# Making the Most of Search APIs

New features and updates expand search capabilities

Session 223

Vipul Ved Prakash Apple, Inc. John Hörnkvist Apple, Inc.

# Spotlight Updates in iOS 10

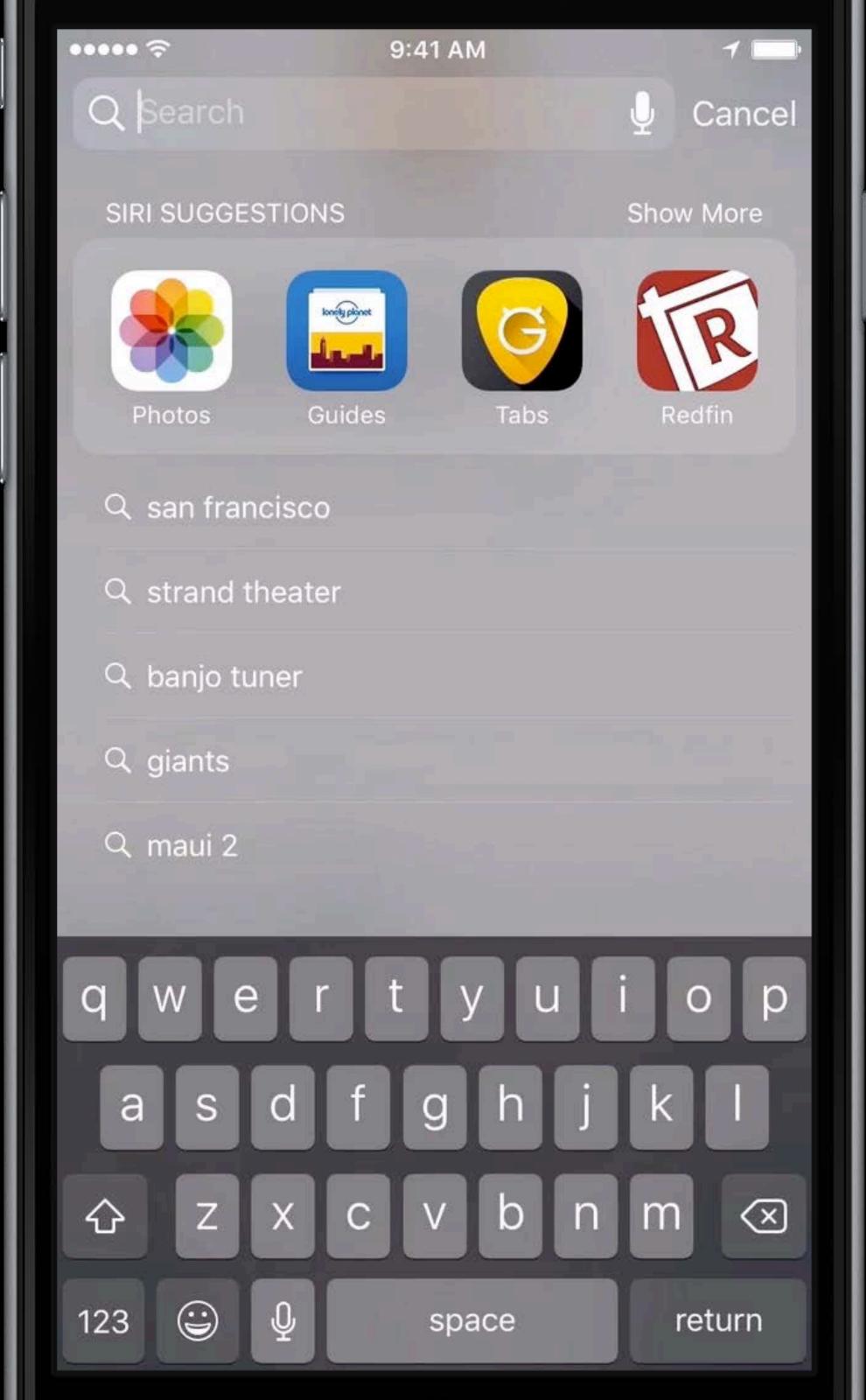
Notification Center

#### NEW

#### NEW



NEW



This easy appetizer is packed with flavor and crunch and comes together in less than half and hour that means less time in the kitchen and more time enjoying long summer evenings!

Spoon the mixture into halved mini sweet peppers to serve it as a festive party dish.











#### NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION

Per Serving: 230 calories (70 from fat), 7g total fat, 65mg cholesterol, 530mg sodium, 33g carbohydrate (2g dietary fiber, 3g sugar), 8g protein

#### **INGREDIENTS**

- 1 box 365 Everyday Value® frozen Lightly Breaded Calamari
- 2 teaspoons expeller-pressed canola oil
- 1/2 pound (8 ounces) green beans, thinly sliced
- 1/2 package frozen Whole Foods Market Vegetable Fried Rice



## Spotlight Updates in iOS 10

Notification Center

Search on Lock Screen

3D Touch











#### WEB VIDEOS



Stephen Curry Is The Worst MVP To Ever Play... by CashNastyGaming 6/8/2016 • 8.5K views



I GOT INTO A BLOODY FIGHT WITH STEPHEN...

by CashNastyGaming 6/7/2016 • 31K views

YouTube

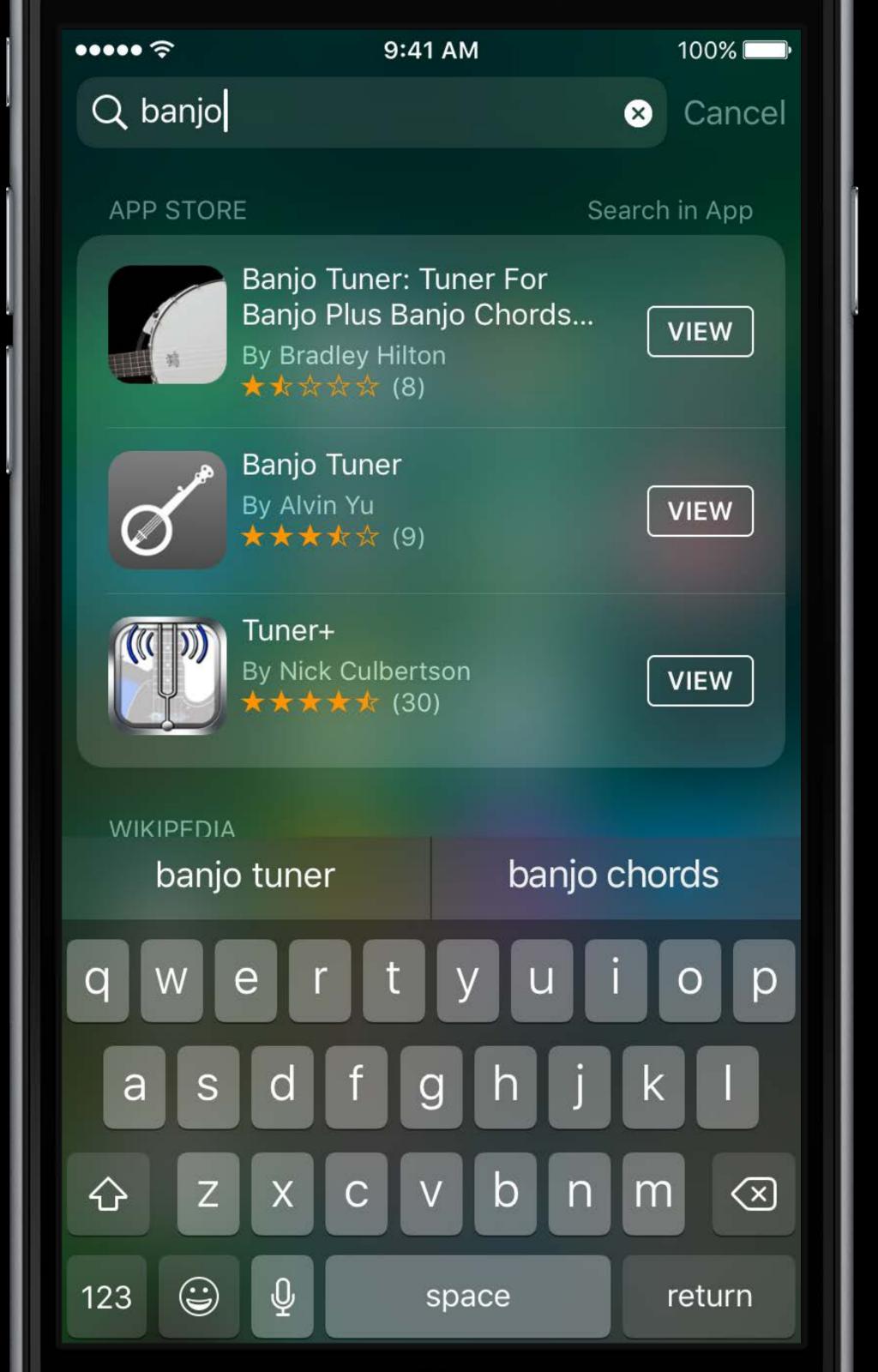
# Spotlight Updates in iOS 10

Notification Center

Search on Lock Screen

3D Touch

Query Suggestions



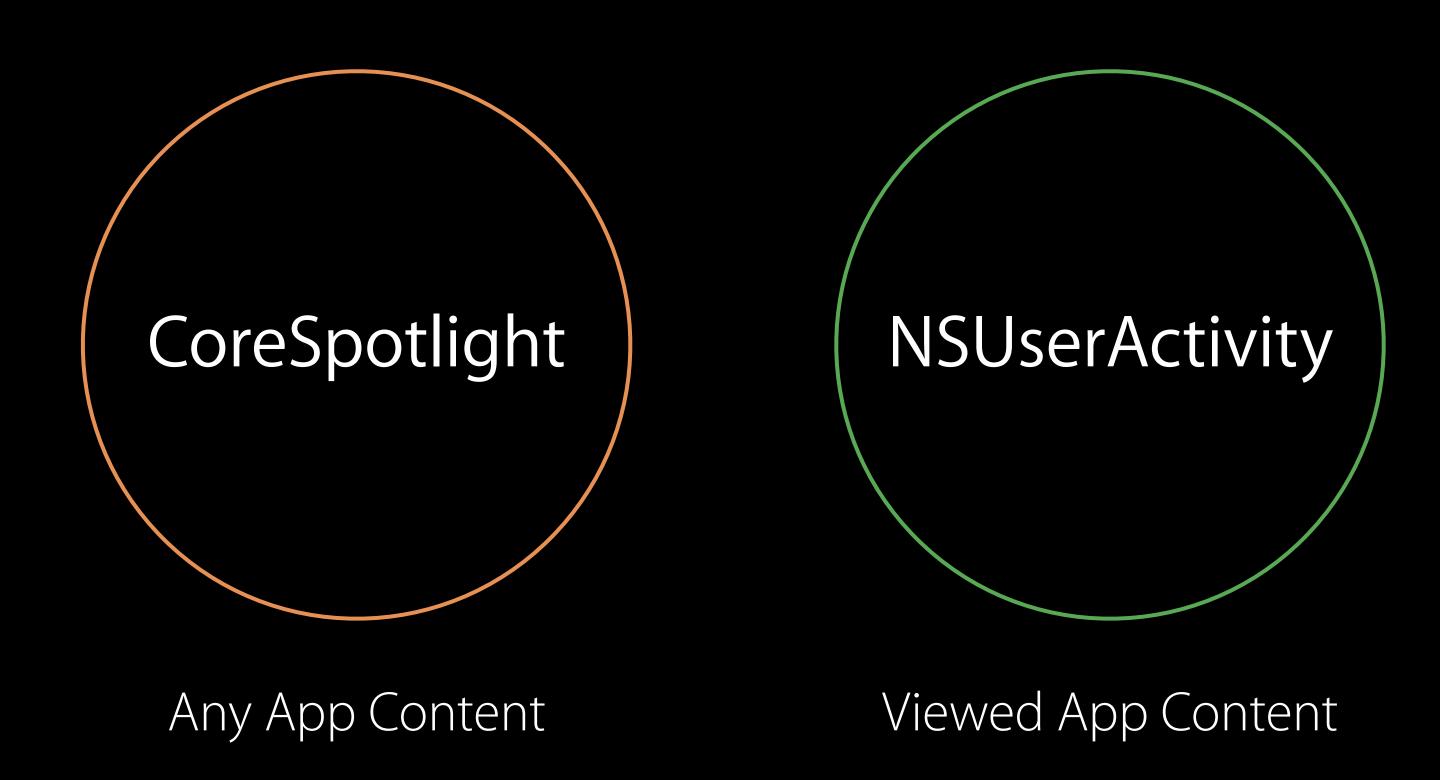
Three technologies for implementing search

Three technologies for implementing search



Any App Content

Three technologies for implementing search

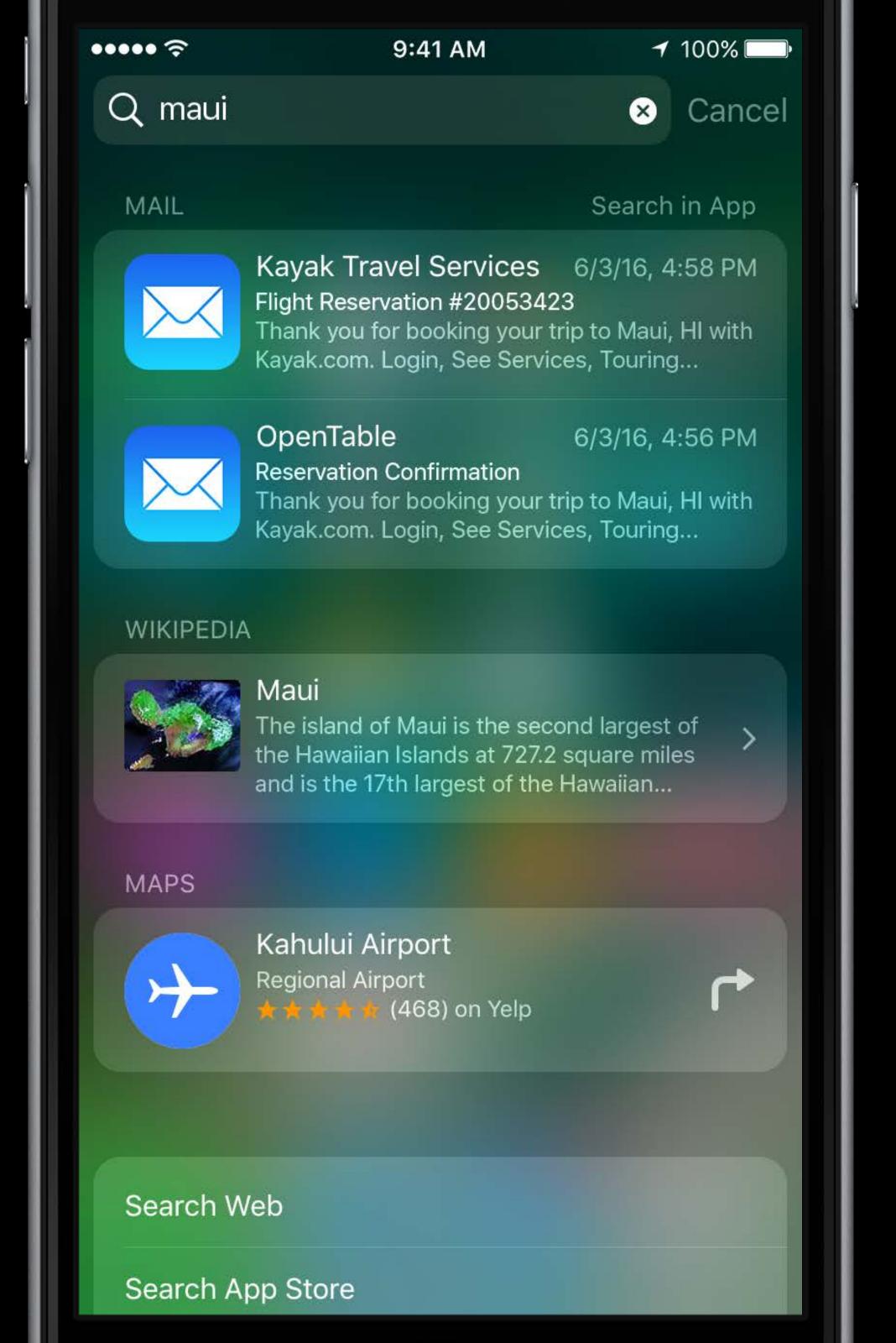


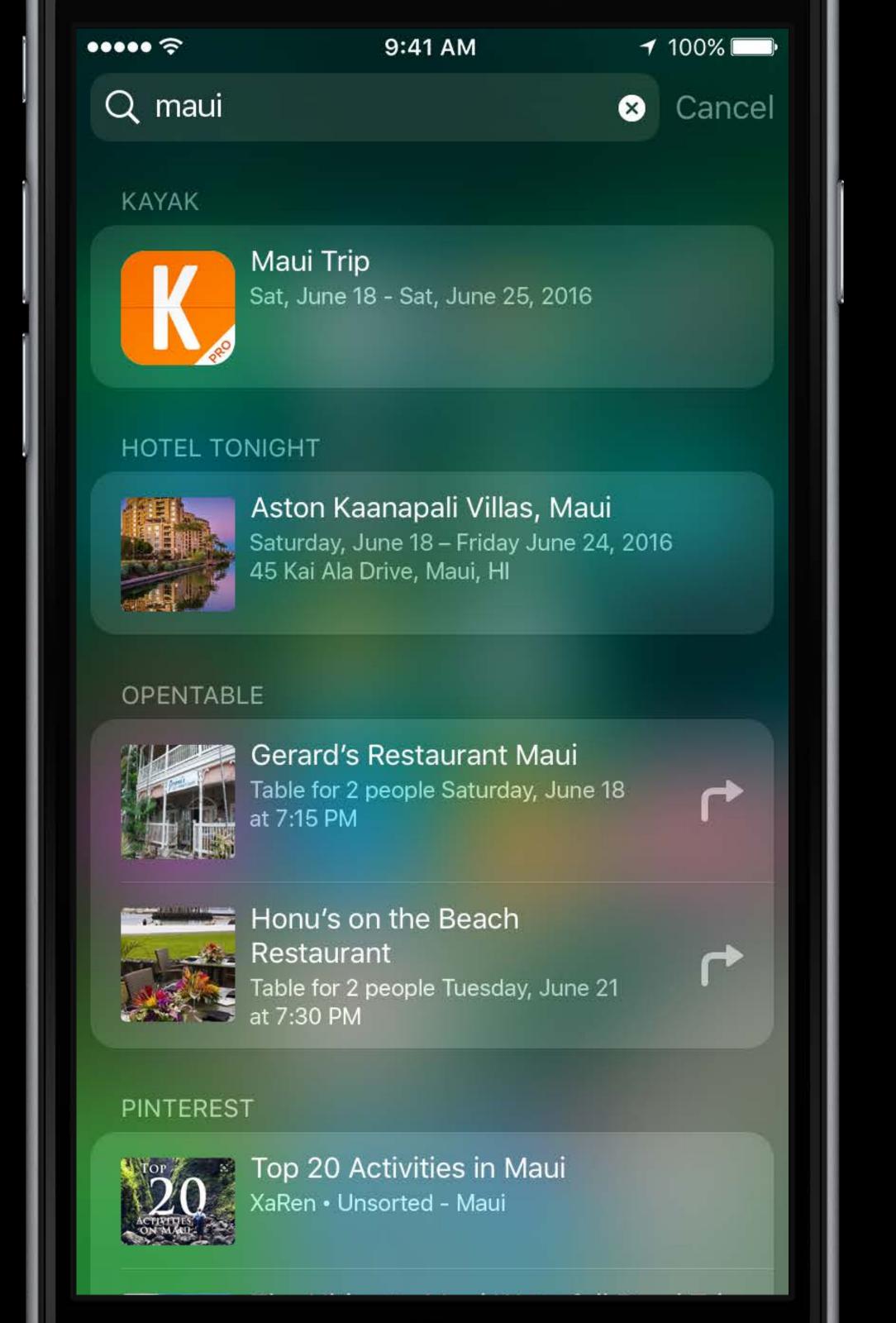
Three technologies for implementing search

