

Social Media App

"Aurora"



Nature never goes out of style

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Background

Aurora is the Latin word for dawn, and also the name of the Roman Goddess of Dawn. According to Roman mythology, Aurora renews herself every morning and announces the arrival of the Sun.

Theme

Aurora is a social media app where users can share their nature photography, connect with other users and be inspired by nature photography.

Technical Requirements

The requirements given from our teacher were the following. I have sorted them according to MoSCoW, I prioritised the mandatory requirements and chose a lower priority for the non-mandatory requirements, based on the estimated time it would take me to solve them.

MUST

- A user should be able to create an account - username and email
- A user should be able to log into the app - username and email
- A user should be able to share pictures in the app - loading saved pictures with useEffect
- Shared pictures can be liked by other users - does not need to be saved
- A user should be able to create a bio with short information about them - React router to navigate in the app

COULD

- Shared pictures can be commented by users
- Be able to add tags to the shared pictures

WON'T

- Handle saving the information either in local storage or in some other way

Features

These are the different features I wanted for the app

Essential features

- ✓ Clean and attractive landing page
- ✓ Log-in button in navigation bar
- ✓ Navigation bar should be on the top of the site and contain icons only
- ✓ User personal page with short bio and published photos
- ✓ Explore page with different user's pictures
- ✓ Pictures can have different orientation, landscape and vertical in a grid
- ✓ Publish photo should be accessible from navbar
- ✓ Search function for tags, locations and user names

