders, payments
- Progressive Web App: Full offline functionality

9. Nissing Features & Enhancements

9.1 Advanced Search & Discovery

```
javascript

const searchFeatures = {
  elastic: {
    fuzzySearch: true,
    autocomplete: true,
    filters: ['cuisine', 'price', 'rating', 'delivery-time'],
    sorting: ['relevance', 'rating', 'price', 'distance'],
    facetedSearch: true
},
  ai: {
    voiceSearch: true,
    imageSearch: 'search by food photo',
    semanticSearch: 'natural language queries'
}
```

9.2 Social & Community Features

- Review System: Verified purchase reviews, helpful votes
- **User Profiles**: Public profiles, badges, achievement system
- Social Sharing: Share favorite dishes, restaurants
- Community Challenges: Monthly food challenges, leaderboards
- Recipe Sharing: Restaurant-customer recipe exchange

9.3 Business Intelligence & Analytics

- Customer Segmentation: RFM analysis, behavior clustering
- Predictive Analytics: Demand forecasting, churn prediction

- A/B Testing Framework: UI/UX experiments, pricing tests
- Market Analysis: Competitor monitoring, trend identification
- Restaurant Success Metrics: Health scores, improvement suggestions

9.4 Advanced Logistics

```
javascript

const logisticsFeatures = {
  routing: {
    multiStop: true,
    trafficAware: true,
    weatherConsideration: true,
    vehicleOptimization: ['motorcycle', 'car', 'bicycle']
  },
  inventory: {
    realTimeUpdates: true,
    autoReordering: true,
    wastageTracking: true,
    expiryManagement: true
  }
}
```

9.5 Customer Service Evolution

- Al Chatbot: 24/7 first-line support with escalation
- Video Support: Screen sharing for complex issues
- **Proactive Support**: Issue prediction and prevention
- Multilingual Support: English, French, local languages
- **Voice Support**: Phone support integration

10. Production Deployment (Render.com)

10.1 Render Configuration

yaml			

render.yaml services: - type: web name: food-delivery-api env: node plan: starter buildCommand: npm ci && npm run build startCommand: npm start envVars: - key: NODE_ENV value: production - key: DATABASE_URL fromDatabase: name: food-delivery-db property: connectionString - key: REDIS_URL fromDatabase: name: food-delivery-redis property: connectionString databases: - name: food-delivery-db databaseName: fooddelivery user: admin plan: starter - name: food-delivery-redis plan: starter

10.2 Docker Configuration

dockerfile		

```
FROM node:18-alpine
# Security: Run as non-root user
RUN addgroup -g 1001 -S nodejs
RUN adduser -S nodejs -u 1001
# Install dependencies
WORKDIR /app
COPY package*.json ./
RUN npm ci --only=production && npm cache clean --force
# Copy application
COPY --chown=nodejs:nodejs...
# Security headers and optimizations
ENV NODE_ENV=production
ENV NODE_OPTIONS="--max-old-space-size=1024"
USER nodejs
EXPOSE 3000
# Health check
HEALTHCHECK --interval=30s --timeout=3s --start-period=5s --retries=3 \
CMD node healthcheck.js
CMD ["npm", "start"]
```

10.3 Environment Variables

bash		

```
# Core Configuration
NODE_ENV=production
PORT=3000
API VERSION=v1
# Database
DATABASE_URL=postgresql://user:pass@host:5432/db
REDIS_URL=redis://host:6379
# Security
JWT_SECRET=your-super-secure-secret-key
JWT_REFRESH_SECRET=your-refresh-secret-key
ENCRYPTION_KEY=32-byte-encryption-key
# Payment Providers
CAMPAY_API_KEY=your-campay-api-key
CAMPAY_SECRET=your-campay-secret
NOUPAY_API_KEY=your-noupay-api-key
NOUPAY_SECRET=your-noupay-secret
# External Services
YANDEX_MAPS_API_KEY=your-yandex-api-key
FCM_SERVER_KEY=your-fcm-server-key
TWILIO_ACCOUNT_SID=your-twilio-sid
TWILIO_AUTH_TOKEN=your-twilio-token
GEMINI_API_KEY=your-gemini-api-key
# Email & SMS
SMTP_HOST=smtp.gmail.com
SMTP_USER=your-email@gmail.com
SMTP_PASS=your-app-password
# Security
RATE_LIMIT_WINDOW_MS=900000
RATE_LIMIT_MAX_REQUESTS=100
```

