



**HAWASSA UNIVERSITY**

**FACULTY OF INFORMATICS**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE**

**MOBILE APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT**

**PROJECT PROPOSAL**

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# **TRAVELINK**

**“Explore smarter, Travel  
Better”**

# INTRODUCTION

Traveling is one of the most enjoyable and rewarding experiences, but it can also be stressful without proper guidance and reliable information. Many travelers, especially young explorers and local tourists, face challenges in finding trusted details about destinations, accommodations, and nearby attractions. Most of the time, they have to switch between several apps or websites just to plan a simple trip, which wastes time and creates frustration.

Travelink is designed to solve this problem by serving as a smart and reliable travel companion. It brings together essential travel information such as destinations, restaurants, hotels, directions, and nearby attractions into one simple mobile application. With this, users can plan their trips more efficiently, explore safely, and enjoy a more organized travel experience.

This project aims to make travel planning easier for everyone, especially those who love discovering new places but lack access to clear and updated travel resources. By combining technology, convenience, and user-friendly design, Travelink helps users “explore smarter and travel better”.

## PROBLEM STATEMENT

Traveling to new places is exciting but also challenging, especially when travelers lack reliable, up-to-date information. Tourists often struggle to find trusted local guides, safe routes, accommodations, restaurants, and nearby services. Information is scattered across websites, blogs, and social media, which can be inaccurate or outdated. Switching between multiple apps or websites can waste time and cause confusion.

Many travelers rely on random online reviews or word of mouth, leading to wasted

time, safety risks, or missed experiences. There is also a lack of integrated mobile platforms that combine navigation, local discovery, safety tools, and offline accessing one simple app particularly for countries with limited internet connectivity like Ethiopia.

## Who is affected?

This problem primarily affects independent travelers including solo travelers, backpackers, adventure seekers, and culturally curious tourists who venture beyond pre-packaged tours. They are digitally literate but overwhelmed by the fragmented landscape of travel apps, review sites, and social media.

Why is it a problem?

**Inefficiency & Decision Fatigue:** The constant switching between non-integrated apps (for maps, reviews, and translations) and the need to vet outdated blog posts or potentially fake reviews wastes valuable time and mental energy before and during a trip.

➤ **Safety and Reliability Concerns:** Relying on inaccurate or outdated information can lead travelers into unsafe areas, to closed businesses, or to poor-quality services, compromising their personal safety and financial investment.

➤ **Missed Opportunities & Inauthentic Experiences:** The lack of verified, off-the-beaten-path information causes travelers to miss unique local gems, defaulting to well-known tourist traps. This results in a less authentic and rewarding experience for the traveler and distributes economic benefits unevenly within the local community.

➤ **Accessibility Barriers in Low-Connectivity Regions:** The problem is severely exacerbated in countries with limited or expensive internet access, where travelers

lose their digital lifeline the moment they need it most, leaving them stranded and ill-informed.

## User Persona

Our user is Nahom, a 28-year-old graphic designer who saves carefully for two major solo trips each year. He is adventurous and values authentic cultural immersion over luxury, but he is also safety-conscious. Nahom spends hours piecing together his trip plans from a dozen different websites and apps, yet still arrives at his destination anxious about whether his information is current and trustworthy. He often feels frustrated by the disconnect between the idealized travel content he sees online and the confusing reality of navigating a new place, especially when he cannot get a reliable internet connection.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Travelink is an all-in-one travel app that makes trip planning and exploring easy and safe. It brings together trusted information, maps, and useful tools in one simple place.

### How It Helps Travelers:

#### 1. Provides Information

- We make sure our information is correct and up-to-date.
- We work with local experts and tourism offices to check places.
- Other users can share quick updates, like if a spot is closed or too busy.
- Reviews focus on simple, helpful ratings like safety, cleanliness, and value.

Benefit: You can trust the information in the app. This means no more showing up to places that are closed or not as described.

## **2. Works Anywhere, Even Without Internet**

- The app works offline so you are never lost.
- You can download city maps, your trip plans, and key local phrases to use without Wi-Fi or data.
- It includes safety tools like the ability to share your location with family and find well-lit walking routes.
- Quick access to important local emergency numbers is always available.

Benefit: Gives you peace of mind. You can explore new places confidently, even in areas with poor internet connection.

## **3. Helps You Discover Real Local Favorites**

- The app helps you find unique places beyond the common tourist spots.
- It learns what you like and suggests hidden gems and popular local restaurants.
- It gives you small tips about local customs so you can be a respectful visitor.

Benefit: You get a more authentic and personal travel experience. You can make unique memories and connect with the local culture.

Generally Travelink takes the stress out of travel. It is your simple, reliable, and helpful guide that works everywhere, helping you have better and safer trips.

# **CORE FEATURES (MINIMUM VIABLE PRODUCT-MVP)**

These are the essential features for working version of Travelink

### **➤ User Registration and Login**

Secure user authentication using email and password.

### **➤ Destination Explorer**

Search and view details of cities, landmarks, restaurants, and hotels with short

Descriptions and images.

#### Nearby Recommendations

Use GPS to show nearby attractions, restaurants, or accommodations based on current location.

#### ➤ Navigation Assistance

Integration with Google Maps API to provide real-time directions from user's location to a selected destination.

#### ➤ Offline Access (Basic)

Allow users to save selected destinations and view them later without internet connection.

Additional functionality

- Push notifications for new nearby attractions or travel safety updates.
- In-app reviews and rating system for destinations.

## TEAM MEMBERS AND ROLES

MEMBERS NAME	ROLES	RESPONSIBILITIES
MUNIRA JEMAL	Project Lead/ Android Developer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Oversees overall project progress and ensures all deliverables (GitHub, Figma, Jira) are ready before submission.</li><li>- Creates and manages the GitHub repository.</li><li>- Sets up the Android project structure .</li><li>- Handles main Android development tasks like activity navigation and logic implementation</li></ul>
AMIRA ZEYNU	UI/UXManager (Figma Lead 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Collaborates on app wireframes and user flows in Figma.</li><li>- Focuses on layout structure for screens like Home, Details</li><li>- Ensures usability and consistent</li></ul>

		visual structure.
DUNCAN KIROS	UI/UX Manager (Figma Lead 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Works jointly with Figma Lead 1 to design UI elements.</li> <li>- Handle prototyping and connecting screens to show user flow.</li> <li>- Prepares and shares the Figma view link for inclusion in the GitHub README.</li> </ul>
TEMNI GEZAHEGN	Database Developer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Designs the SQLite database schema for tourist data .</li> <li>- Plans and later implements CRUD operations.</li> <li>- Ensures proper linkage between UI and stored data.</li> <li>- Provides data model documentation for proposal</li> </ul>
KALKIDAN TILAHUN	Jira Manager /Documentation Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Creates and manages the Jira Scrum project, adds instructor (eliasjarso@hu.edu.et) and team members.</li> <li>- Breaks features into Epics, User Stories, and Sprint 1 tasks.</li> <li>- Oversees document and formatting of the Project Proposal.</li> <li>- Verifies all links (Figma, Jira, GitHub) are correctly added to the README.</li> </ul>
AYACH DANIEL	Documentation Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assists in preparing and formatting the Project Proposal (PDF).</li> <li>- Verifies all links (Figma, Jira, GitHub) are correctly added to the README.</li> <li>- Supports the team in maintaining clear and organized document</li> </ul>