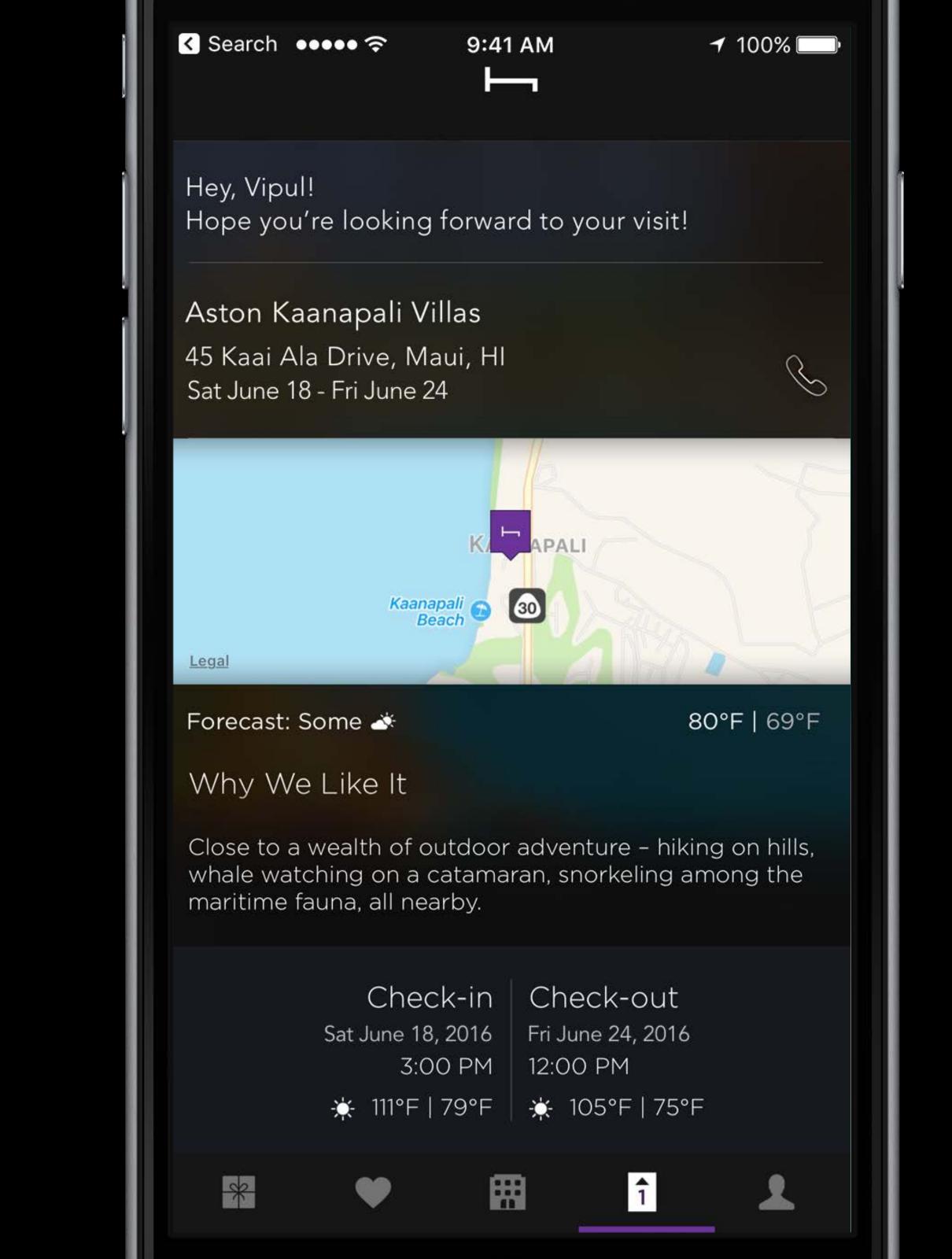


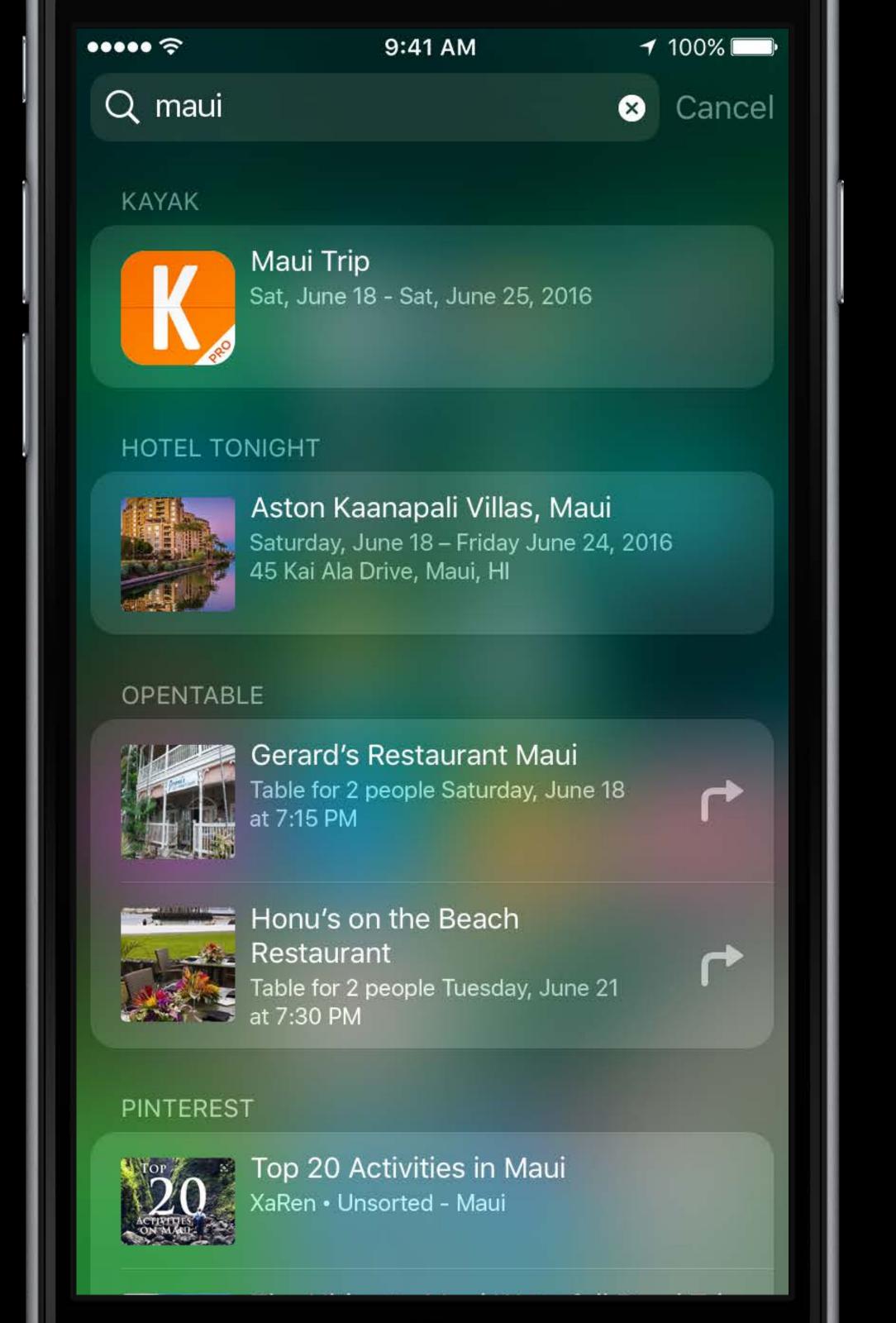
# 50,000+

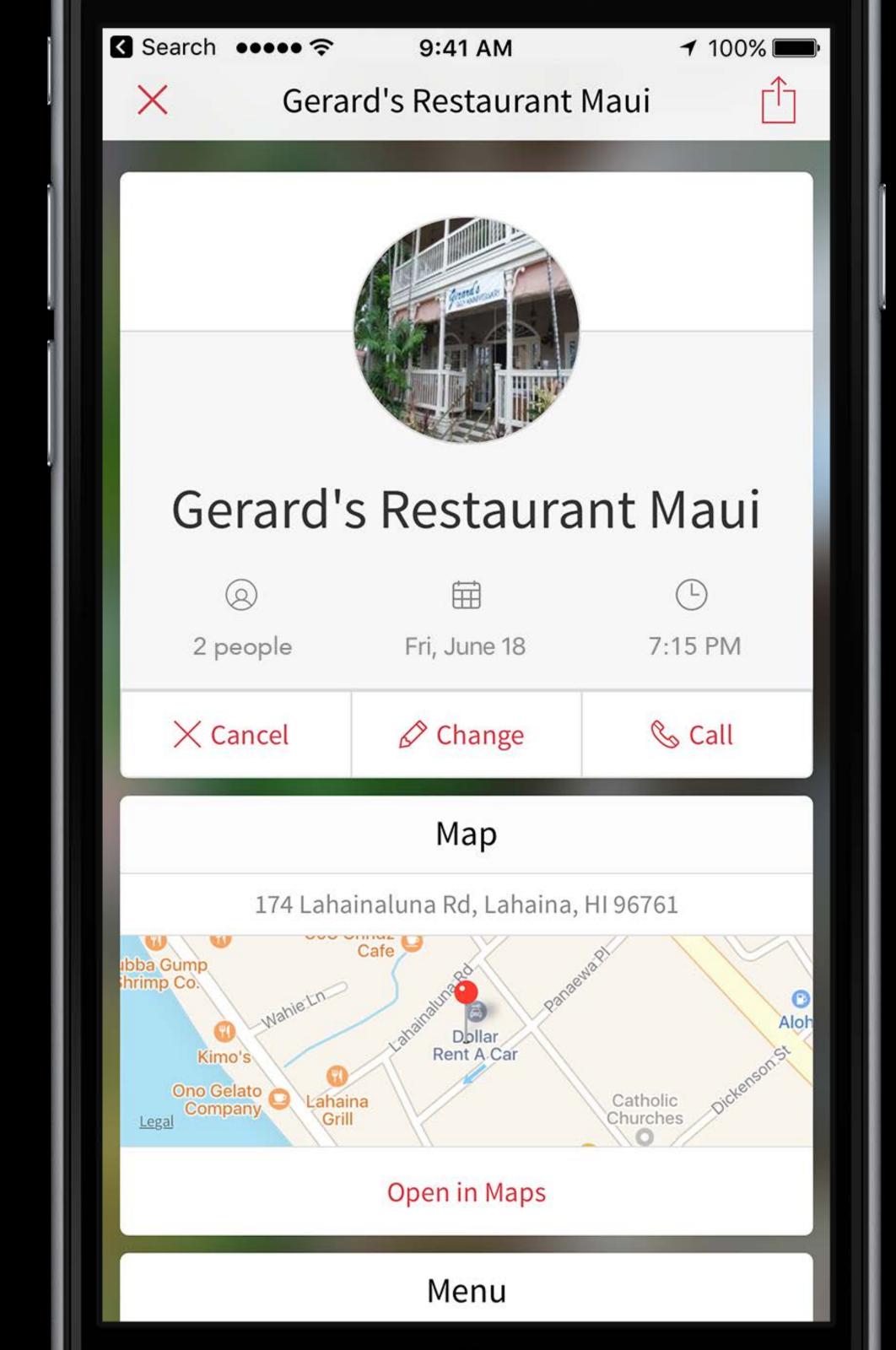
Apps using Search APIs

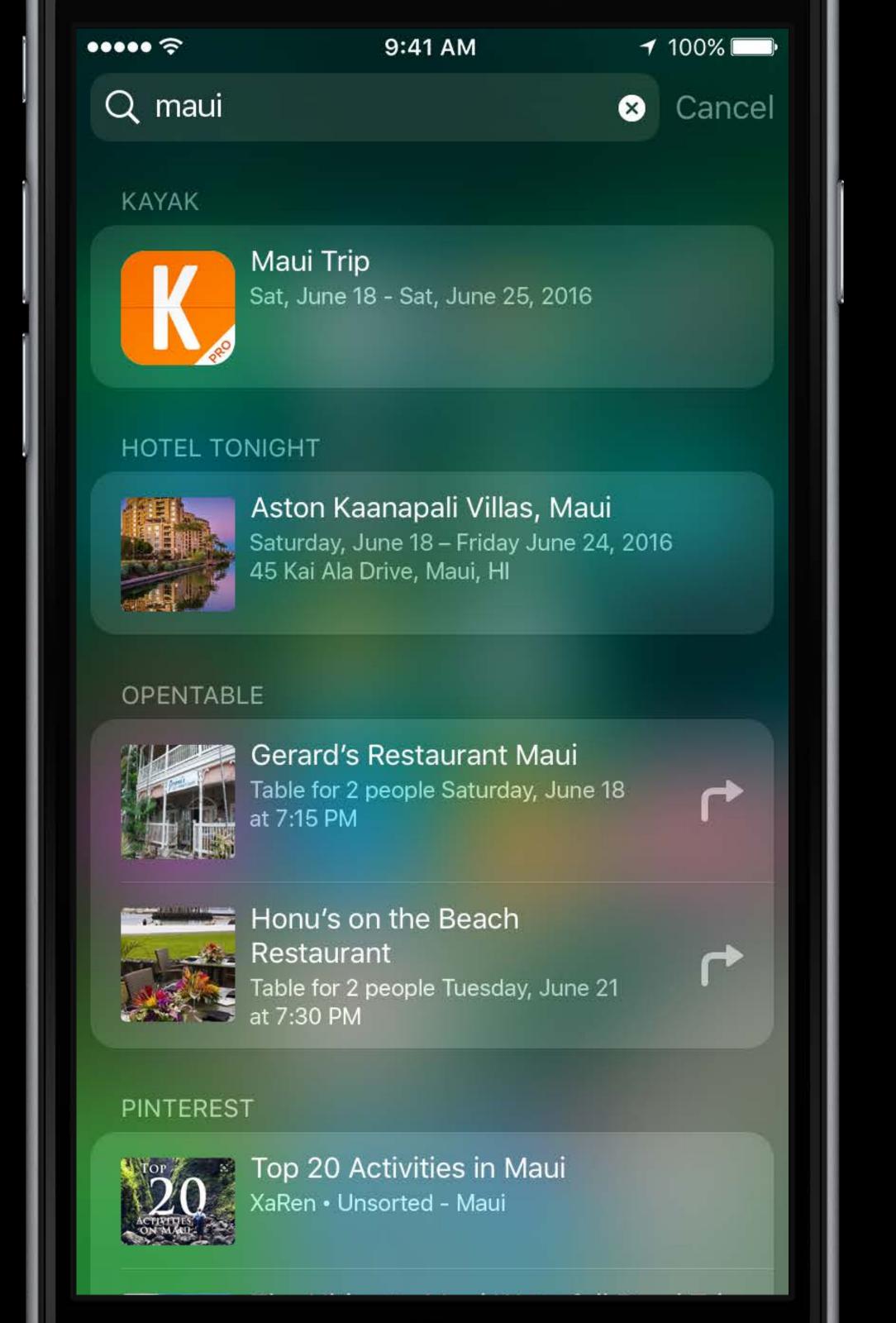


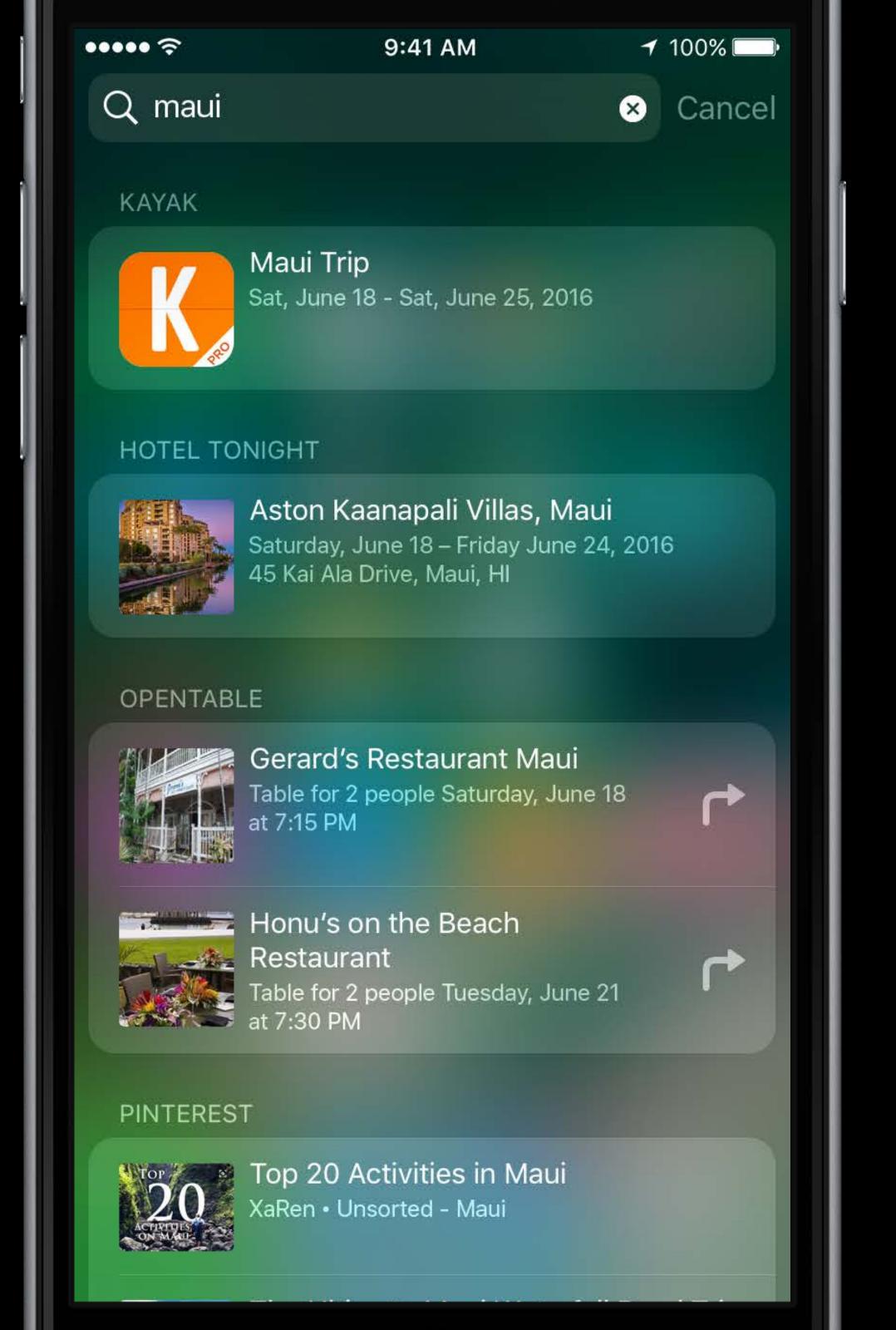
















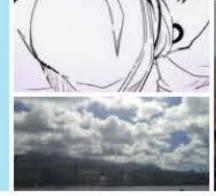


Visit

#### About City of Hana, HI









20 Best Activities #Maui has to offer!



Kate Johnson



Saved to Oh, the places you'll go...

Add a comment

¥21



10 of Hawaii's Best ∓11

**Hidden Beaches** msn.com



Anita Clay All Who Wander are...

