Software Engineering Immersive Course: Project 2 - Reacathon

Scran & Screen

Brief

Build a React app that consumes a public API using classical and functional components. Focus on writing semantically clean HTML that makes structural sense.

Timeframe: Scran & Screen - 48 hours, pair programming

Summary

Scran and Screen allows users to search for restaurant recommendations near a chosen location, then shows the days movie times for nearby cinemas. The app is built using React and uses 2 public RESTful API's (Zomato and Cinelist) to retrieve the data. We coded collaboratively throughout the entirety of the project sharing a laptop and switching the driver and navigator every 30 minutes. This was the first project where I'd accessed an API and used Insomnia.

(Scran is a term used for food generally in the north of England, originally used by the British Royal Navy.)

Deployment

Play the game here on Heroku.

Installation Instructions

To run the app from the source code, use the clone button to download the source code from GitHub. From the root directory type "npm run serve" in the terminal. The project will run on localhost:8000, and will be viewable on any web browser.

Technologies & Methodologies Used

- HTML 5
- CSS 3
- JavaScript (ES6)
- React.js
- React Router
- Express

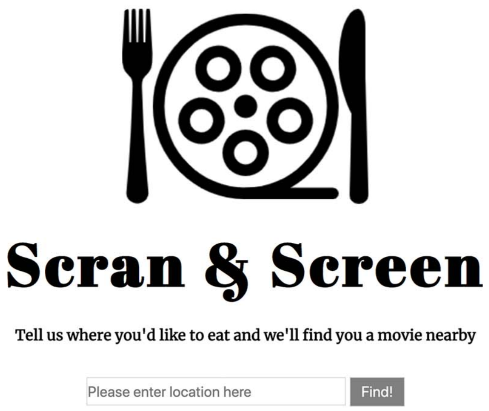
- Axios
- Webpack
- Babel
- Npm
- Insomnia
- GitHub
- Git
- Heroku
- Adobe Illustrator
- Wireframes
- Flexbox Layout Module

Features

- Users can search for a restaurant by city (uses Zomato API)
- Opens a dropdown menu of possible locations
- Users select a restaurant from top 10 nearby recomendations
- Users can view details of the restaurant alongside the closest cinema's listings for the same day

