



FATIH SULTAN MEHMET VAKIF UNIVERSITY

<https://foodtrendguide.tech>

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1) INTRODUCTION

FoodTrendGuide is a robust, full-stack web application designed to revolutionize how users discover and interact with dining venues. The platform serves as a centralized hub for food enthusiasts to explore trending restaurants, read community reviews, and curate personalized bookmark collections. By integrating local static data with dynamic external APIs, the project provides a comprehensive and interactive map-based experience for urban exploration.

2) SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE

The application follows a **Decoupled Client-Server Architecture**, ensuring scalability and a clear separation of concerns.

2.1 Backend Architecture (The Engine)

The backend is built using **Spring Boot 3.x**, following the "Controller-Service-Repository" pattern:

- **Controller Layer:** Defines RESTful endpoints for authentication, venue management, and user interactions.
- **Service Layer:** Contains the business logic, including complex integrations with **Google Places API** and **OpenStreetMap (OSM)** for real-time location data.
- **Data Access Layer (JPA):** Manages persistence logic through Spring Data JPA, mapping Java objects to the **MySQL** relational database.
- **Security:** Implements **Spring Security** to handle JWT-based authentication and Google OAuth2 integration, ensuring secure user sessions.

2.2 Frontend Architecture (The Interface)

The frontend is a modern **Single Page Application (SPA)** built with **React** and **TypeScript**:

- **State Management:** Utilizes React hooks for managing local state and component lifecycles.
- **Styling:** Leverages **Tailwind CSS** for a responsive, utility-first design approach.
- **Routing:** Managed by React Router to provide seamless navigation between pages like ExplorePage, VenueDetailPage, and ProfilePage.

3) TECHNOLOGY STACK

The **FoodTrendGuide** platform is engineered using a sophisticated and modern technology stack designed for high performance, security, and scalability. The core of the application is powered by **Java 21** and **Spring Boot 3.5.7**, providing a robust backend environment that leverages the latest features of the Java ecosystem. For the frontend, the project utilizes **React 18** paired with **TypeScript**, ensuring a type-safe and highly interactive user interface. The visual presentation is managed through **Tailwind CSS**, which allows for a responsive and modern utility-first design. Data persistence is handled by a **MySQL 8.0** relational database, with **Spring Data JPA** and **Hibernate** facilitating efficient object-relational mapping.

Security is a primary pillar of the architecture, implemented through **Spring Security** with support for **JWT-based authentication** and **Google OAuth2** for seamless social logins. The development lifecycle is streamlined using **Maven** for backend dependency management and **Vite** as a next-generation frontend build tool. Finally, the entire system is deployed on an **AWS EC2** instance running **Ubuntu**, where **Nginx** serves as a reverse proxy to manage HTTPS traffic and **Systemd** ensures the continuous availability of the backend service.

4) DETAILED DIRECTORY STRUCTURE ANALYSIS

The project is organized into two primary modules:

4.1 Backend Module (/backend)

- **config/**: Contains security filters (SecurityConfig), CORS settings, and data loaders.
- **controller/**: Houses 11 specialized controllers, ranging from AuthController for user management to AdminController for system-level operations.
- **model/ & entity/**: Defines the data schema, including User, Venue, Review, and BlogPost entities.
- **service/**: Critical services like GooglePlacesService handle the external data ingestion.

4.2 Frontend Module (/frontend)

- **api/**: Contains Axios configurations (authApi.ts, venueApi.ts) for backend communication.
- **components/**: Reusable UI elements such as Navbar, SearchBar, and VenueCard.
- **pages/**: 13 distinct views catering to different user journeys, including a dedicated AdminSyncPage for data synchronization.

5) KEY FEATURES & IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Dynamic Data Synchronization

The application features an administrative sync tool. The AdminSyncPage interacts with the GooglePlacesService on the backend to fetch the latest venue information, ratings, and photos directly into the local database.

5.2 Responsive Discovery

The ExplorePage and FilterBar allow users to sort venues by category and location, utilizing turkiye-data.ts for localized filtering.

5.3 Secure User Lifecycle

From registration to profile management, user data is protected. Recent updates involved migrating API calls from absolute paths (HTTP) to relative paths (/api) to comply with SSL/TLS (HTTPS) requirements, preventing Mixed Content vulnerabilities.



6) DEPLOYMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

The application is deployed on an **AWS EC2** instance running Ubuntu.

- Production Build:** The React application is built into static assets and hosted within the Spring Boot static/ directory, allowing the entire platform to run as a single executable .jar file.
- Process Management:** The backend is managed as a **Systemd service** (foodtrend.service), ensuring high availability and automatic restarts.
- Network Security:** **Nginx** acts as a reverse proxy, handling SSL termination and forwarding requests to the internal port 8080.

7) CONCLUSION

FoodTrendGuide demonstrates a successful integration of modern web technologies to solve real-world data discovery challenges. By combining the stability of Spring Boot with the agility of React, the platform provides a high-performance environment for users. The current infrastructure is ready for future enhancements, such as AI-driven restaurant recommendations and real-time social feed integrations.