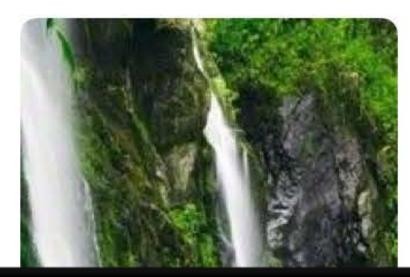


The 3 Most Awe-Inspiring Hikes in Maui

The Huffington Post



Heather Grause





#### Content Your Users Want to Get Back To

Order confirmations

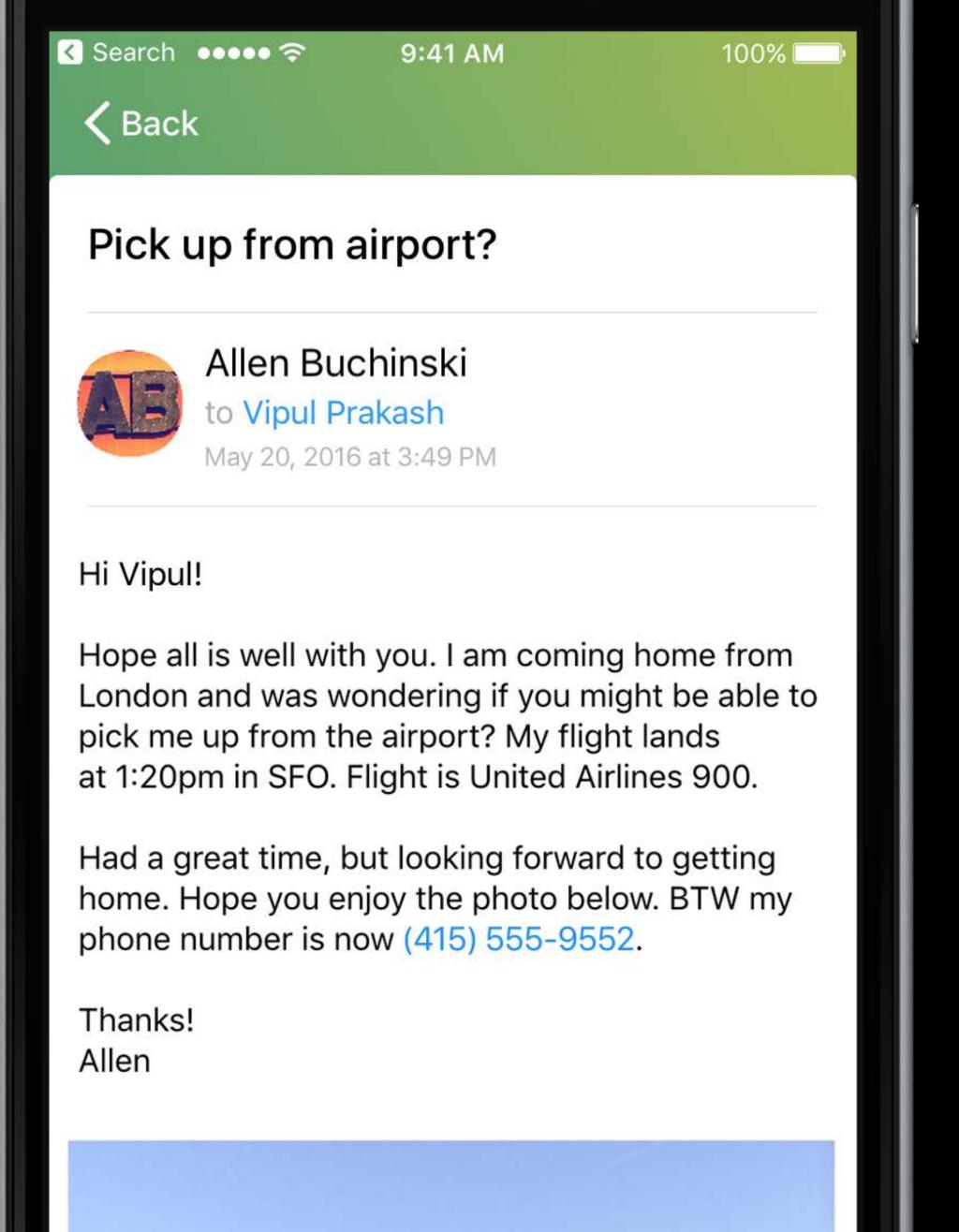
Upcoming events

Tickets

Reservations

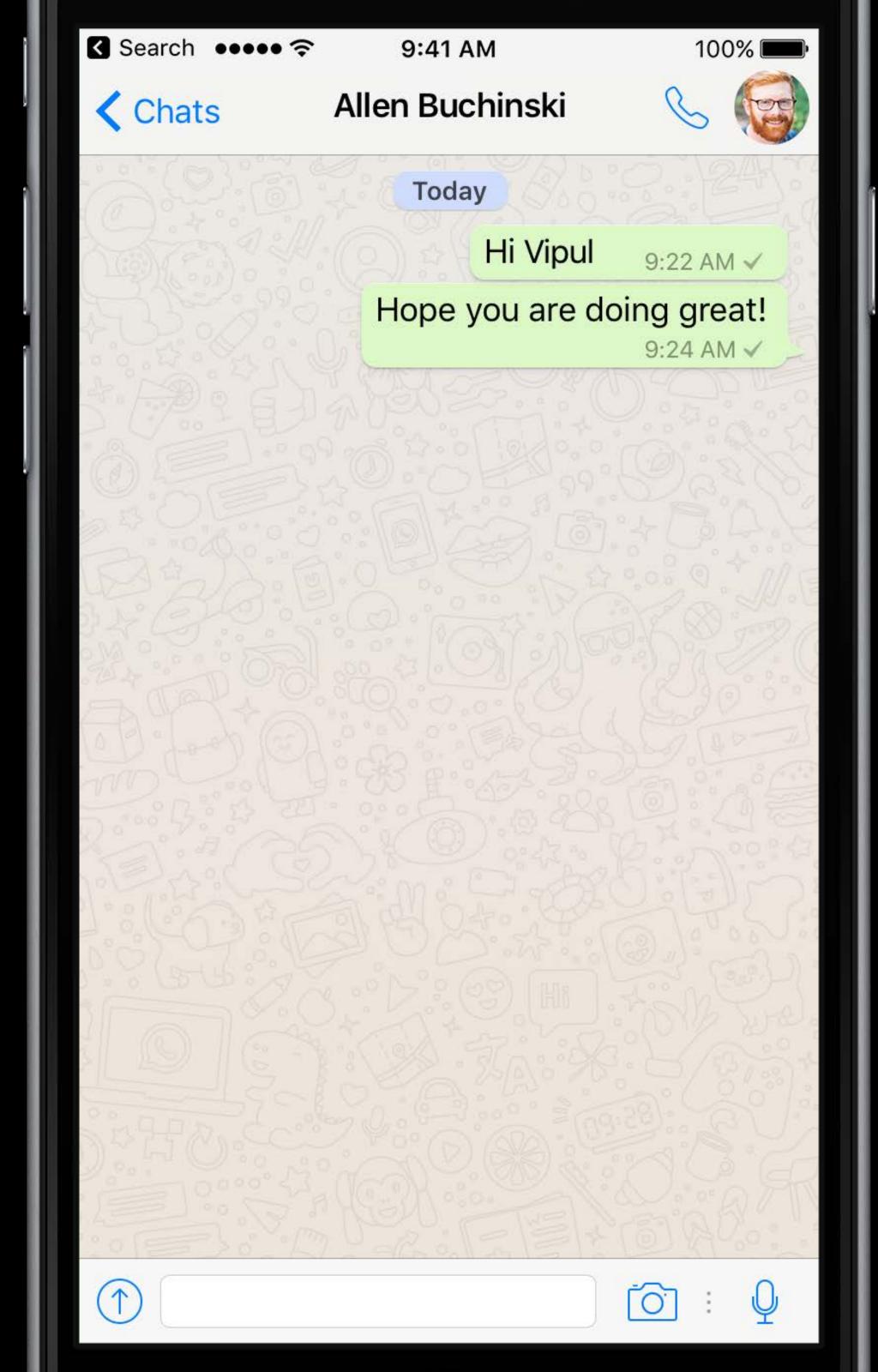
Deliveries





 $\Box$ 





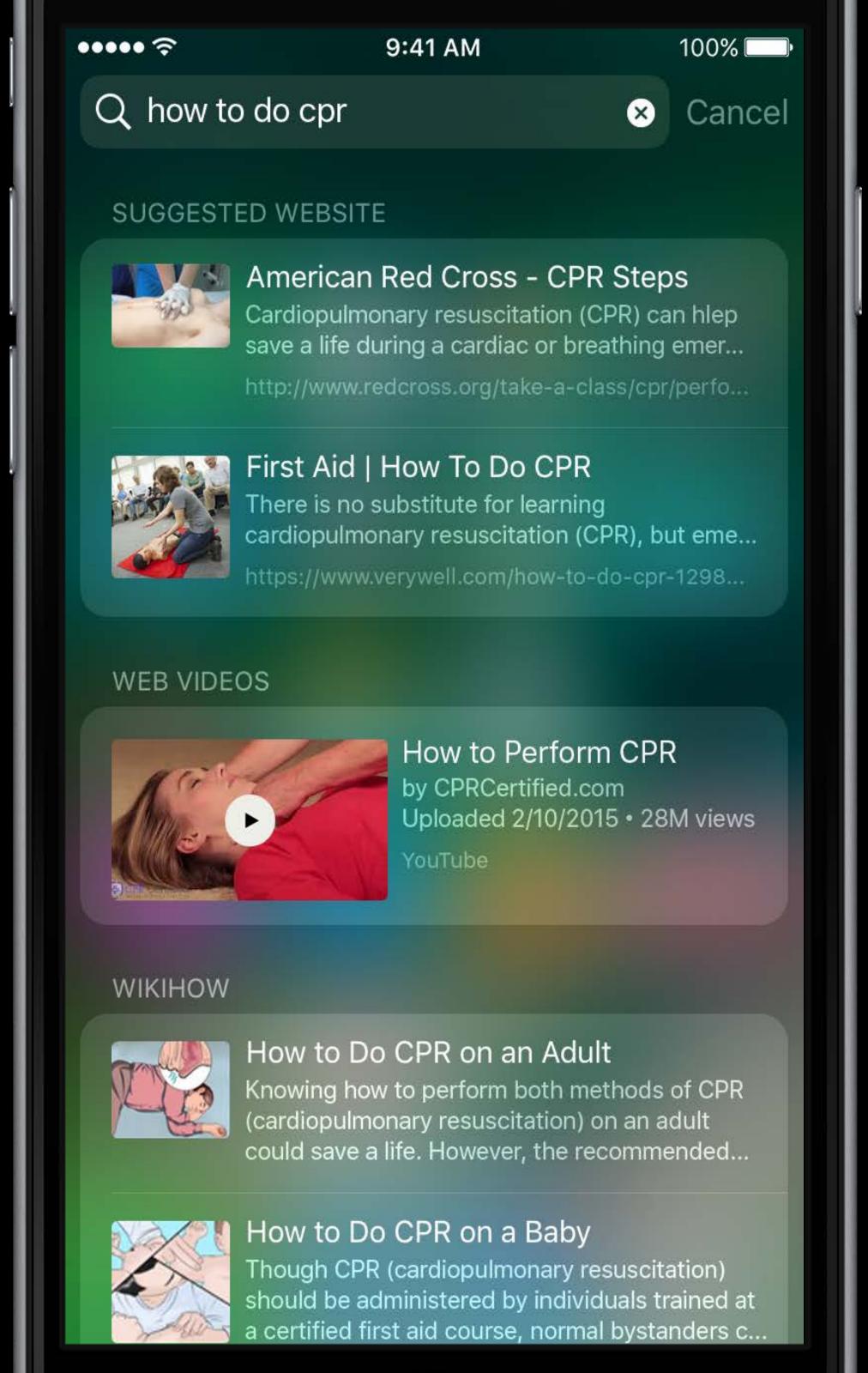
# Enhance Native Spotlight Content

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Instant answers Sp	oorts We	b search	Music
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Contacts	_ocations A	apps

Stocks	Weather	Calculations	Movies



#### WEB VIDEOS



How to Perform CPR
by CPRCertified.com
Uploaded 2/10/2015 • 28M views
YouTube

#### WIKIHOW



#### How to Do CPR on an Adult

Knowing how to perform both methods of CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) on an adult could save a life. However, the recommended...



#### How to Do CPR on a Baby

Though CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) should be administered by individuals trained at a certified first aid course, normal bystanders c...



#### How to Perform Self CPR

CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) is a lifesaving technique that's useful in many emergency situations, such as heart attacks...

Search Web

Search App Store

Search Maps

Menu

wikiHow

Options

#### How to Do CPR on an Adult

In 2010, the American Heart Association made a radical change to the recommended CPR process for victims of cardiac arrest[1] after studies showed that compression-only CPR (no mouth-to-mouth breathing) is as effective as the traditional approach. Here's how to perform both methods of CPR on an adult.