SESSION_TIMEOUT=3600000

11. Comprehensive Testing Strategy

11.1 Test Pyramid

```
javascript
const testStrategy = {
 unit: {
  coverage: '95%',
  tools: ['Jest', 'Sinon'],
  focus: ['utils', 'validators', 'middleware', 'services']
 },
 integration: {
  coverage: '85%',
  tools: ['Supertest', 'TestContainers'],
   focus: ['API endpoints', 'database operations', 'external services']
 },
 e2e: {
  coverage: 'critical paths',
  tools: ['Playwright', 'Cucumber'],
   focus: ['user journeys', 'payment flows', 'real-time features']
 },
 performance: {
  tools: ['Artillery', 'K6'],
   scenarios: ['peak load', 'stress testing', 'spike testing']
```

11.2 Security Testing

- SAST: SonarQube for static analysis
- DAST: OWASP ZAP for dynamic testing
- Dependency Scanning: npm audit, Snyk
- Container Scanning: Trivy for Docker images
- **Penetration Testing**: Quarterly external audits

12. 📊 Monitoring & Observability

12.1 Application Monitoring

```
const monitoring = {
 logs: {
  tool: 'Winston + Morgan',
  levels: ['error', 'warn', 'info', 'debug'],
  storage: 'ELK Stack / CloudWatch',
  retention: '90 days'
 },
 metrics: {
  tool: 'Prometheus + Grafana',
  dashboards: ['system', 'business', 'security'],
  alerts: ['response time', 'error rate', 'payment failures']
 },
 tracing: {
  tool: 'Jaeger',
  coverage: 'all API calls',
  sampling: '10% in production'
```

12.2 Business Metrics Dashboard

- Real-time Orders: Active orders, completion rate
- Revenue Tracking: Hourly/daily revenue, commission breakdown
- User Activity: Active users, new registrations, churn rate
- Driver Performance: Average delivery time, driver utilization
- Restaurant Analytics: Order volume, popular items, customer ratings

13. **o** Al Agent Task Breakdown

Phase 1: Foundation & Security (Sprint 1-2)

markdown

Task 1.1: Project Setup

- [] Initialize Express.js project with TypeScript
- [] Configure ESLint, Prettier, Husky pre-commit hooks
- [] Setup project structure (MVC pattern)
- [] Configure environment variables and validation
- [] Setup Docker configuration with security best practices

Task 1.2: Database & ORM Setup

- [] Configure Sequelize ORM with PostgreSQL
- [] Create all database models with validation
- [] Setup database migrations and seeders
- [] Configure connection pooling and query optimization
- [] Implement database backup strategies

Task 1.3: Core Security Implementation

- [] JWT authentication with refresh token rotation
- [] Argon2id password hashing implementation
- [] Rate limiting with Redis backend
- [] Input validation using Joi schemas
- [] CORS, Helmet, CSP security headers
- [] Request/response logging with PII masking

Phase 2: User Management & Authentication (Sprint 3-4)

markdown

Task 2.1: Authentication System

- [] User registration with email/phone verification
- [] Login with brute force protection
- [] Password reset flow with secure tokens
- [] Two-factor authentication (TOTP)
- [] Social login (Google, Facebook) OAuth2
- [] Role-based access control middleware

Task 2.2: User Profile Management

- [] Profile CRUD operations with validation
- [] Multiple address management
- [] Preference settings (notifications, cuisine, etc.)
- [] Account deletion with data anonymization
- [] Data export functionality (GDPR compliance)

