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South African national in the Netherlands with an HSM permit requiring sponsorship.

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Architect – Fintech Foundations

Booking.com

Dear hiring team at booking.com,

I'm excited to apply for the Architect role within the FinTech Foundations team at Booking.com.

What drew me to this opportunity wasn't just the scale or technical ambition—it was the philosophical depth of the role. The idea of shaping foundational systems that quietly empower innovation across an entire ecosystem resonates deeply with how I approach architecture: as both a rigorous discipline and a human endeavour.

In my current role as Application Architect at Knab (BAWAG Group), I guide the architectural direction of a digital-only bank, balancing governance, scalability, and mentorship. I've led the development of policies that unify integrations across systems, evaluated platforms for strategic fit, and mentored engineers to think not just in terms of code, but in terms of systems thinking. Before this, I spent several years at Derivco, where I architected globally distributed event streaming solutions using Kafka, designed hybrid-cloud vaults for regulatory compliance, and helped teams navigate the transition from monoliths to service-oriented architectures.

What I love most is the challenge of translating deeply theoretical concepts like distributed consensus, eventual consistency, or domain boundaries into tangible, reliable systems that people can trust. Whether it's facilitating an Event Storming session or refining a Tech Radar, I believe architecture is ultimately about clarity: making complexity navigable and helping teams see the forest and the trees.

I'm drawn to Booking.com's commitment to inclusion, mentorship, and impact. The idea of contributing to a platform that removes financial friction from travel - while collaborating with teams across the world - is both intellectually and personally energizing. I would be honoured to help shape the architectural vision of your FinTech ecosystem and contribute to its growth.

Thank you for considering my application. I'd welcome the chance to discuss how my experience and mindset align with your mission.

Yours truly,
Reinhardt Bron