#### Method One of Four Taking Vitals



New in iOS 10

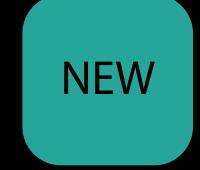


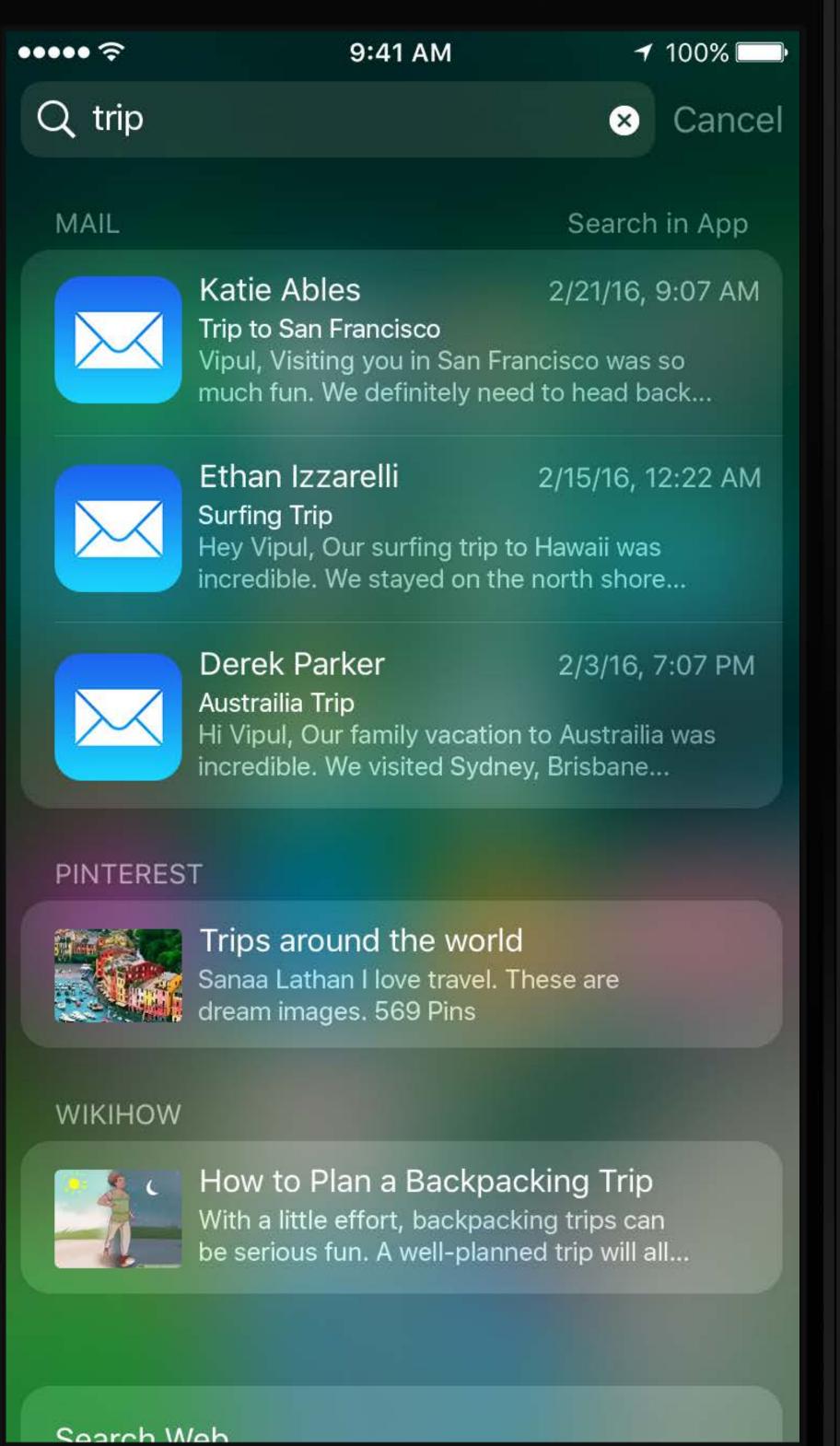
New in iOS 10

Search in App

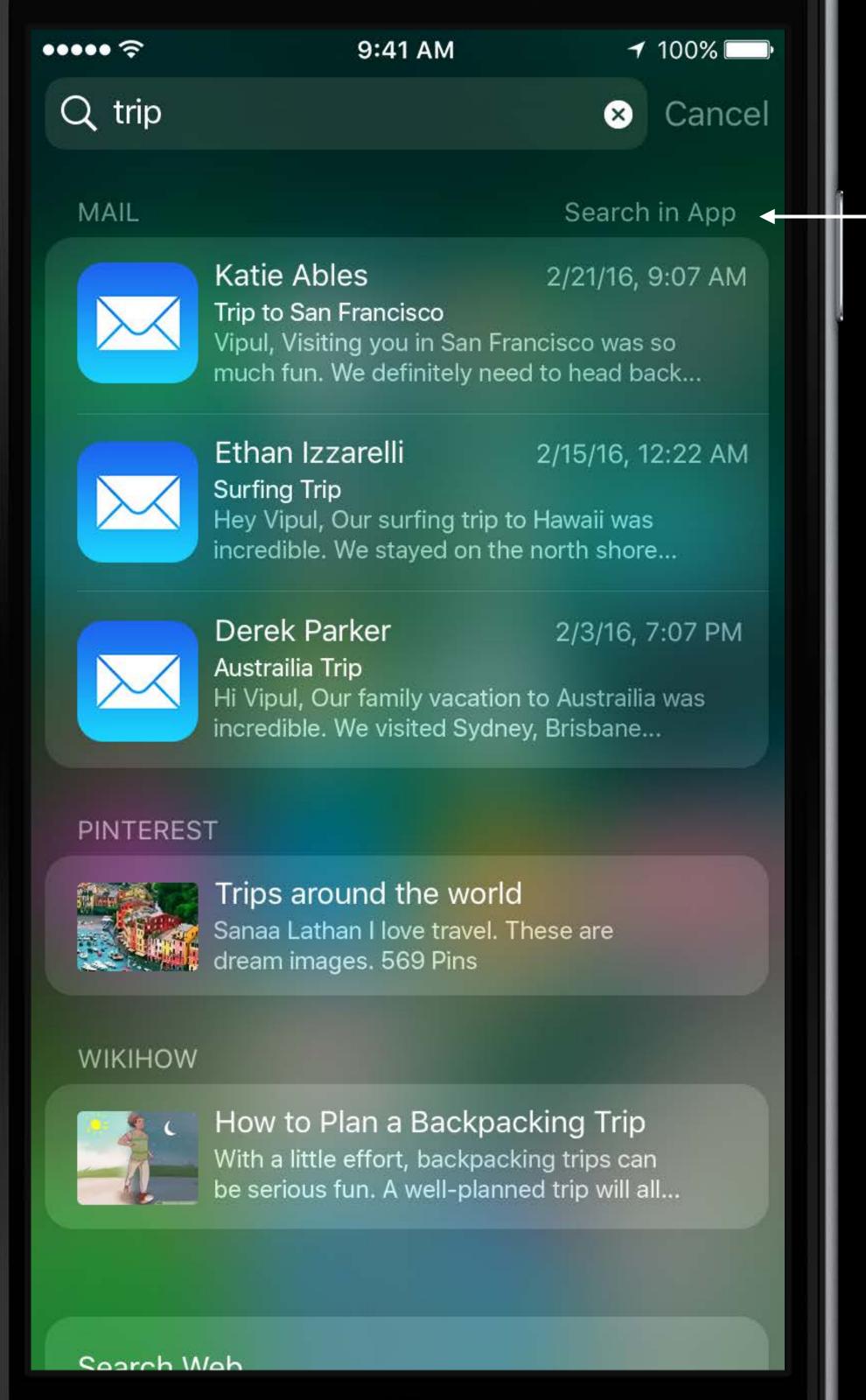
CoreSpotlight Search API

Differential Privacy



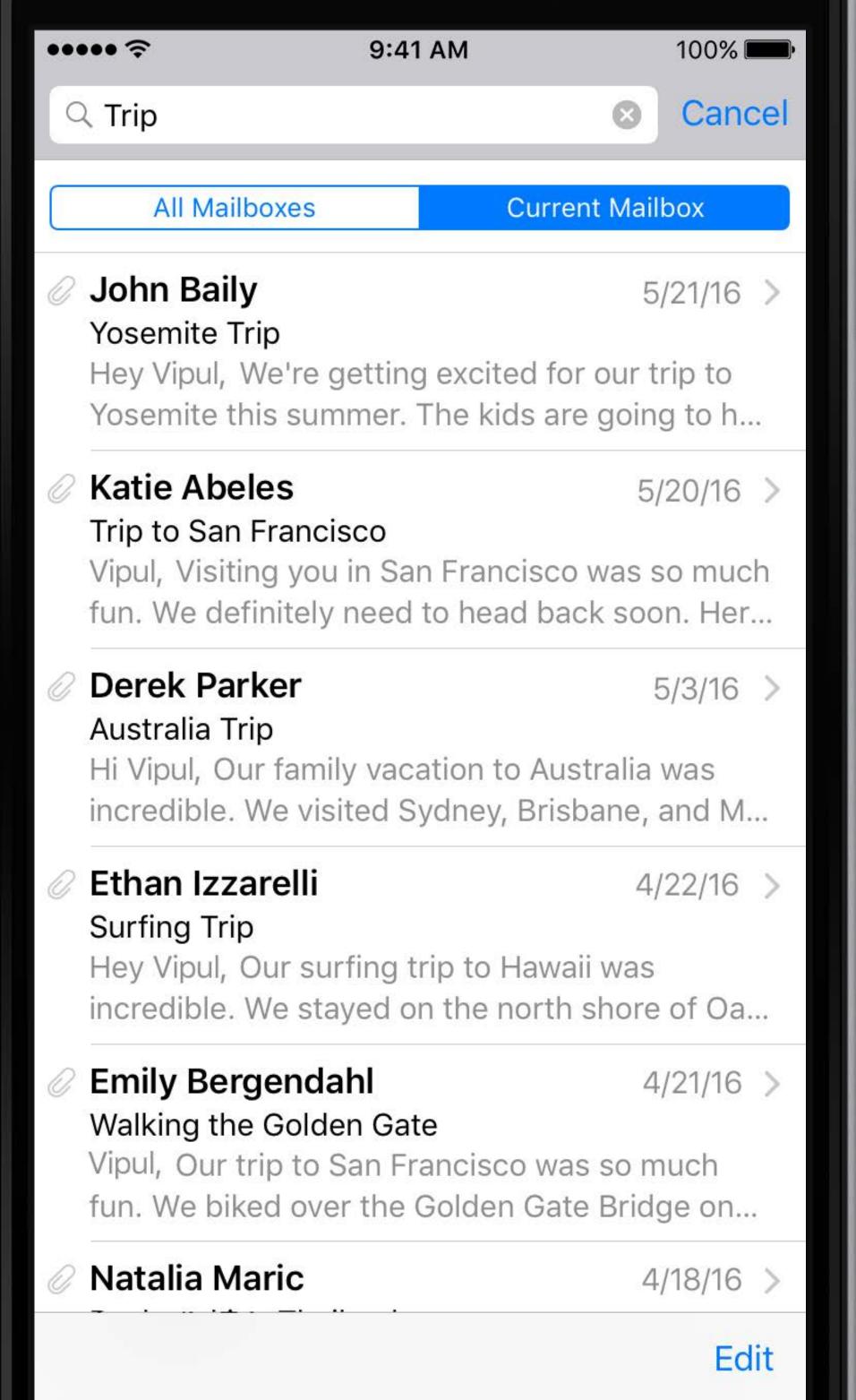


NEW



NEW

Users can continue their Search in the App



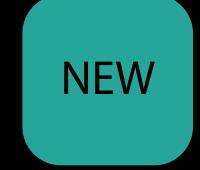
NEW

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Differential Privacy

# Adopting Search APIs

Making the most of your content

John Hörnkvist Apple, Inc.

## Adopting Search APIs

Steps and best practices

Indexing content

Rich presentation

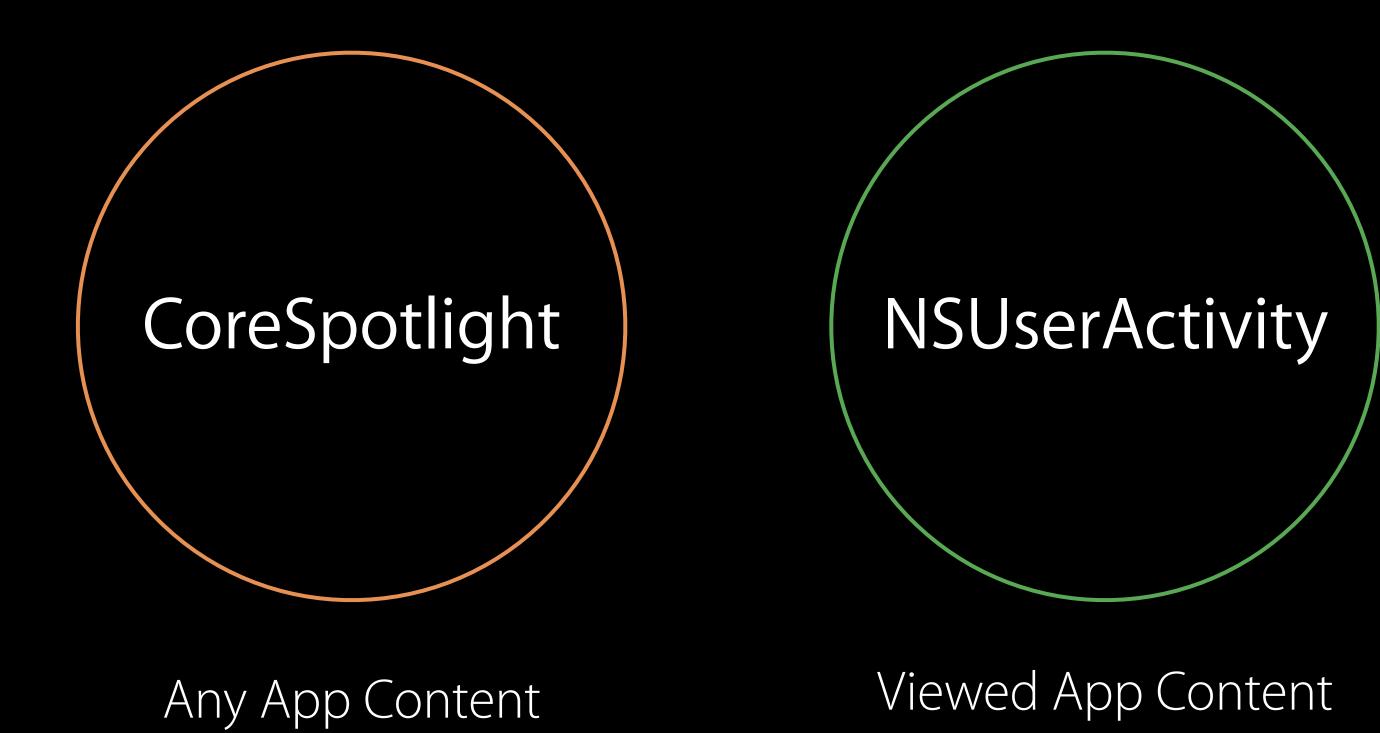
Launching into your app

CoreSpotlight Search API

Optimize for ranking

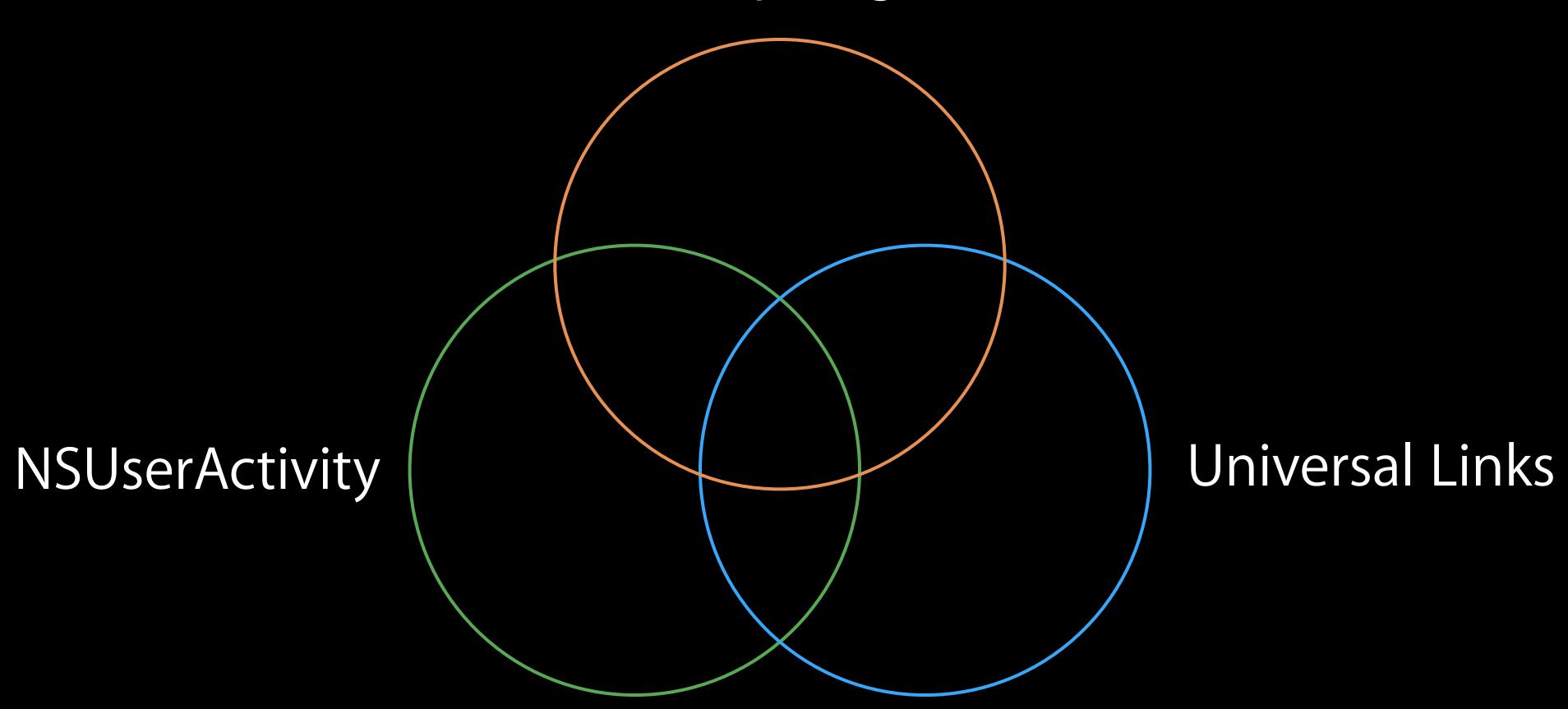


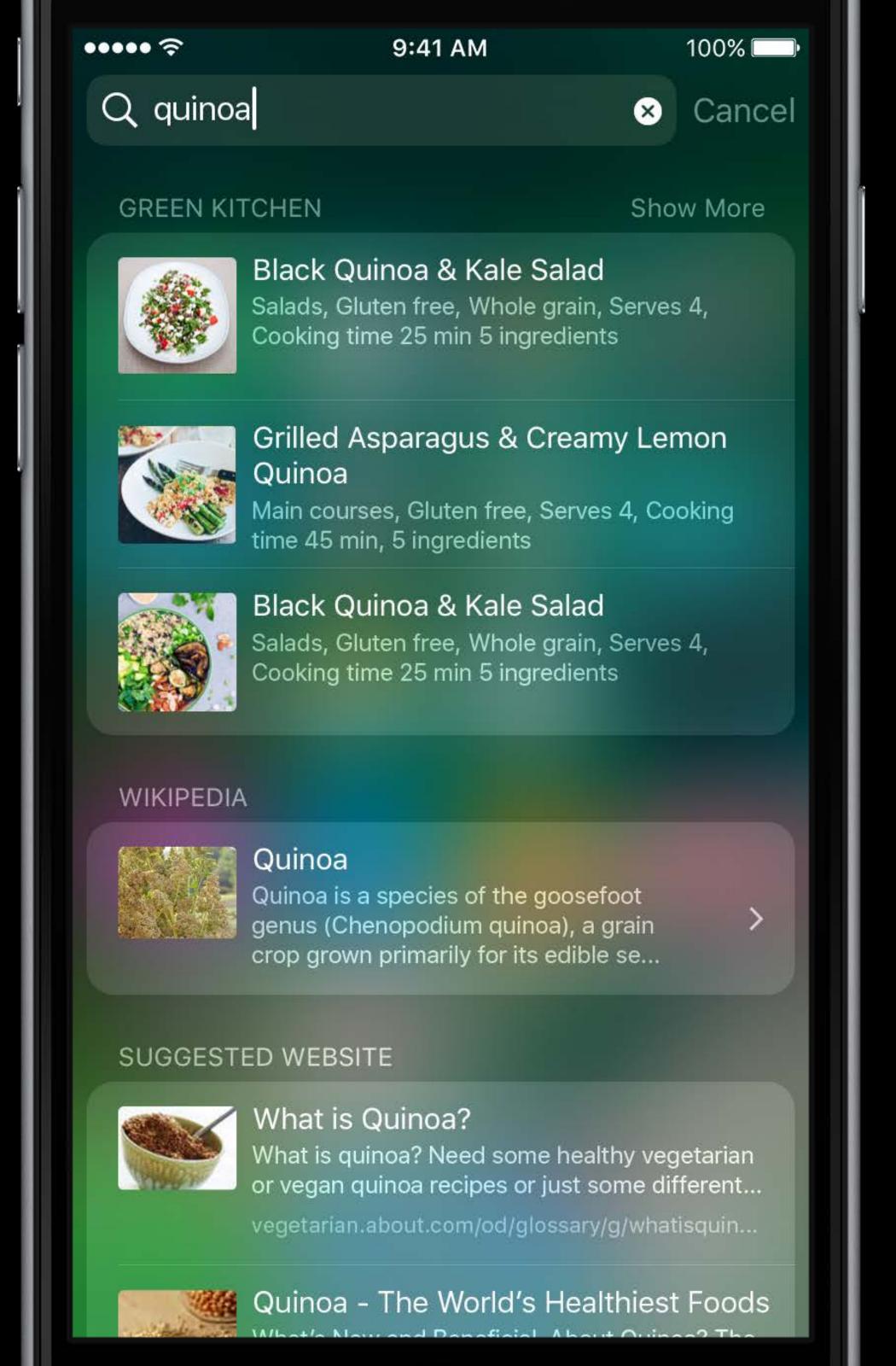
Any App Content





#### CoreSpotlight





## Adopting Search APIs

Steps and best practices

Indexing content

Rich presentation

Launching into your app

CoreSpotlight Search API

Optimize for ranking



Any App Content



Viewed App Content



App Content on Web

Index all that your app has to offer

API for on-device indexing on iOS

You decide what you want to add to the index

Documents, game levels, images, jump-off points, and more

### Basic operations

Basic operations

Basic operations

### Basic operations

Best practices

Registering as an index delegate

Use client state API for asynchronous indexing

Performance considerations

Creating a CoreSpotlight extension

Register as an index delegate

Spotlight will reach out to initiate indexing

CSSearchableIndex.defaultSearchableIndex().indexDelegate = self

Implement CSSearchableIndexDelegate protocol

```
func searchableIndex(_: CSSearchableIndex,
      reindexAllSearchableItemsWithAcknowledgementHandler acknowledgementHandler: () —> Void) {
        // Reindex everything, then call handler
        acknowledgementHandler();
func searchableIndex(_: CSSearchableIndex,
       reindexSearchableItemsWithIdentifiers identifiers: [String],
       acknowledgementHandler: () -> Void) {
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```

Using client state for asynchronous updates

Allows you to keep your datastore and Spotlight in sync, without blocking

An opaque token stored in Spotlight's index

Used with journals or database annotations

Setting client state

Index state uses a named index instance

Index state uses a named index instance

```
let index = CSSearchableIndex(name: "myname")
index.beginBatch()
index.indexSearchableItems(items, completionHandler: nil);
let stateString = String(offset + items.count)
index.endBatch(withClientState: stateString.data(using:NSUTF8StringEncoding)!,
completionHandler: handler)
```

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let index = CSSearchableIndex(name: "myname")

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index.endBatch(withClientState: stateString.data(using:NSUTF8StringEncoding)!,
completionHandler: handler)
```

Checking client state

Fetch client state on launch

Resume interrupted indexing

```
// ** Call on launch to fetch index state and start indexing if needed.
func indexIfNeeded(){
   // ** Create a named index instance.
   let index = CSSearchableIndex(name: "myname")
   // ** Asynchronously fetch our last client state.
   index.fetchLastClientState(completionHandler: { (data, error) in
        if (error != nil) {
            // deal with the error.
        } else if (data != expectedData) {
            // Index state wasn't what we expected. Bring CoreSpotlight up to date.
            self.doIndex(index, data)
    })
```

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            self.doIndex(index, data)
    })
```

Performance considerations

Minimize overhead, optimize storage and database access

Use batching, size batches for memory overhead

Don't block the main thread

Index on a background thread

# CoreSpotlight Extension Catching up in the background

The extension can index when your app isn't running Recover after restore from backup

#### CoreSpotlight Extension

#### Catching up in the background

The extension can index when your app isn't running

Recover after restore from backup

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func searchableIndex(_: CSSearchableIndex,
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### CoreSpotlight Extension

Catching up in the background

The extension can index when your app isn't running

Recover after restore from backup

App Extension Best Practices

WWDC 2015

#### Keeping Content Up to Date

Set expiration dates on items that have a natural life span

CoreSpotlight will call your app to validate expiring item
 Use Background Fetch to poll for new content

Use Silent Remote Notifications for push

### Keeping Content Up to Date

Set expiration dates on items that have a natural life span

CoreSpotlight will call your app to validate expiring item.

Use Background Fetch to poll for new content

Use Silent Remote Notifications for push

What's New with Multitasking

WWDC 2013



Any App Content



Viewed App Content



App Content on Web





#### When to Submit NSUserActivities?

Adopting Handoff on iOS and OS X

WWDC 2014

NSUserActivity

Designate activities as searchable

NSUserActivity

Designate activities as searchable