Website Architecture

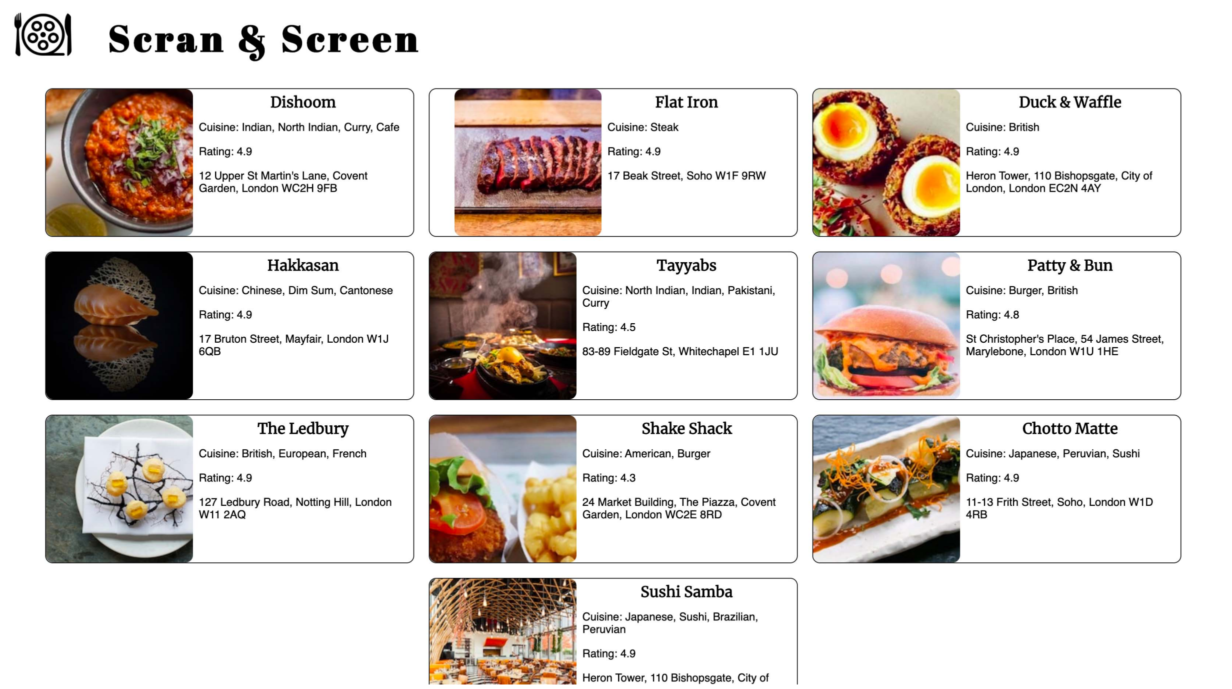
Home Page



Scran & Screen

Tell us where you'd like to eat and we'll find you a movie nearby

Restaurant Index Page



Scran & Screen

Dishoom

Cuisine: Indian, North Indian, Curry, Cafe

Rating: 4.9

12 Upper St Martin's Lane, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9FB

Flat Iron

Cuisine: Steak

Rating: 4.9

17 Beak Street, Soho W1F 9RW

Duck & Waffle

Cuisine: British

Rating: 4.9

Heron Tower, 110 Bishopsgate, City of London, London EC2N 4AY

Hakkasan

Cuisine: Chinese, Dim Sum, Cantonese

Rating: 4.9

17 Bruton Street, Mayfair, London W1J 6QB

Tayyabs

Cuisine: North Indian, Indian, Pakistani, Curry

Rating: 4.5

83-89 Fieldgate St, Whitechapel E1 1JU

Patty & Bun

Cuisine: Burger, British

Rating: 4.8

St Christopher's Place, 54 James Street, Marylebone, London W1U 1HE

The Ledbury

Cuisine: British, European, French

Rating: 4.9

127 Ledbury Road, Notting Hill, London W11 2AQ

Shake Shack

Cuisine: American, Burger

Rating: 4.3

24 Market Building, The Piazza, Covent Garden, London WC2E 8RD

Chotto Matte

Cuisine: Japanese, Peruvian, Sushi

Rating: 4.9

11-13 Frith Street, Soho, London W1D 4RB

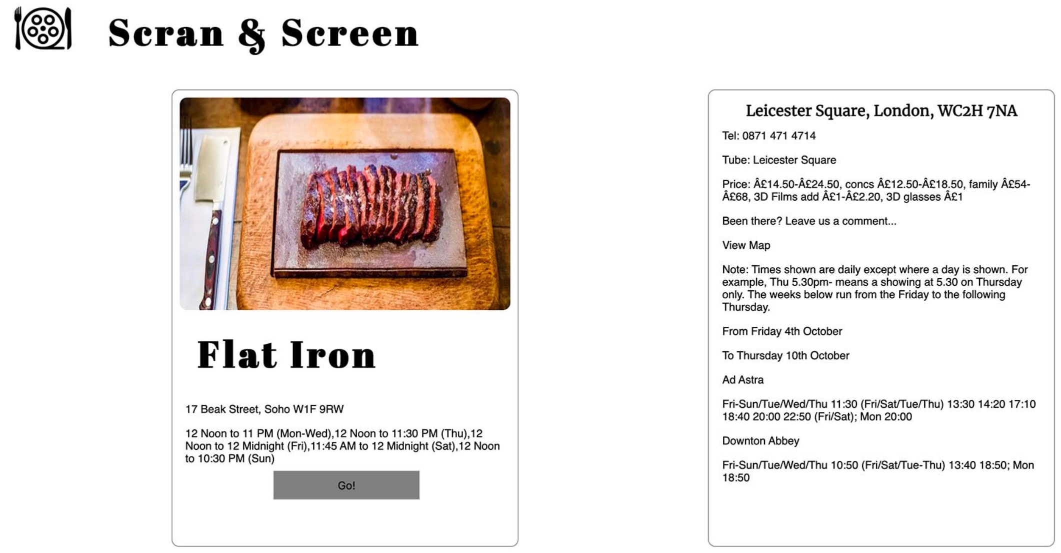
Sushi Samba

Cuisine: Japanese, Sushi, Brazilian, Peruvian

Rating: 4.9

Heron Tower, 110 Bishopsgate, City of

Restaurant & Movie Result Page



Scran & Screen

Flat Iron

17 Beak Street, Soho W1F 9RW

12 Noon to 11 PM (Mon-Wed),12 Noon to 11:30 PM (Thu),12 Noon to 12 Midnight (Fri),11:45 AM to 12 Midnight (Sat),12 Noon to 10:30 PM (Sun)

Leicester Square, London, WC2H 7NA

Tel: 0871 471 4714

Tube: Leicester Square

Price: Â£14.50-Â£24.50, concs Â£12.50-Â£18.50, family Â£54-Â£68, 3D Films add Â£1-Â£2.20, 3D glasses Â£1

Been there? Leave us a comment...

View Map

Note: Times shown are daily except where a day is shown. For example, Thu 5.30pm- means a showing at 5.30 on Thursday only. The weeks below run from the Friday to the following Thursday.

From Friday 4th October

To Thursday 10th October

Ad Astra

Fri-Sun/Tue/Wed/Thu 11:30 (Fri/Sat/Tue/Thu) 13:30 14:20 17:10 18:40 20:00 22:50 (Fri/Sat); Mon 20:00

Downton Abbey

Fri-Sun/Tue/Wed/Thu 10:50 (Fri/Sat/Tue-Thu) 13:40 18:50; Mon 18:50

Approach

Day 1 - PM

We started at 4pm on the Wed eve and quickly got to work deciding that we would use the Zomato API which used longitude and latitude to locate restaurants. We then found the cinelist API which worked in the same way using the longitude and lattitude information that is returned by the Zomato API and passing it over to the Cinelist API.

It was important that both APIs would grant access almost immediately and were free. We read relevant documentation applied for tokens and started to work out how we would call the API's in Insomnia. We looked at the sort of results various requests would return. We drew up a rough wireframe, idea of the API calls we would make and put together the logo.

(add plan)

Day 2

We built the architecture of the site adding calls which had been tested in Insomnia.

Once we had linked up the cinelist API we were struggling to display the films showing that day, our cinemas weren't pulling any results. We tested it in Insomina and realised that the API wasn't working properly. We looked for an alternative API but they all charged a fee. There were no contact details on the cinelist API website but we hoped that it was a temporary glitch. Sadly, over the following week the whole API was taken down. It was too late to start over so we decided to hard code in cinema listings to give the impression of what should have been there.

Day 3 - AM

We used the morning to style the app and tidy up our code.

Takeaways

Importance of:

- Getting it to work then splitting it into components
- Regular well commented git commits - noting what was working and what isn’t
- Working insomnia requests

Challenges Overcome

- calling the API's
- flexbox frustrations

Challenges Still To Overcome

- cinelist API removal

Future Improvements

- find cinelist API replacement
- improved layout and styling
- error handling for the forms
- add mapbox to visually locate restaurants/movies
- calculate travel between Scran and Screen
- further filters on movies and restaurants
- booking system

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