Phase 3: Core Business Logic (Sprint 5-7)

markdown

Task 3.1: Restaurant Management

- [] Restaurant registration and verification
- [] Menu management with categories and modifiers
- [] Business hours and availability system
- [] Restaurant dashboard with analytics
- [] Inventory management integration

Task 3.2: Order Processing System

- [] Shopping cart with session management
- [] Order placement and validation
- [] Order status management workflow
- [] Real-time order updates via WebSocket
- [] Order cancellation and modification rules

Task 3.3: Payment Integration

- [] CamPay API integration for Mobile Money
- [] NouPay API as backup payment provider
- [] Wallet system with transaction history
- [] Automatic retry logic for failed payments
- [] Payment reconciliation and reporting

Phase 4: Advanced Features (Sprint 8-10)

markdown	

Task 4.1: Real-time Communication

- [] Socket.io setup with Redis adapter
- [] Real-time order tracking system
- [] Live chat support system
- [] Push notification service (FCM)
- [] SMS notification fallback

Task 4.2: Loyalty & Rewards System

- [] Point calculation and tier management
- [] Reward redemption system
- [] Referral program implementation
- [] Promotional campaigns management
- [] Coupon and discount code system

Task 4.3: AI Recommendations

- [] Train custom lightweight AI model (<50MB)
- [] Implement recommendation algorithms
- [] Gemini AI integration for enhanced features
- [] A/B testing framework for recommendations
- [] Performance monitoring for AI features

Phase 5: Operations & Analytics (Sprint 11-12)

markdown

Task 5.1: Admin Dashboard

- [] Real-time analytics dashboard
- [] User management interface
- [] Financial reporting system
- [] System monitoring and health checks
- [] Audit log and activity tracking

Task 5.2: Driver Management

- [] Driver onboarding and verification
- [] Route optimization algorithms
- [] Earnings calculation and payout system
- [] Performance tracking and rating system
- [] Vehicle and document management

Phase 6: Testing & Deployment (Sprint 13-14)

Task 6.1: Comprehensive Testing

- [] Unit tests for all services and utilities
- [] Integration tests for API endpoints
- [] End-to-end testing for critical user journeys
- [] Performance testing with load simulation
- [] Security testing and vulnerability assessment

Task 6.2: Production Deployment

- [] Render.com deployment configuration
- [] Database migration scripts
- [] Environment-specific configurations
- [] Health check endpoints
- [] Monitoring and alerting setup
- [] Documentation and deployment guide

14. Success Criteria & KPIs

Technical Metrics

- **Performance**: API response time < 200ms (95th percentile)
- **Reliability**: 99.9% uptime, zero data loss
- Security: No critical vulnerabilities, SOC 2 compliance ready
- Scalability: Handle 10,000 concurrent users, 1M daily orders

Business Metrics

- **User Growth**: 50% month-over-month growth in first 6 months
- Order Volume: 1000 orders/day by month 3
- Revenue: \$10K monthly revenue by month 6
- Customer Satisfaction: 4.5+ star average rating

Operational Metrics

- Code Quality: 90%+ test coverage, A-grade code quality
- Deployment: Zero-downtime deployments, 15-minute deployment cycle
- **Support**: < 2 hour response time, 95% first-call resolution
- Monitoring: 100% critical path monitoring, proactive alerting

15. 🔄 Maintenance & Future Roadmap

Short-term (3-6 months)

- Machine learning model improvements
- Advanced analytics and reporting
- Mobile app API optimization
- Third-party logistics integration

Medium-term (6-12 months)

- Multi-city expansion
- B2B catering services
- Subscription meal plans
- Advanced inventory management

Long-term (12+ months)

- International expansion
- Franchise management system
- Al-powered kitchen optimization
- Blockchain-based supply chain tracking

This comprehensive specification provides AI agents with clear, actionable tasks while ensuring enterprise-grade security, scalability, and maintainability. Each phase builds upon the previous one, allowing for incremental development and testing.