```
let userActivity = NSUserActivity(activityType: "myActivityType");
userActivity.eligibleForSearch = true
userActivity.title = "title"
let attributes = CSSearchableItemAttributeSet(itemContentType: "public.item")
attributes displayName = ...
userActivity.contentAttributeSet = attributes
```

#### NSUserActivity

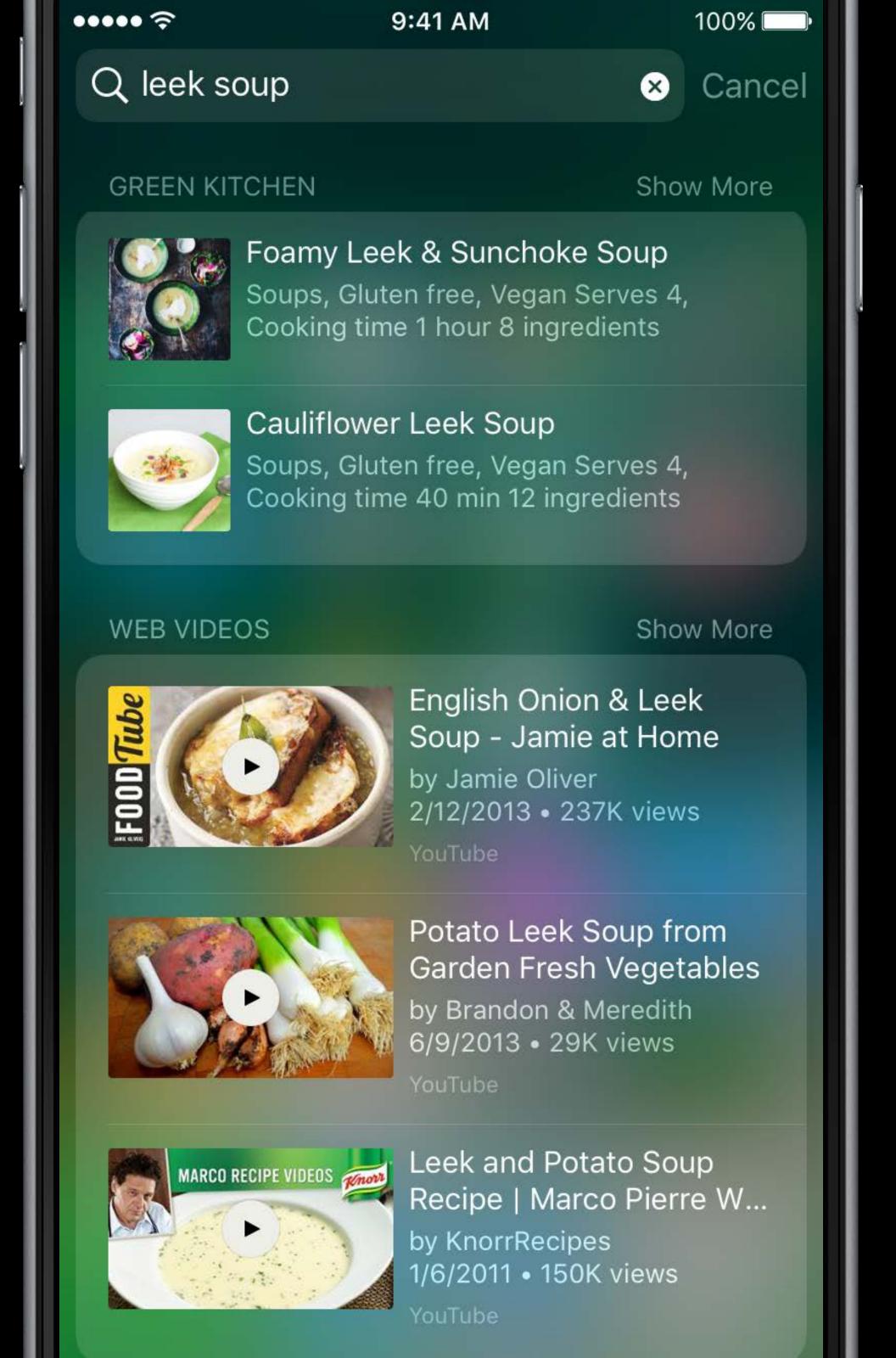
Designate activities as searchable

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userActivity_eligibleForSearch = true
userActivity.title = "title"
let attributes = CSSearchableItemAttributeSet(itemContentType: "public.item")
attributes displayName = ...
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#### NSUserActivity

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Tying them together

NSUserActivity reflects what the user did CSSearchableItem reflects what your app has relatedUniqueIdentifier ties them together

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NSUserActivity reflects what the user did CSSearchableItem reflects what your app has relatedUniqueIdentifier ties them together

```
let userActivity = NSUserActivity(activityType: "myActivityType");
let attributes = CSSearchableItemAttributeSet(itemContentType: "public.item")
attributes.displayName = "Private content!"

attributes.relatedUniqueIdentifier = "myIdentifier"

userActivity.contentAttributeSet = attributes
```

#### Tying them together

NSUserActivity reflects what the user did CSSearchableItem reflects what your app has relatedUniqueIdentifier ties them together

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let attributes = CSSearchableItemAttributeSet(itemContentType: "public.item")
attributes.displayName = "Private content!"

attributes.relatedUniqueIdentifier = "myIdentifier"

userActivity.contentAttributeSet = attributes
```



#### Tying them weakly

New in iOS 10: weakRelatedUniqueldentifier

- relatedUniqueIdentifier binds strongly
- weakRelatedUniqueldentifier binds weakly

A weakly bound NSUserActivity can exist without a matching CSSearchableItem

Not suitable for user controlled content



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A weakly bound NSUserActivity can exist without a matching CSSearchableItem

Not suitable for user controlled content

```
let userActivity = NSUserActivity(activityType: "myActivityType");
let attributes = CSSearchableItemAttributeSet(itemContentType: "public.item")
attributes.displayName = "Poutine"

attributes.weakRelatedUniqueIdentifier = "myIdentifier"

userActivity.contentAttributeSet = attributes
```



#### Tying them weakly

New in iOS 10: weakRelatedUniqueldentifier

- relatedUniqueIdentifier binds strongly
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attributes.displayName = "Poutine"

attributes.weakRelatedUniqueIdentifier = "myIdentifier"

userActivity.contentAttributeSet = attributes
```

## NSUserActivity Deletion domainIdentifier for NSUserActivity

NEW

New in iOS 10: Use domainIdentifier with NSUserActivity

Part of CSSearchableItemAttributeSet

Delete user activities in bulk by domainIdentifier

# NSUserActivity Deletion domainIdentifier for NSUserActivity

New in iOS 10: Use domainIdentifier with NSUserActivity

Part of CSSearchableItemAttributeSet

Delete user activities in bulk by domainIdentifier