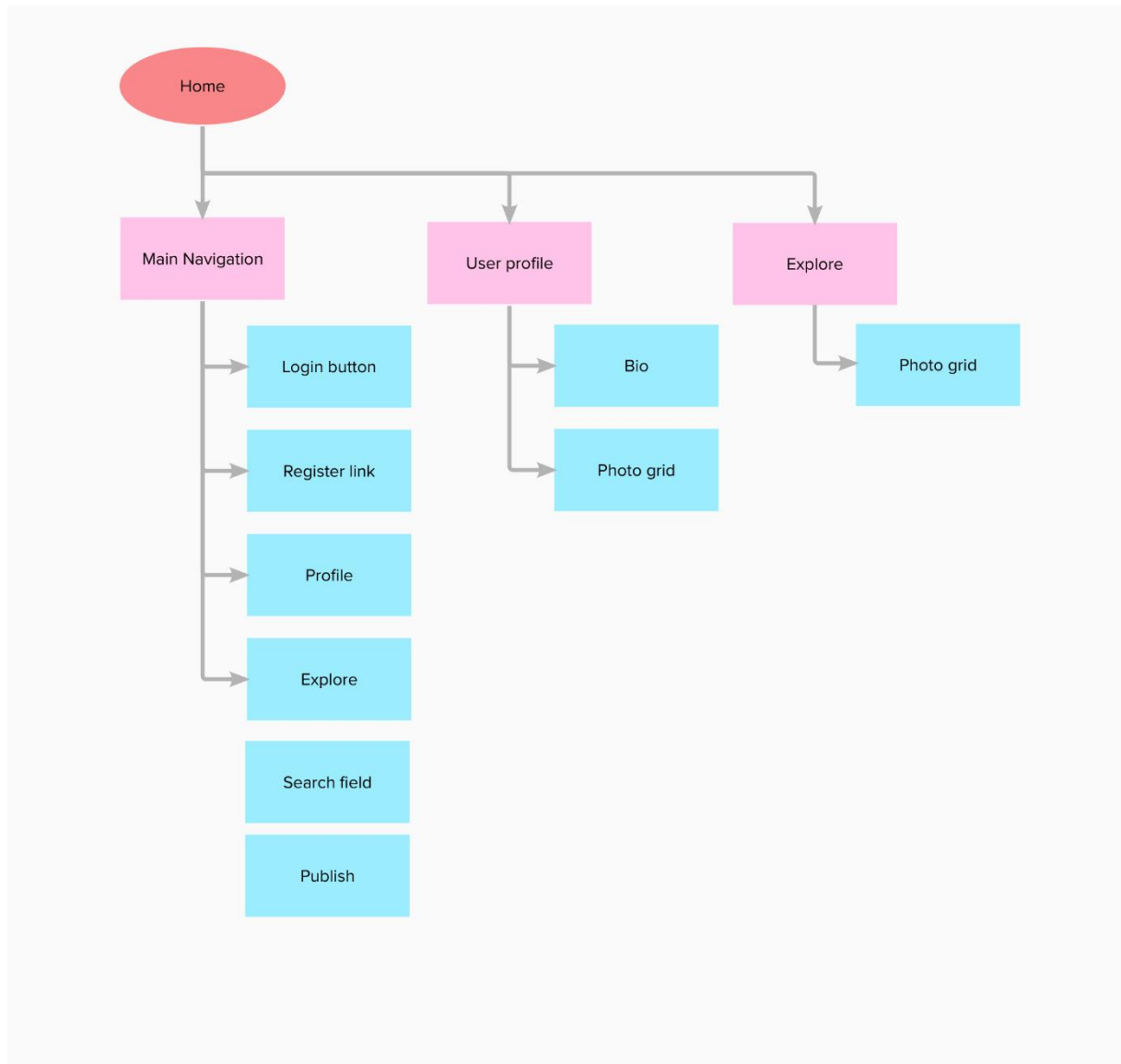
Non-essential features

- ✓ Possibility for user to follow others
- ✓ Private messaging between users
- ✓ Ability to add geo-tags
- ✓ Ability to add hashtags

Product Backlog

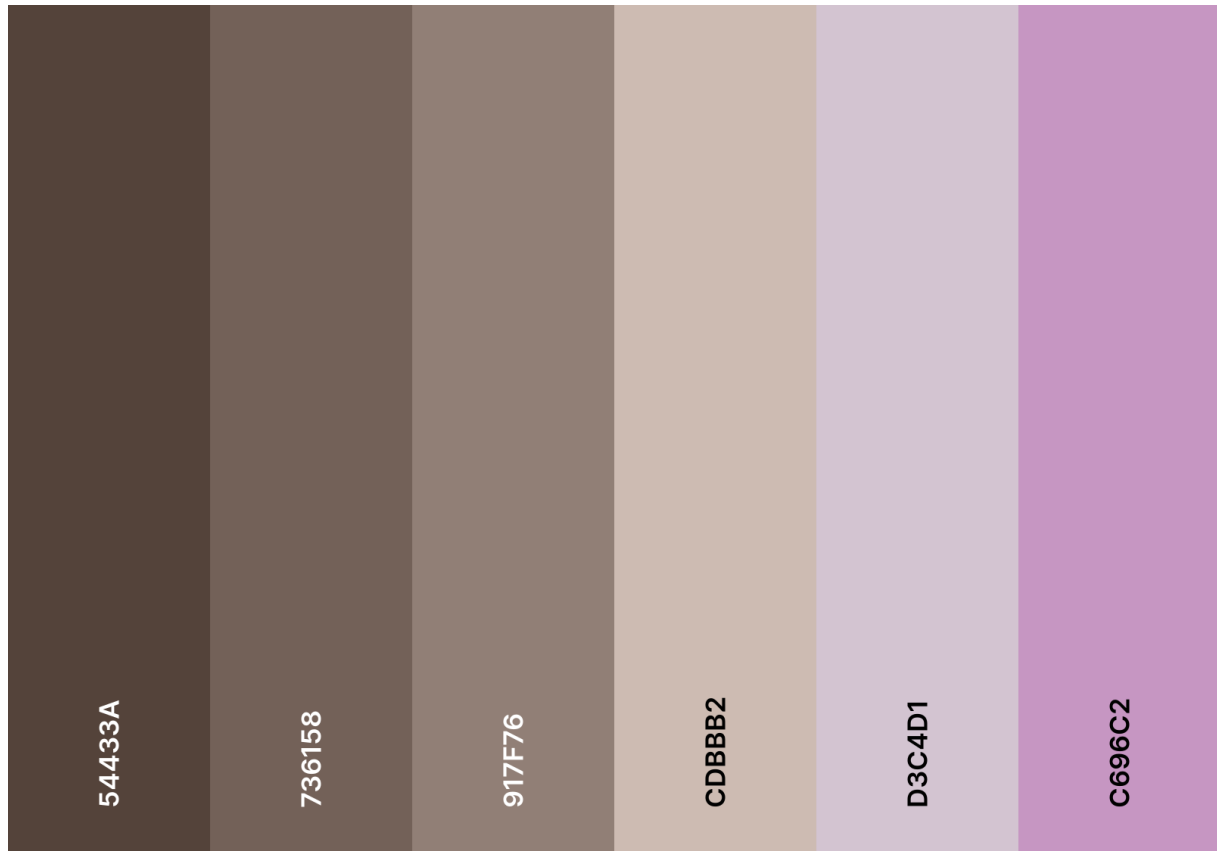
Task	Status
Create graphic profile	Done
Make time plan	Done
Design site architecture	Done
Download images on Pixabay	Done
Create logo	Done
Download icons from Fontawesome	Done
Make navbar with icons and change their color	Done
Create login form	Done
Create register user form	Done
Create home page	Done
Create explore page	Done
Create profile page	Done
Create search page	Done
Add sitewide CSS - fonts, colors, buttons	Done
Create bio section on profile page	Done
Create upload photo function	Done
Create like button	Done
Add textbox and button to search page	Done
Adjust CSS on home page	Done
Move biography header to top	Done
Round the corners on content boxes	Done
Add padding to "image uploaded"	Done
Add content to home page	Done
Move Sign out button to navbar	Done
Create photo-grid on profile page	Done
Move "User not found" to the login box	Done
Add possibility to add profile picture to bio	Done
Add logo to header	Done
Add logo to home page	Done
Change size of uploaded images	Done
Link registered profile name to profile headline	Done
Move "edit" button to the right of bio div	Done
Remove like button from upload photo page	Done
Add padding to uploaded photo	Done
Make login/register form more symmetrical	Done
Add CSS to textfield	Done
Add placeholders to textfield on Search	Done
Make login/register fields required	Done
Add icon to browser tab	Done
Clean out unnecessary items and code	
Add a "follow" button to profile page	
Add content to explore page	
Change "like" to a star	
Change CSS to "Välj fil" button	
Make app fully mobile	
Add CSS to the text on upload photo page	

