During this project, there have been various roles within the team that played a pivotal role in contributing to the project's success. As the scrum master, the responsibility of leading the team, keeping them on schedule, and adhering to the predefined framework falls on me. The responsibilities include the following:

1. Facilitate Sprint Planning sessions.
2. Keep the Sprint goals realisting as well as keeping the team on schedule.
3. Keep the team focused on the tasks at hand.
4. Plan and run the stand up meetings.

Another role is that of the product owner. The main function of this role is to maintain and prioritize the backlog. This becomes an essential function when the project changes direction such as when the stakeholders change the requirements of the project itself. An excellent example of this was when the booking interface became a priority, the owner quickly adjusted the backlog which allowed the team to address the change without changing the flow of the project.

One important aspect of the Agile method is user stories. The development of the booking interface is one place where the use of user stories played an integral role. Initially this feature was not very specific which led to it being difficult to estimate and plan for. In order to make it more manageable, the story was broken down into smaller, more concise tasks which allowed the team to deliver an aspect that incrementally until a complete interface was presentable. The use of feedback loops played a key role in refining this particular aspect of the project. As new insights emerge during development, we were able to adjust the story to meet the user's needs. This helps improve the quality of the product and ensure that the finished product correlates with the stakeholder expectations.

Interruptions are a part of any project, and this one had its fair share of them. Midway through this project there was a significant shift in the direction due to stakeholder requirements. The Agile approach was crucial in helping navigate these problems by reprioritizing the backlog and committing to a new set of user stories. This allowed for the whole team to make a pivot and focus on the new requirements. The ability to pivot and adapt ensured the project stayed on track despite the changes. This adaptability shows the strength of the agile methodology in handling changes efficiently while maintaining the current course of action.

Given the success of the project depends highly on the team being able to work together effectively and efficiently, communication is of the utmost importance in the project. To help facilitate effective communication, we fostered an environment that is open and concise, which was key to keeping the whole team aligned to the goals of the project. One example of this as scrum master was to ensure that everyone had the opportunity to voice their progress and challenges ensuring a quick resolution of the problems. In addition to this, the use of communication tools kept the team updated to any changes and provided transparency for crucial aspects. This collaboration encouraged trust, ensuring everyone remained focused on delivering the objectives.

The use of organizational tools such as Jira were integral to the success of the project. Jira was the primary tool used for tracking the user stories and the progress of the sprints. Jira was used to organize and prioritize the backlog which led the way for the team to focus on critical aspects of the project. This also helped provide visibility on who was working on different aspects of the project and helped maintain transparency and accountability throughout the team.

The Agile approach has both pros and cons and some were shown throughout the travel project. One positive aspect was the flexibility that allowed the team to adapt to changes quickly, or to pivot as it were. This became crucial to the success because of the dynamic nature of the project. Another pro came in the form of the feedback loops and iterative development cycle. This ensured that the deliverables were of high value and on time at the end of each Sprint. On the negative side of things, the changes in requirements made it difficult to freeze and change the scope, which led to additional work on occasion. Overall the approach was an excellent option for the project due to its dynamic nature and need for stakeholder feedback. The team’s ability to adapt and deliver ensured that the project met its goals and adapted to challenges as they arose.