```
let userActivity = NSUserActivity(activityType: "myActivityType");
let attributes = CSSearchableItemAttributeSet(itemContentType: "public.item")
attributes.domainIdentifier = "account1"
userActivity.contentAttributeSet = attributes
```

# NSUserActivity Deletion domainIdentifier for NSUserActivity

New in iOS 10: Use domainIdentifier with NSUserActivity

Part of CSSearchableItemAttributeSet

Delete user activities in bulk by domainIdentifier







Any App Content

Viewed App Content

App Content on Web

Content available on the web and in app

Index public content, including large indexes

Reach new users—results shown even if users do not have your app

Results shown in Spotlight and Safari

#### Steps

1. Allow Indexing	Allow Applebot, include domain in iTunes Connect	
2. Deep Linking	Support Universal Links and Smart App Banners	
3. Markup	Markup website with schema.org and Open Graph	
4. Restoring	Update app to properly open deep links	
5. Test	Test URLs with App Search API Validation Tool	

#### Steps

1. Allow Indexing	Allow Applebot, include domain in iTunes Connect	
2. Deep Linking	Support Universal Links and Smart App Banners	
3. Markup	Markup website with schema.org and Open Graph	
4. Restoring	Update app to properly open deep links	
5. Test	Test URLs with App Search API Validation Tool	

Support Universal Links—iOS Developer Library

Introducing Search APIs

WWDC 2015

Supported Schemas

AggregateRating

InteractionCount

Offers

PriceRange

Organization

Recipe

SearchAction

ImageObject

#### Visual Preview in API Validation Tool



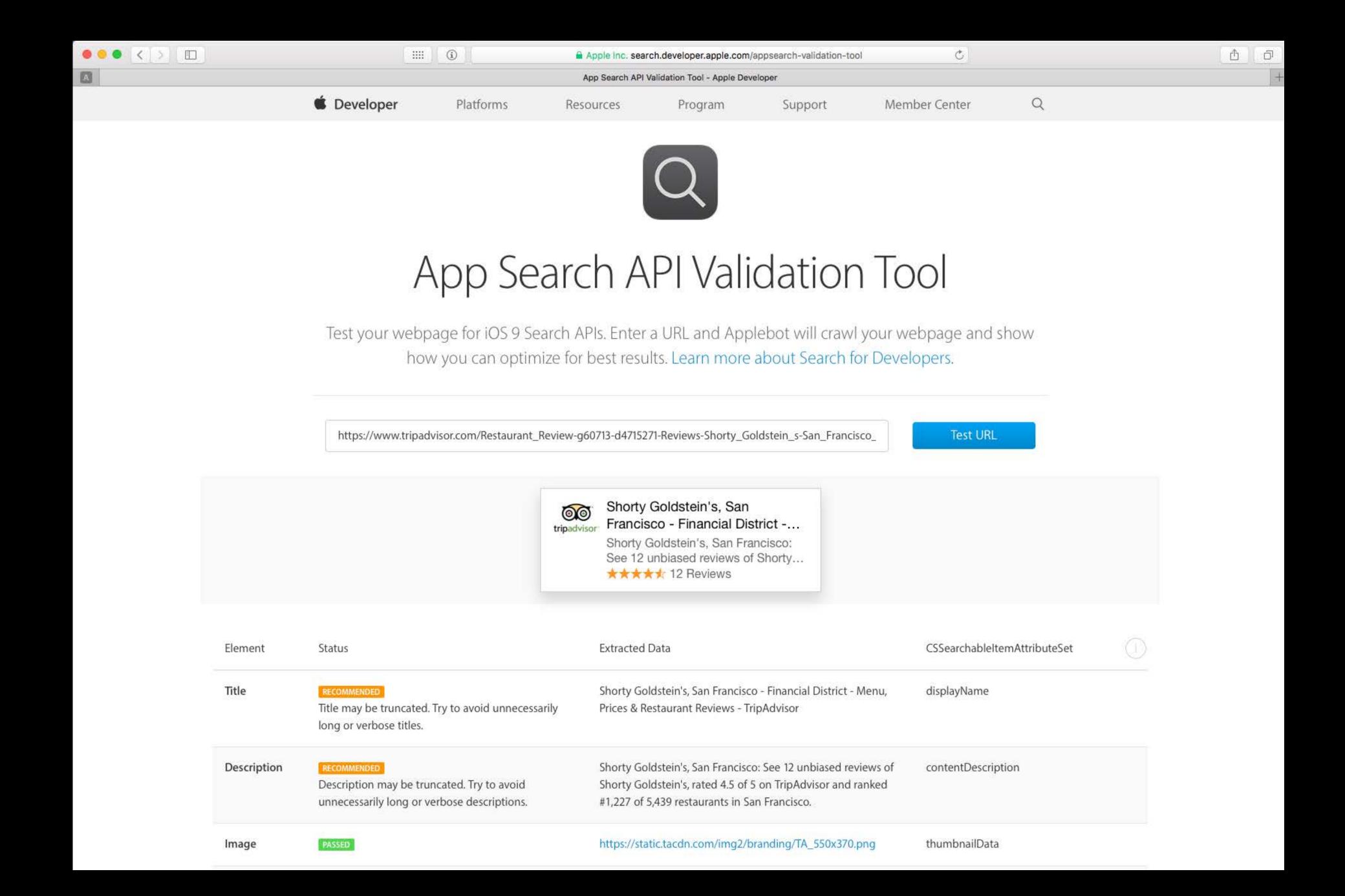
https://search.developer.apple.com

#### Visual Preview in API Validation Tool

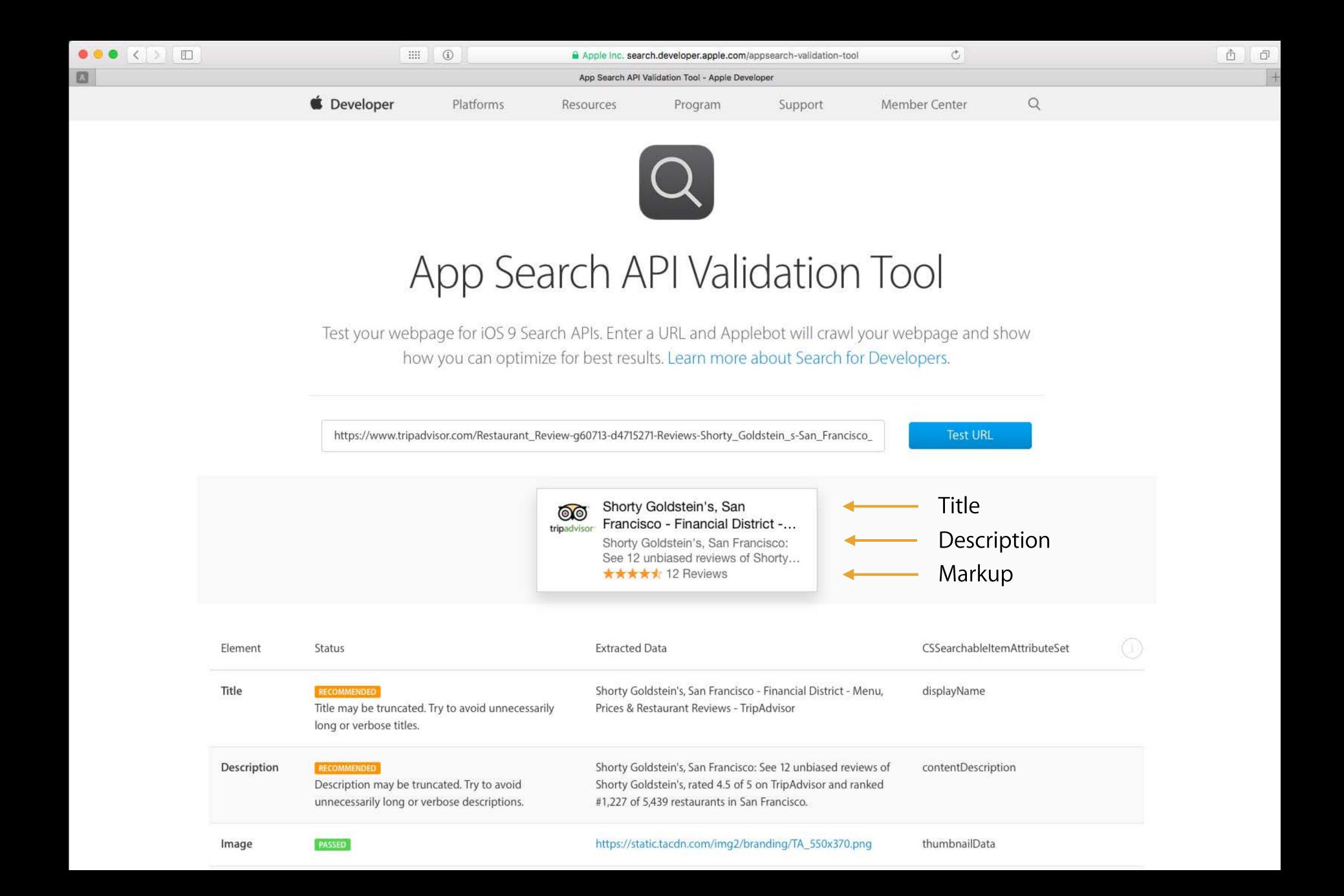


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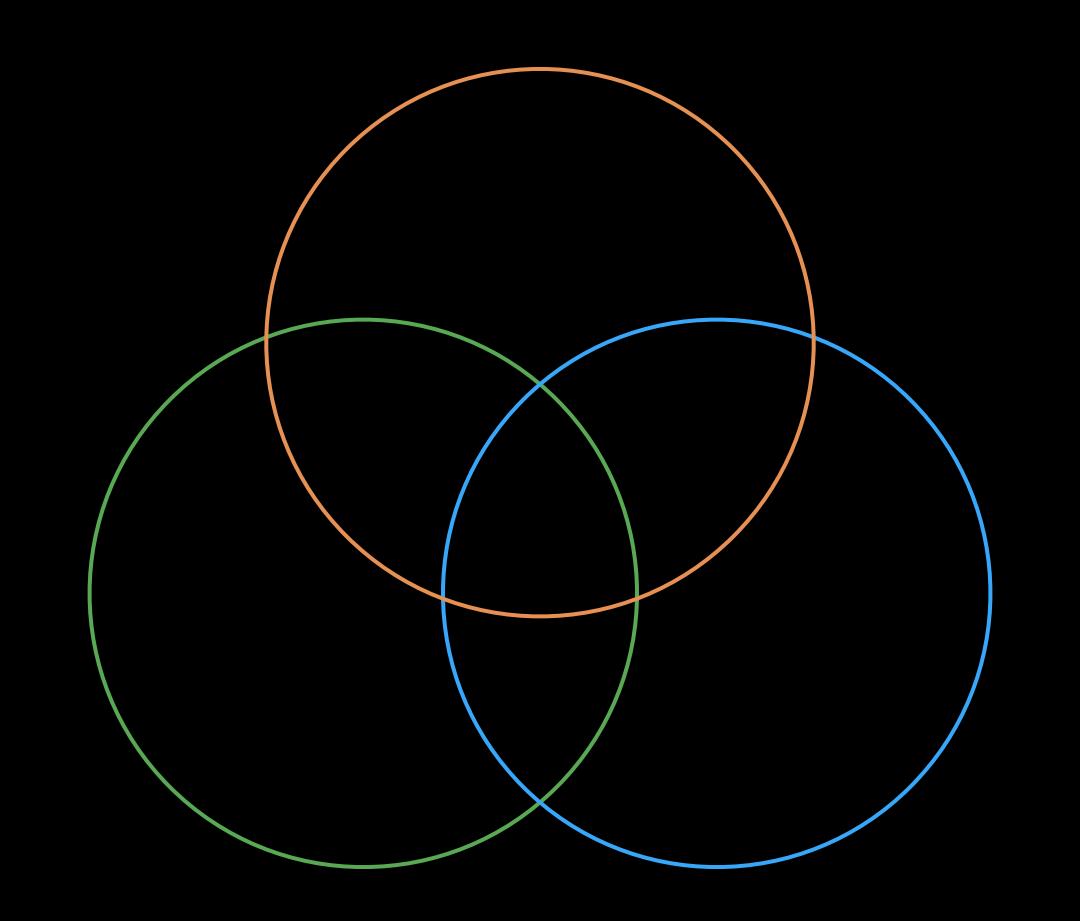


#### Visual Preview in API Validation Tool



NSUserActivity

CoreSpotlight



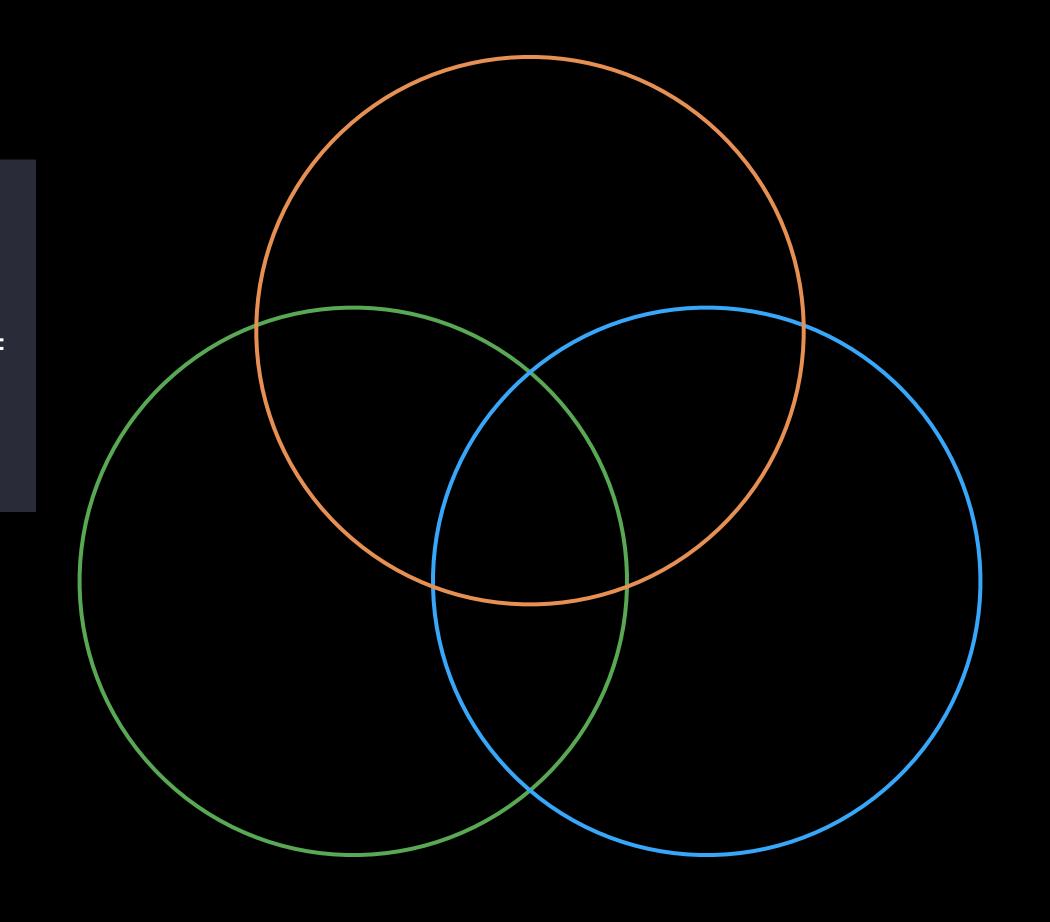
Universal Links

#### CoreSpotlight

#### NSUserActivity

- .contentAttributeSet
- relatedUniqueIdentifier =
   CSSearchableItem.
   uniqueIdentifier

NSUserActivity



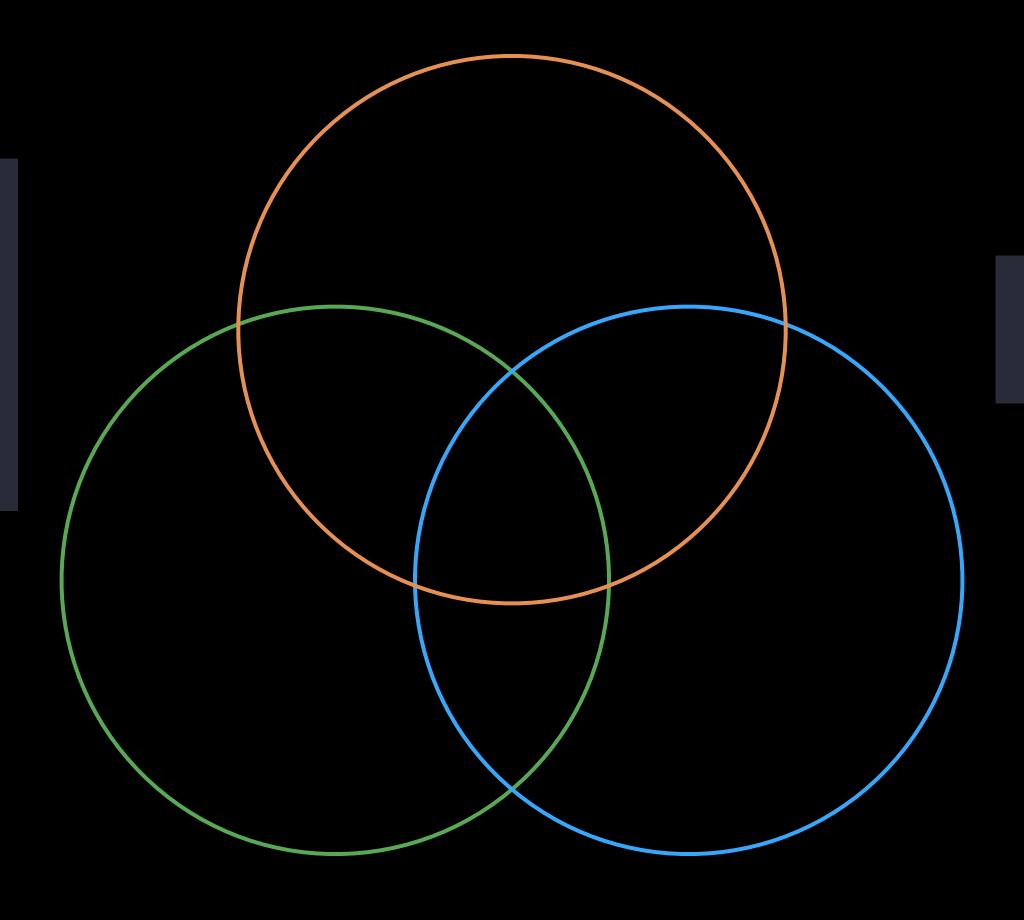
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CSSearchableItem.contentURL =
Web page URL

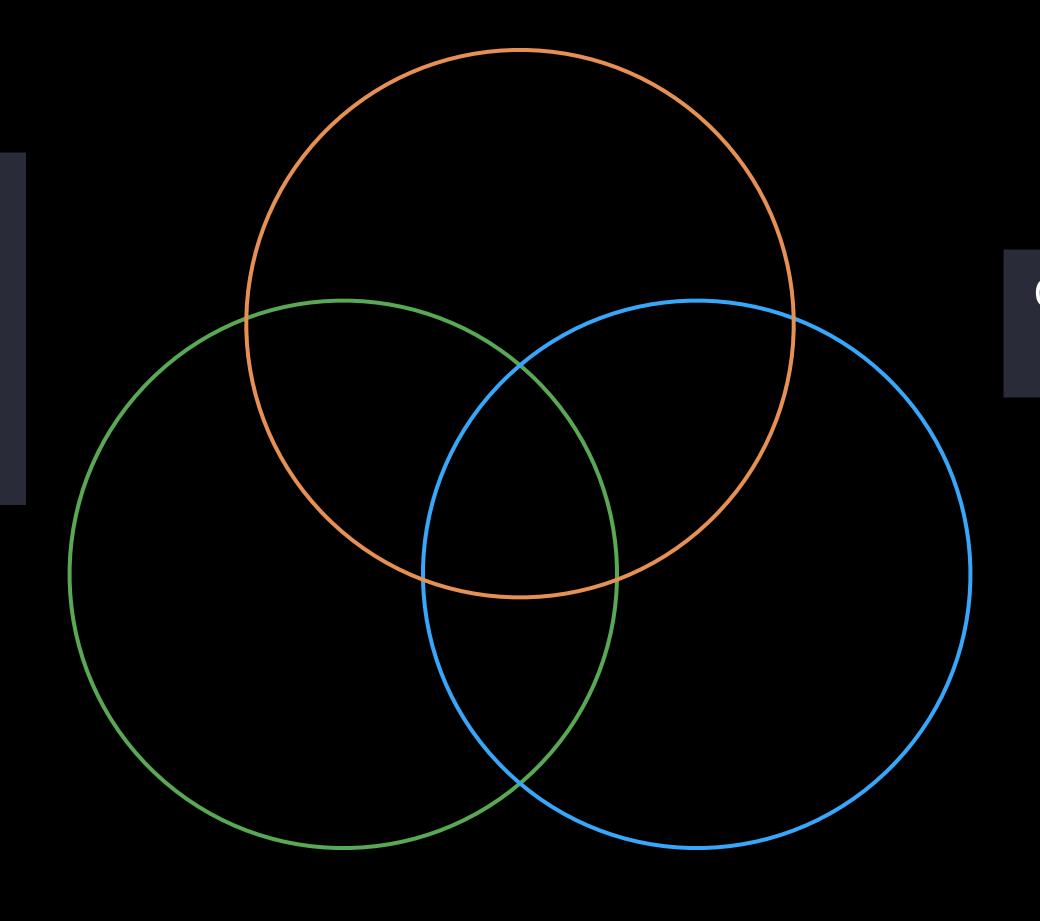
Universal Links

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NSUserActivity