Site map



Graphic profile

Since the app is for nature photography, I decided to go with a color palette in natural hues. I chose a hero photo to use as background for the entire app, and from there I created the color palette. The hero image is also the background for the title page of this documentation.



Aurora Color Palette

coolors

For the fonts I decided to use two different, one for headlines and one for normal text.

- ✓ Headlines – Voltaire, sans serif
- ✓ Text – Lato, sans serif

I created a logo using Adobe Creative Cloud Express logo maker.

Time plan/schedule

Activity	January 14	January 15	January 16	January 17	January 18	January 19	January 20	January 21
Plan project								
Design								
Gather images and icons								
Code navbar								
Code landing page								
Code login/register page								
Code user profile								
Code publish photo								
Code like feature								
Hand in assignment								
Handle/code remaining tasks								
Present project								

Result and reflections

Due to personal reasons and the fact that I study another course full time, I got a late start to the project. Luckily enough I am an experienced project manager which made the planning process quick. I was not able to book coaching sessions with the teacher, since I only had the possibility to do so during non-office hours, but I am also fortunate to have a brother who is an experienced developer, so I turned to him when I got stuck and needed help.

I have not been able to create everything that I wanted initially, due to lack of time. The app also departed slightly from the initial site map, due to practical reasons and after learning from coding and the user experience.

All details have not been sorted out for the app to be fully functional. There are still details missing. For example it is possible to create multiple profiles, but at the moment there is only one image feed state, so all users share the same image feed. There is also missing the storage function, and features like follow accounts, add tags and comments.

Overall, I am pleased with the result. There are still actions left in the product backlog, which I aim to finish as soon as possible, even though the course has finished. I see this app as a good way to show my progress in coding. Five months ago, I had not written a single line of code!