CSSearchableItem.contentURL =
Web page URL

Universal Links

NSUserActivity.webpageURL = Web Page URL

# Adopting Search APIs

Steps and best practices

Indexing content

Rich presentation

Launching into your app

CoreSpotlight Search API

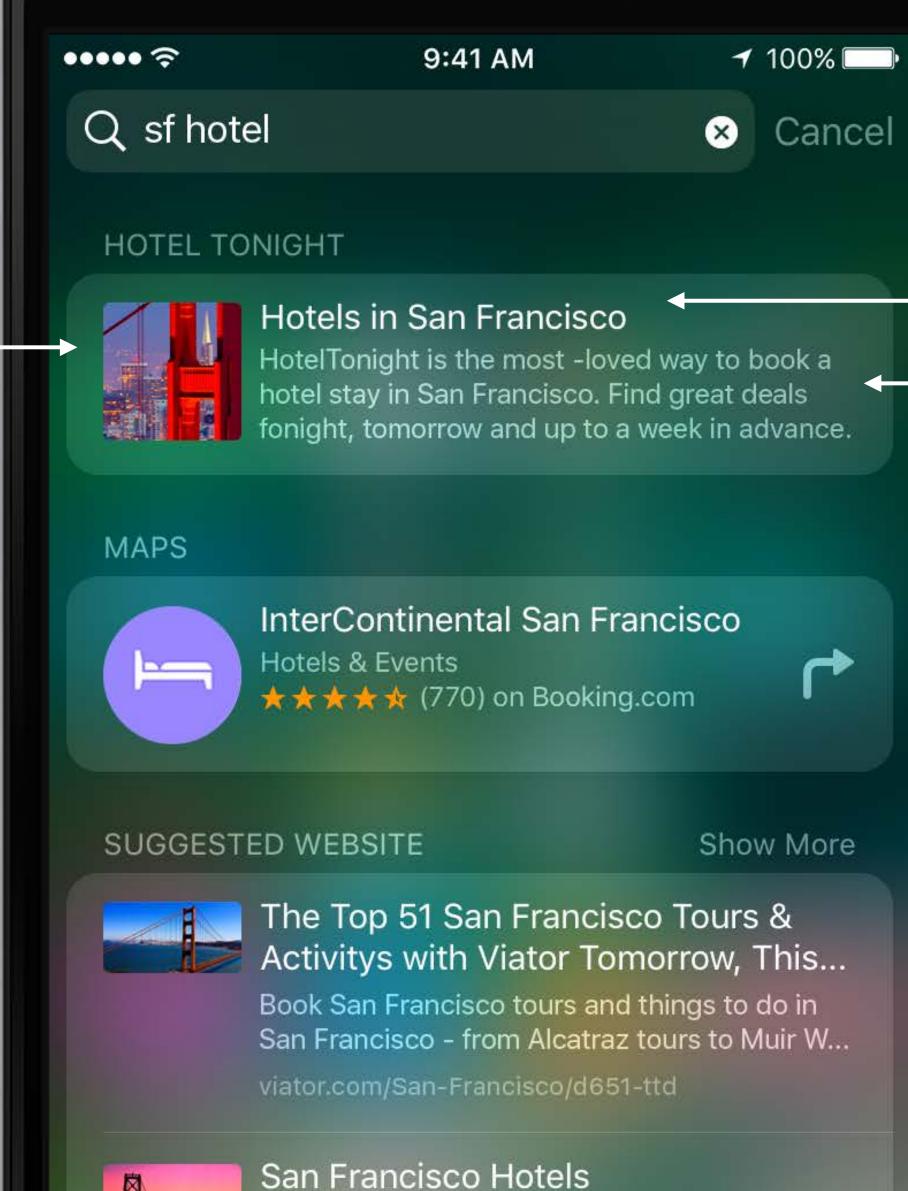
Optimize for ranking

### Creating a Great Visual Experience



Provide descriptive title, description, and compelling thumbnail
Set the right contentType for your content
Use attributes to fill out the UI

Element	CoreSpotlight	Web Markup
Thumbnail	thumbnailURL	og:image
Title	title	og:title
Description	contentDescription	og:description
Metadata	rating, ratingDescription completionDate, dueDate, startDate, endDate, allDay, fileSize, pageCount	aggregateRating, InteractionCount, Offers, PriceRange, Organization, Recipe, SearchAction, ImageObject



Looking for hotels in Westfield San Francisco

Center Shopping Mall, San Francisco, CA? Find...

expedia.com/Westfield-San-Francisco-Center-Sh...

The 10 Best Hotels in San Francisco,

TripAdvisor: Find 185,212 traveler reviews, 67,5...

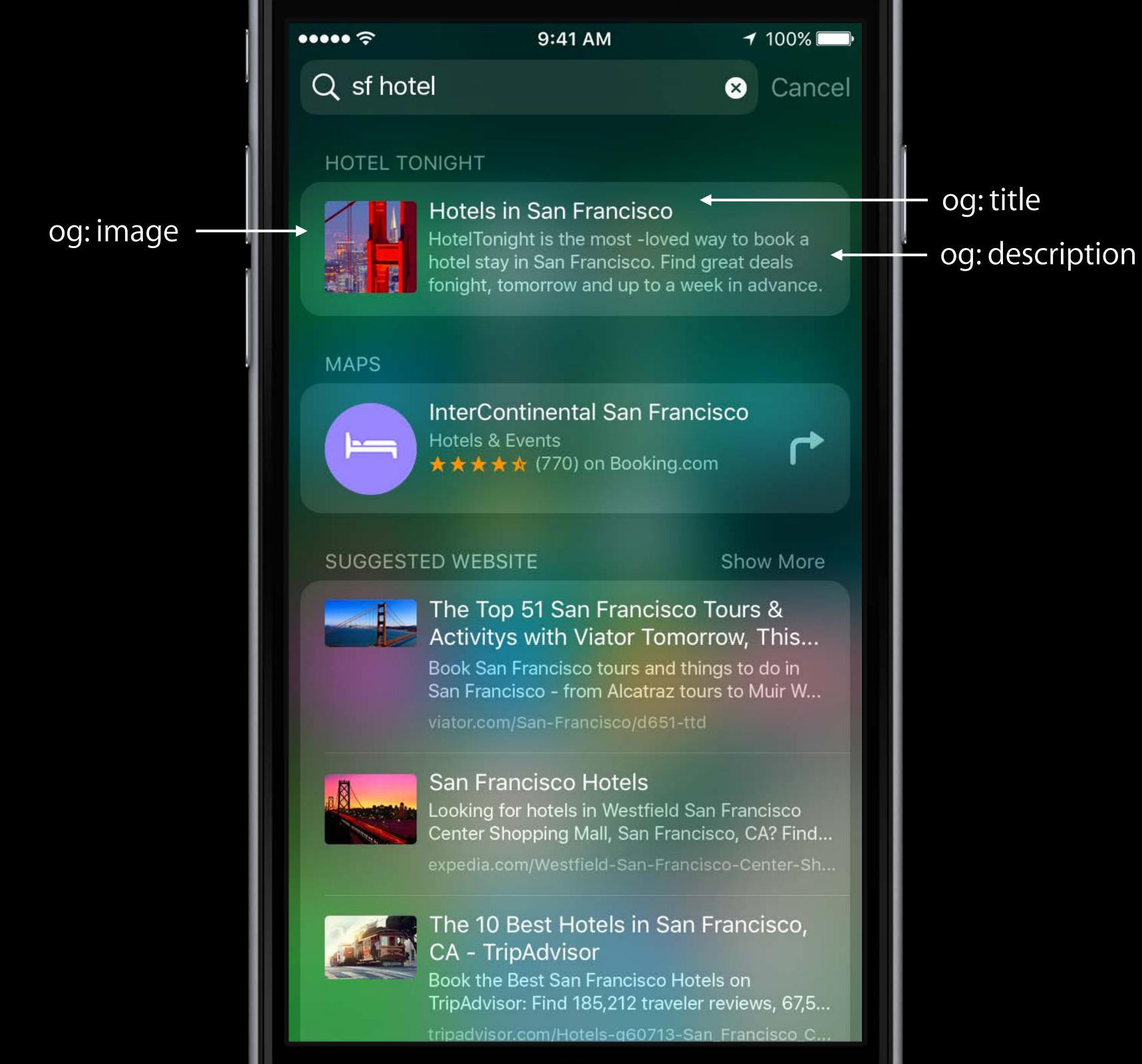
tripadvisor.com/Hotels-q60713-San Francisco C.

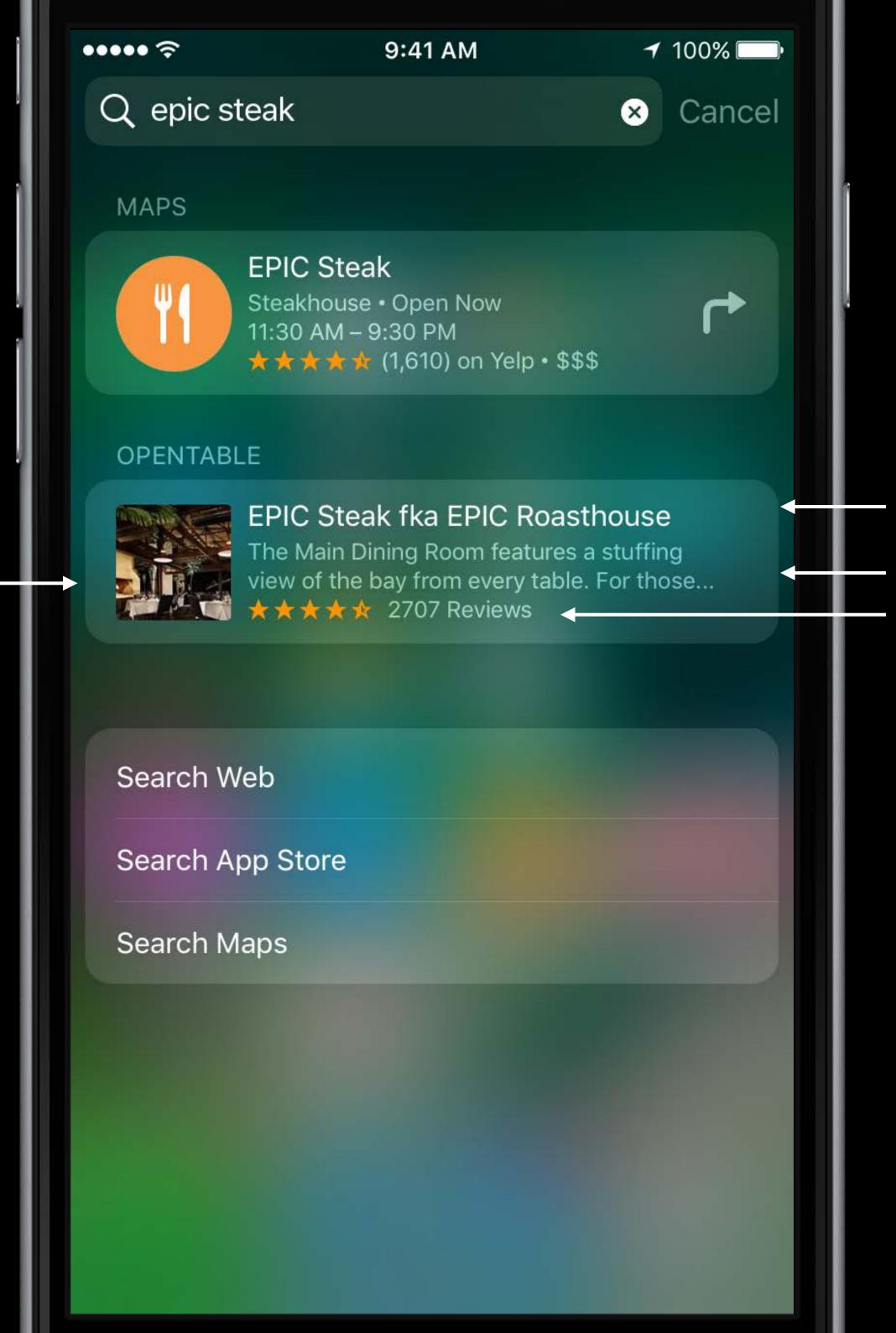
Book the Best San Francisco Hotels on

CA - TripAdvisor

attributes.thumbnailURL

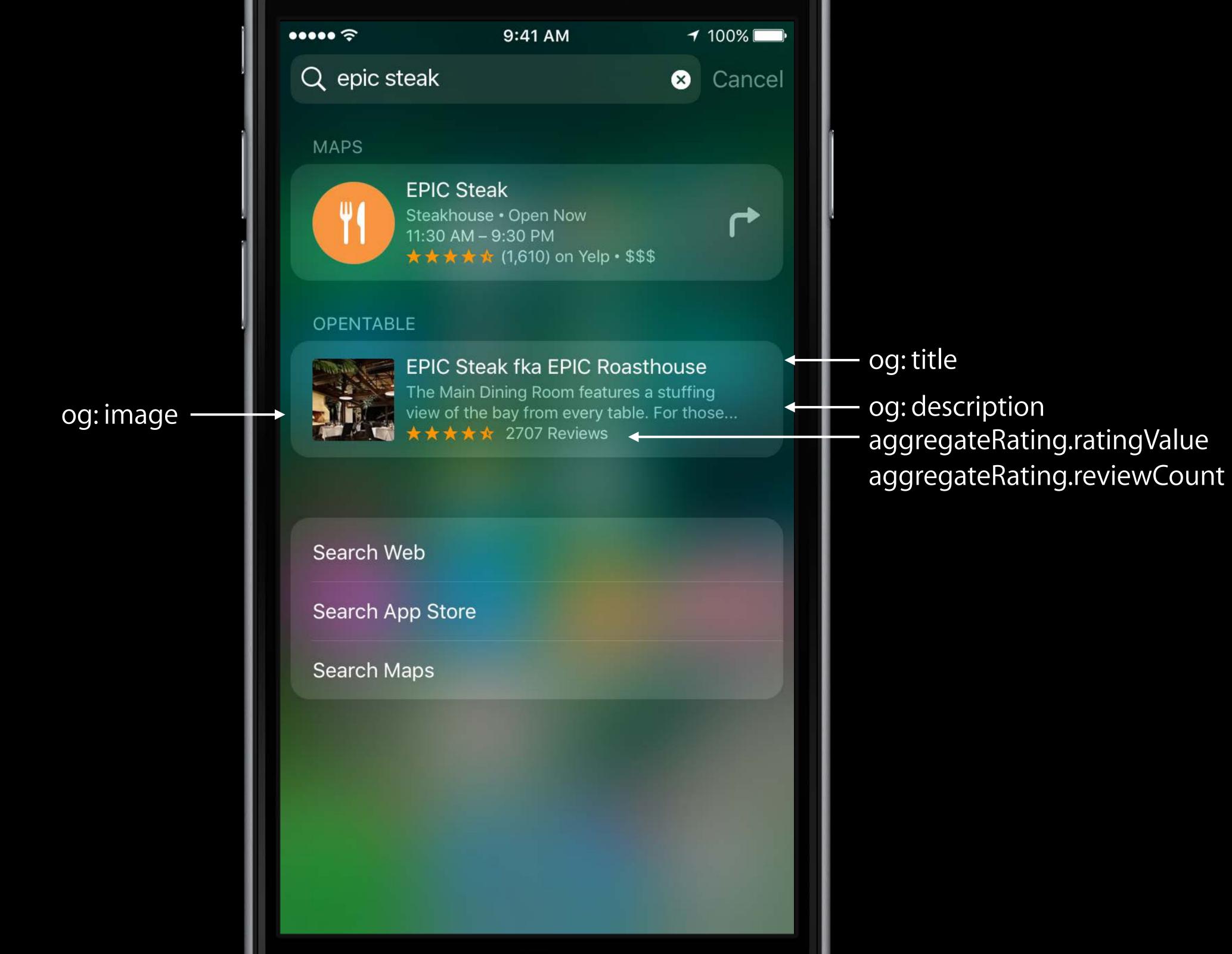
attributes.title attributes.contentDescription





attributes.thumbnailURL -

attributes.title
attributes.contentDescription
attributes.rating
attributes.ratingDescription



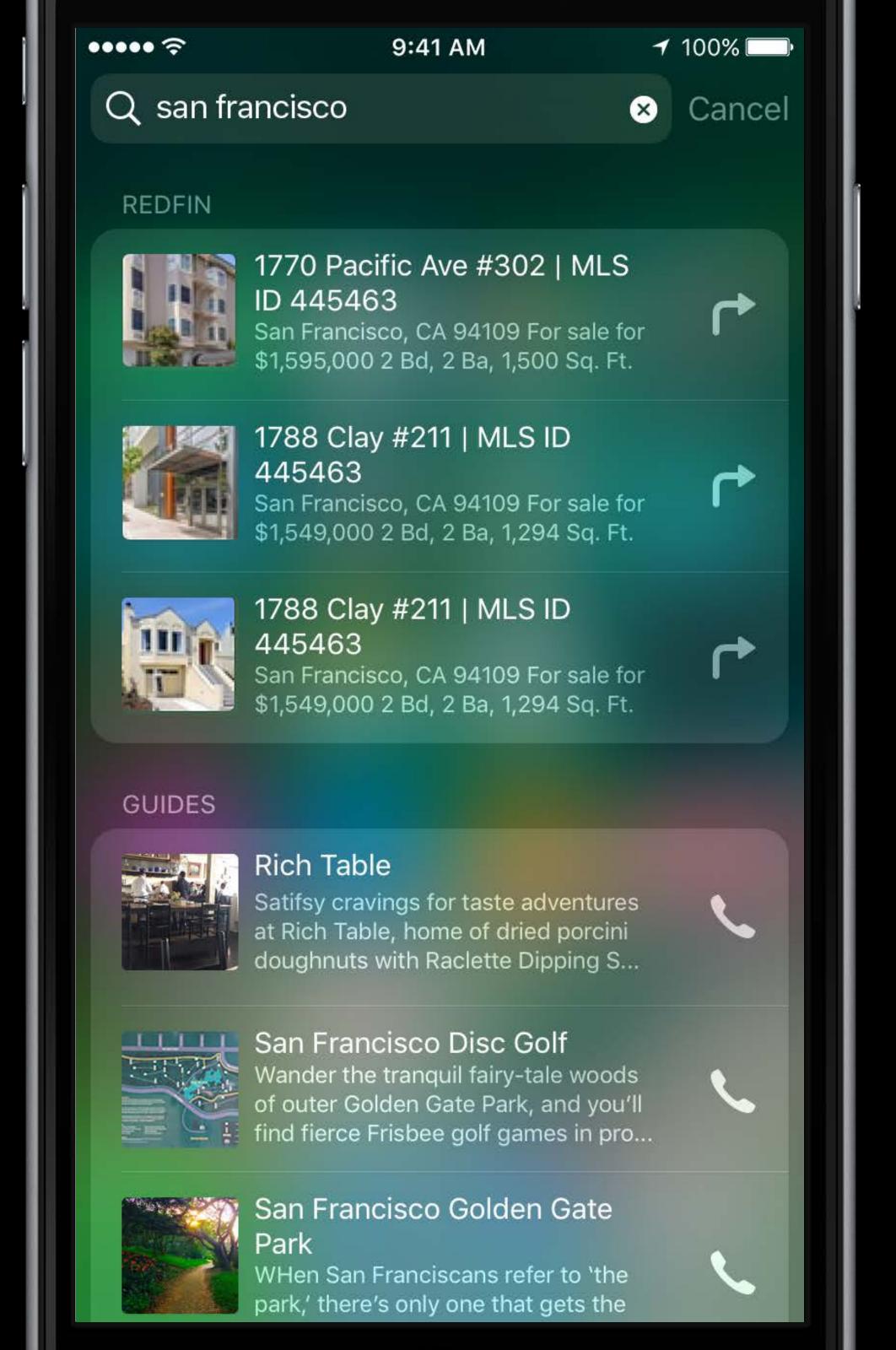
#### Creating a Great User Experience

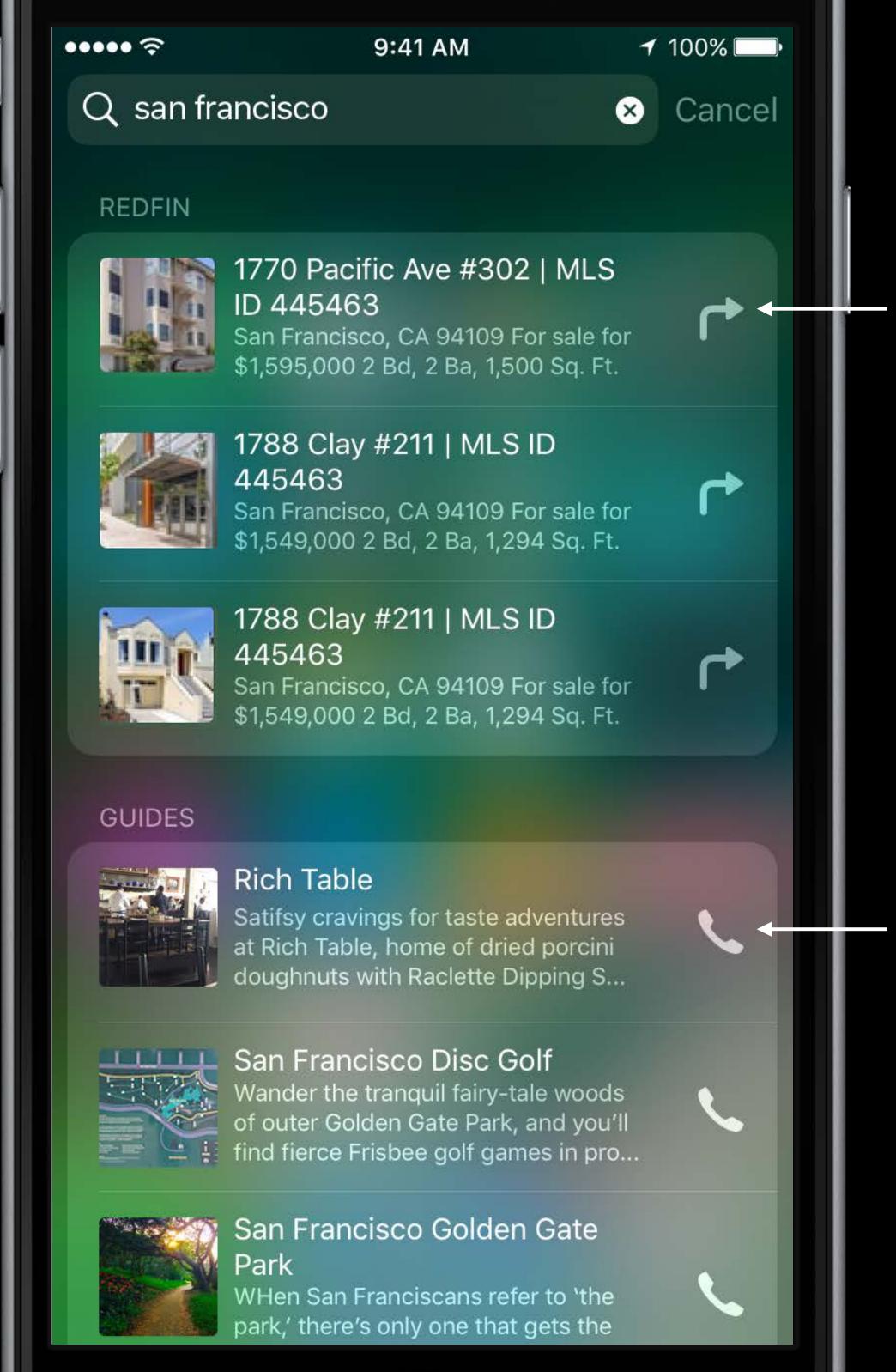
Make it easy to get your content

- Set attributes the user can understand
- Keyword stuffing confuses the user and leads to poor ranking

Enable quick actions, like directions and calling

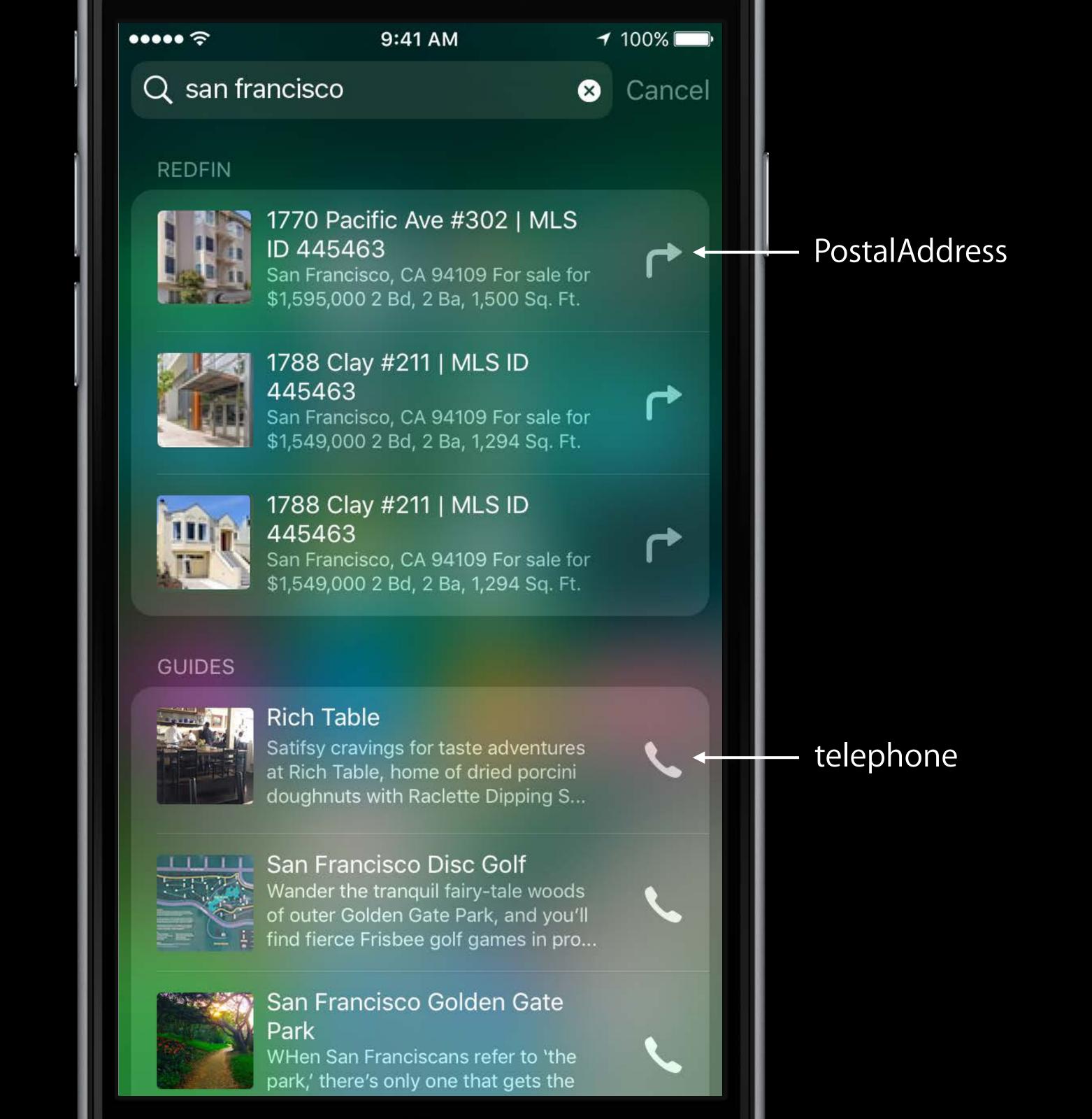
Launch straight to content, without interstitials or multi-step builds





attributes.latitude attributes.longitude attributes.supportsNavigation

attributes.supportsPhoneCall attributes.phoneNumbers



# Adopting Search APIs

Steps and best practices

Indexing content

Rich presentation

Launching into your app

CoreSpotlight Search API

Optimize for ranking

## Restoring with NSUserActivity

Used for CoreSpotlight and NSUserActivity

### Restoring with NSUserActivity

Used for CoreSpotlight and NSUserActivity

```
func application(application: UIApplication, continueUserActivity uA: NSUserActivity,
restorationHandler: ([AnyObject]?) -> Void) -> Bool {
    if uA.activityType == CSSearchableItemActionType {
        if let i = uA.userInfo?[CSSearchableItemActivityIdentifier] as? String {
            // Show the found item!
        }
        return true
    }
    return false
}
```

## Restoring Universal Links

Universal Link support in your app delegate

#### Restoring Universal Links

Universal Link support in your app delegate

```
func application(application: UIApplication,
                 continueUserActivity uA: NSUserActivity,
                 restorationHandler: ([AnyObject]?) -> Void) -> Bool {
   if uA.activityType == NSUserActivityTypeBrowsingWeb {
       if let url = uA.webPageURL {
           if let components = NSURLComponents(url: uA.webPageURL,
                                                resolvingAgainstBaseURL: true) {
                let path = components.path, let query = components.query {
                    // Show the found item!
        return true
   return false
```

### Continue Search in App

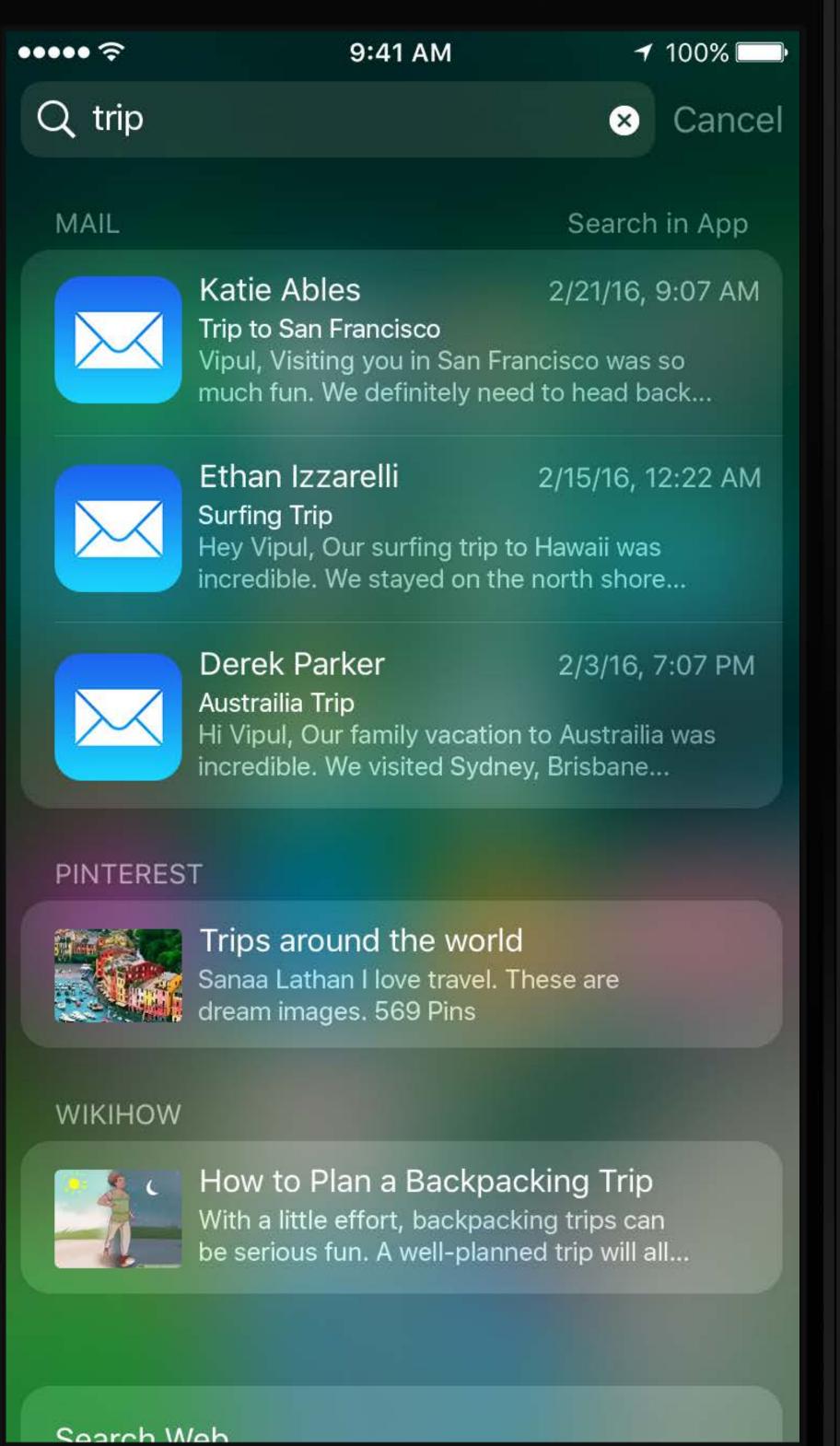


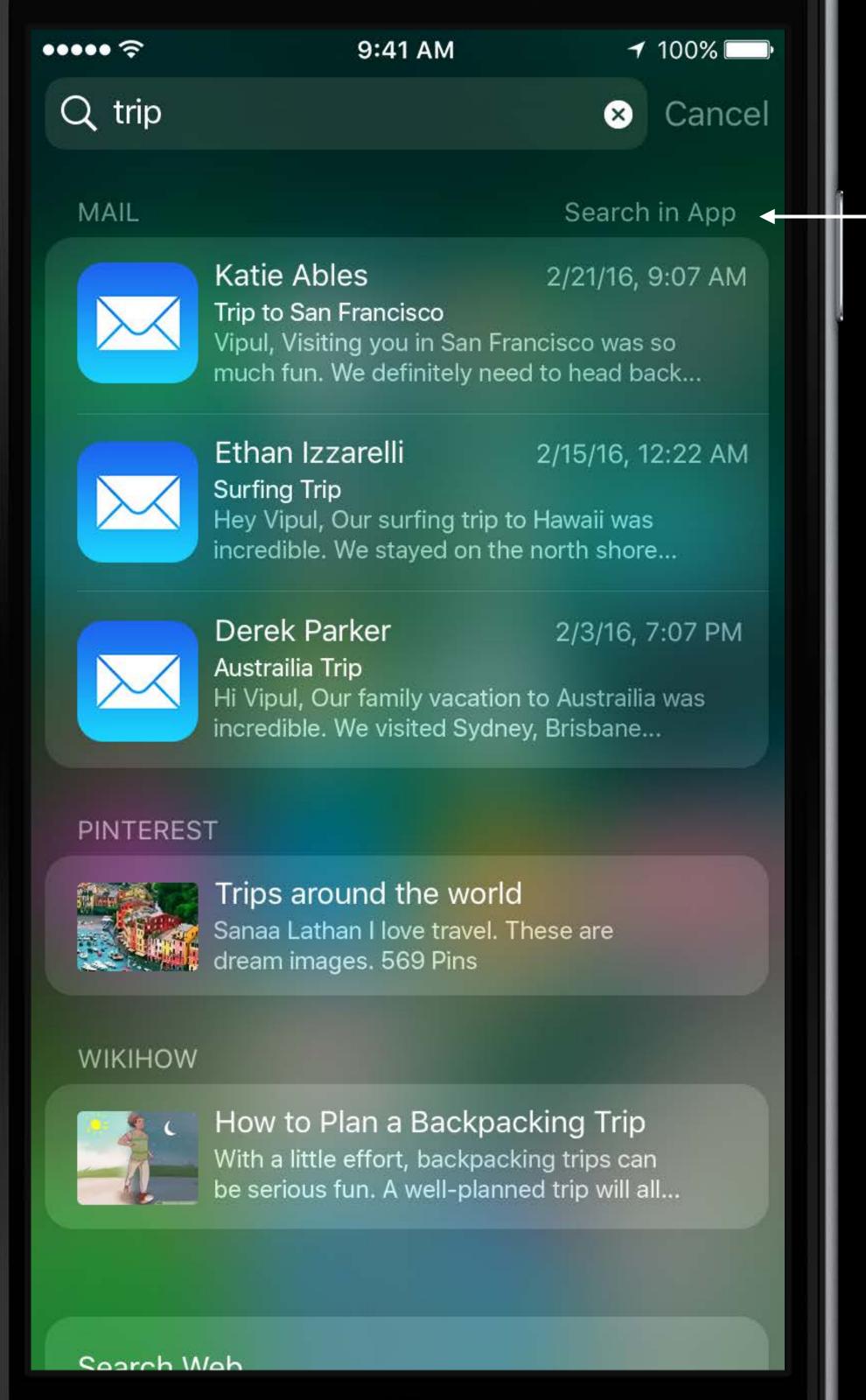
Search in App brings users back to your app

Simple adoption

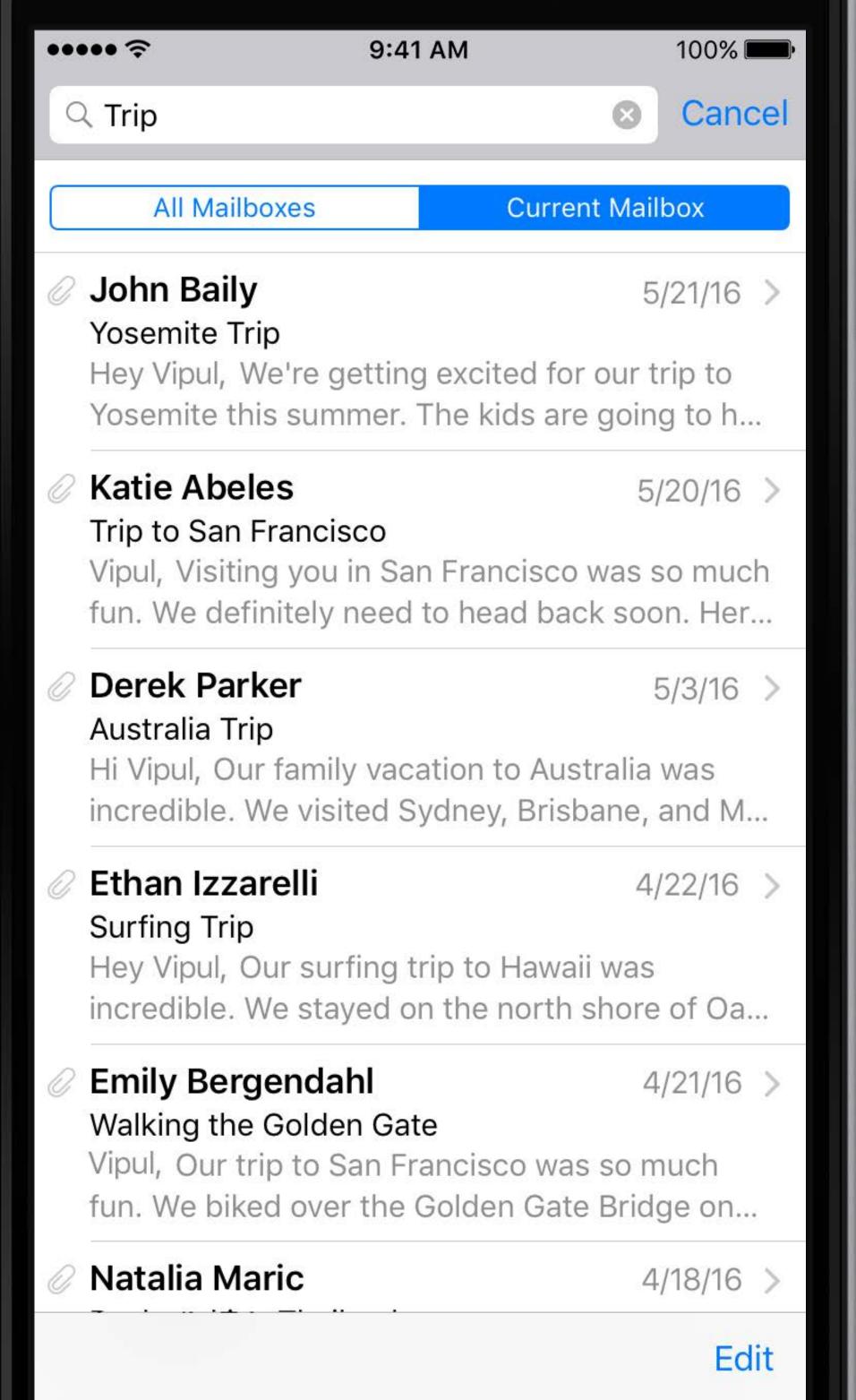
Leverage your customized search interface

Widely adopted in system apps





Users can continue their Search in the App



#### Enabling Search Continuation



Declare that your app supports Search Continuation

Add a CoreSpotlightContinuation key in your Info.plist

Implement user activity support

#### Enabling Search Continuation

NEW

Declare that your app supports Search Continuation

Add a CoreSpotlightContinuation key in your Info.plist

Implement user activity support

```
func application(application: UIApplication, continueUserActivity userActivity:
NSUserActivity, restorationHandler: ([AnyObject]?) -> Void) -> Bool {
    if userActivity.activityType == CSQueryContinuationActionType {
        if let searchQuery = userActivity.userInfo?[CSSearchQueryString] as? String {
            // Invoke your search UI!
        }
        return true
    }
    return false
}
```

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#### Introducing CoreSpotlight Search API

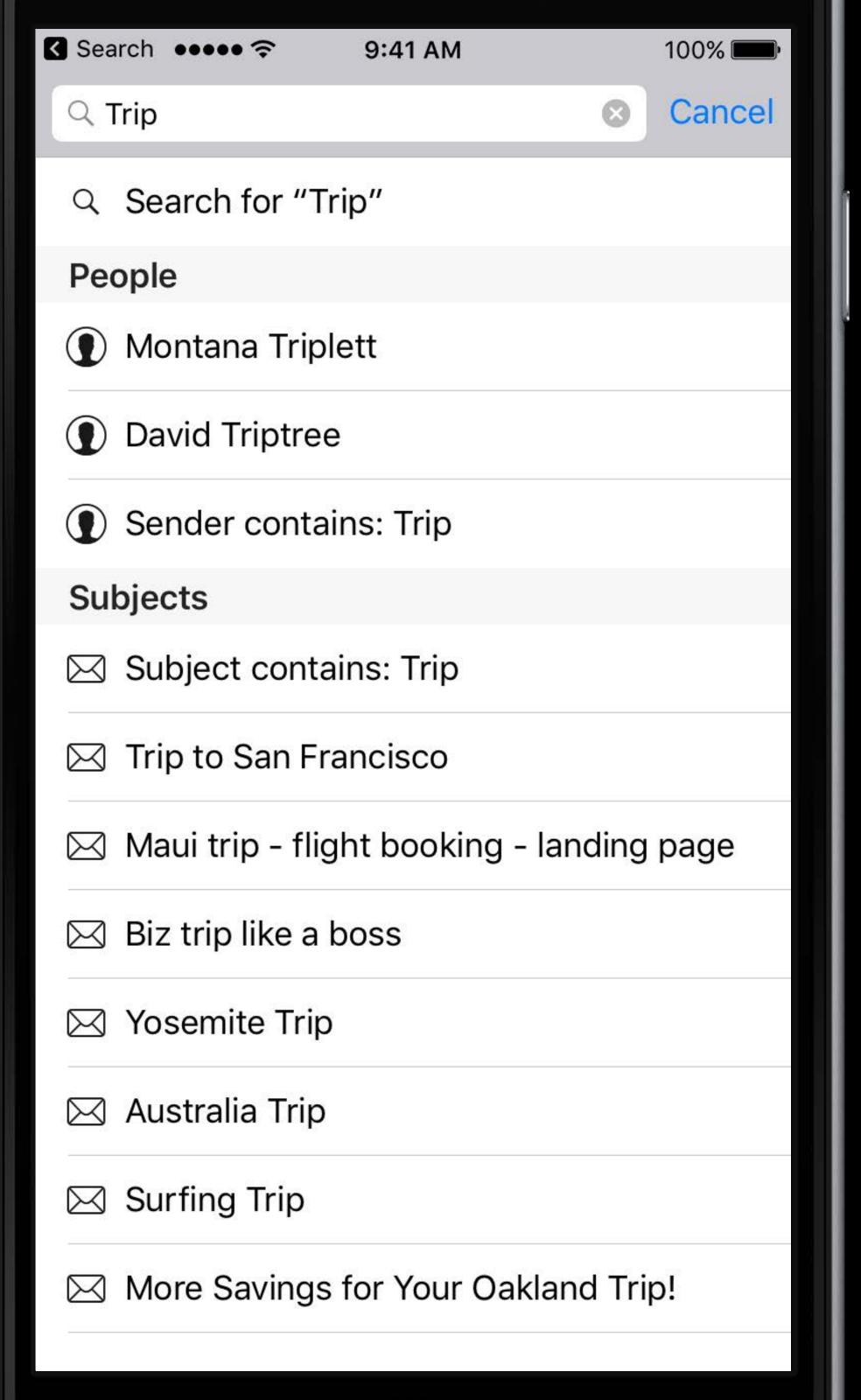


Search your Spotlight index

Same search that powers Spotlight, Mail, Notes, and more

One index—great for power and performance

Combine with your own network search for responsiveness and completeness



#### CoreSpotlight Search API



API for your application to query it's own data in the Spotlight index

Fast and scalable

Simple, easy to use API

Powerful query syntax

```
playCount > 1 && (composer == "beethoven"cwd || composer="mozart"cwd) &&
InRange(tempo, 40, 80)
```

```
* = "bob*"cwd && textContent="project updates"cwdt
```

### CoreSpotlight Search API



API for your application to query it's own data in the Spotlight index

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#### NEW

### Query Syntax

\* == "johnny appleseed"

Feature	Token	Example	
Equality		keywords=="search"	
Not Equal	!=	keywords!="search"	
Greater than	>,>=	pageCount > 10	
Less than	<,<=	pageCount < 10	
Range search	InRange	InRange(pageCount, 5, 10)	
AND	&&	fileSize > 100 && pageCount > 10	
OR		fileSize > 100    pageCount > 10	
NOT	!	!(fileSize > 100    pageCount > 10)	
Field wildcard	*	* == "search"	
Field or content wildcard	**	** == "search"	

### String Matching

NEW

\* == "johnny appleseed" cwdt

Feature	Flag
Case insensitive	'c'
Diacritics insensitive	'd'
Word matching	'W'
Tokenized	't'

```
NEW
```

```
func search(userQuery : String) {
   query.cancel();
    let escapedString = userQuery.replacingOccurrences(of: "\\", with: "\\\")
       .replacingOccurrences(of: "\"", with: "\\\"")
    let queryString = "**=\"" + escapedString + "\"cwdt"
   query = CSSearchQuery(queryString: queryString, attributes: ["displayName"])
   query.foundItemsHandler = {
        (items : [CSSearchableItem]) -> Void in
           /* process received items */
   query.completionHandler = { (err) -> Void in
       /* finish processing */
       self.updateDisplay()
   query.start()
```

```
NEW
```

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                                                                                           NEW
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query.start()

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                                                                                           NEW
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NEW
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query.start()
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### Demo

New Core Spotlight Search API

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Optimizing for ranking

# Optimizing for Ranking

Vipul Ved Prakash Apple, Inc.

### Ranking

Insight into Spotlight's ranking algorithm

### Ranking

Insight into Spotlight's ranking algorithm

Engagement Ratio

Content Popularity

Other Factors

### Engagement Ratio

Historical app performance

Device Side

Per Query

Global

### Content Popularity

View and Link Counts

URL Reputation

NSUserActivity



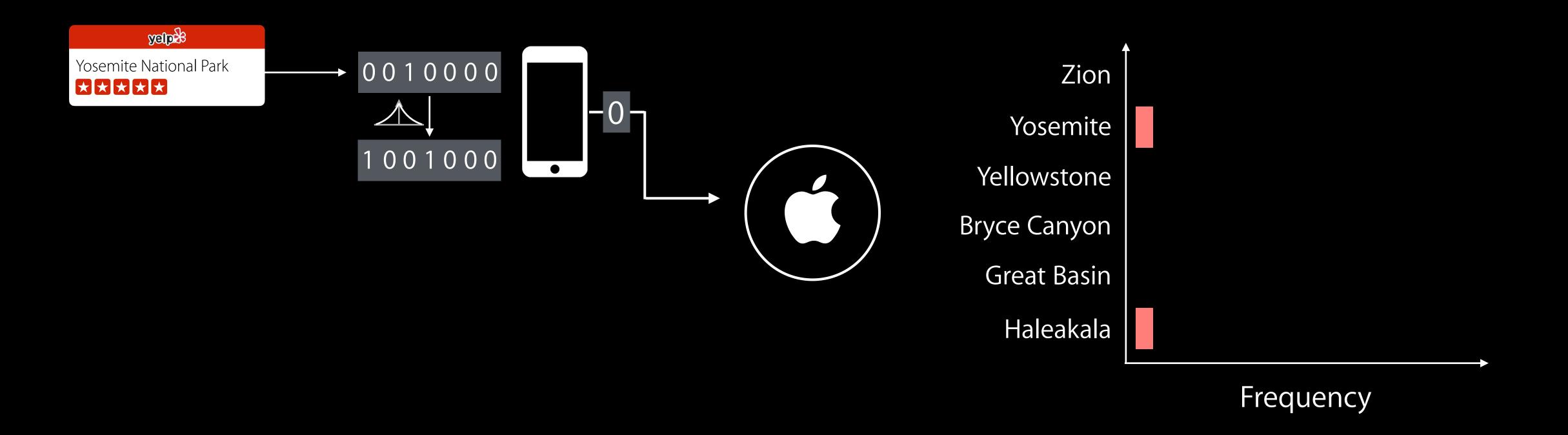




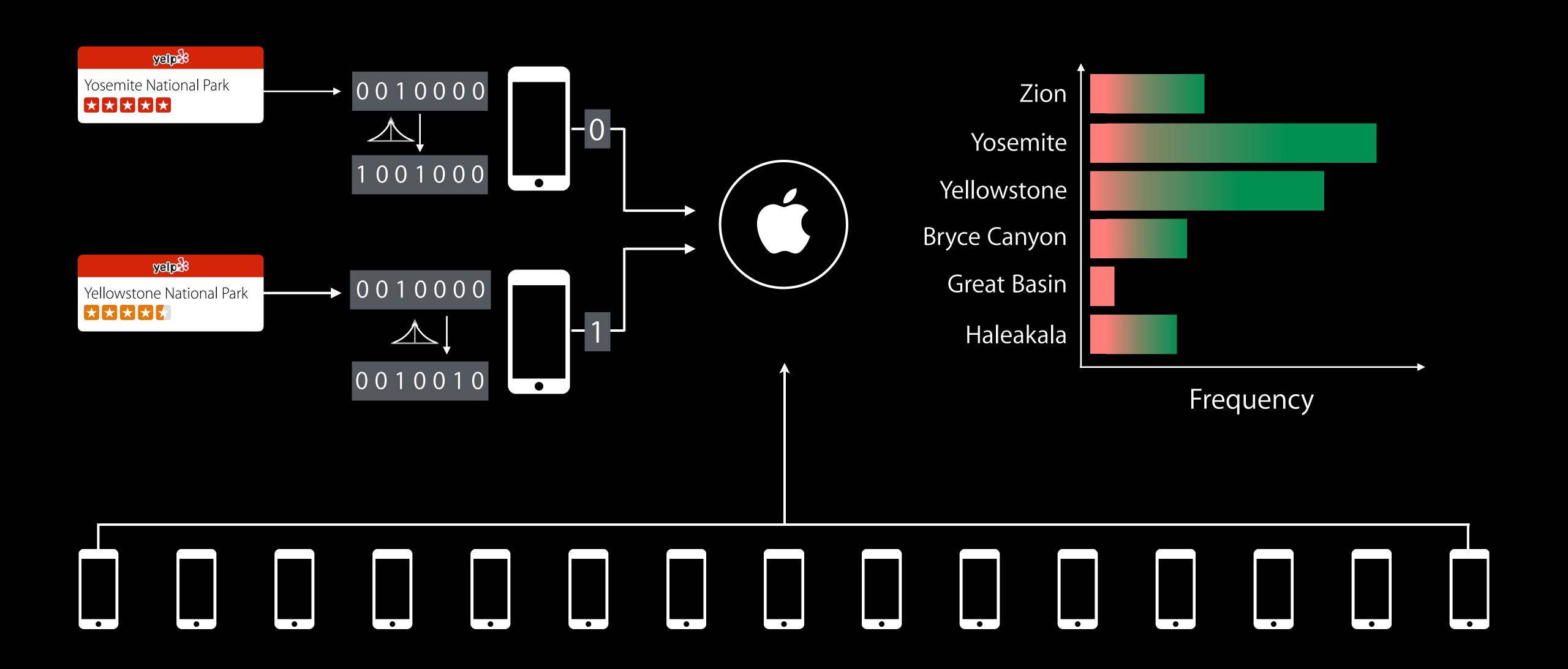












### Best Practices for Ranking

#### Elements of Success



Follow CoreSpotlight best practices

Index Universal Links

Link NSUserActivities to Universal Links and CoreSpotlight items

Provide relevant content and rich presentation

Implement continue Search in App

# Conclusion

### Key Take-Aways

Spotlight is universal search on iOS

Customers expect well functioning apps to be searchable

If you have not implemented Search APIs, update today

New features for deeper search and increased engagement

### Related Sessions

Engineering Privacy for Your Users	Pacific Heights	Wednesday 4:00PM
Introducing SiriKit	Presidio	Wednesday 5:00PM
Increase Usage of Your App With Proactive Suggestions	Mission	Friday 1:40PM

### Labs

App Search and Spotlight Lab

Frameworks Lab A

Thursday 12:00PM

#### More Information

https://developer.apple.com/wwdc16/223

https://search.developer.apple.com

# ÓWWDC16