



Case Study



Icreon
technology differential

Bed and Breakfast Booking System

Our client, a US based entrepreneur, was looking for a solution that would allow travelers to search for bed and breakfast (B&B) establishments in the US and book them online. In addition, travelers were to be provided with the means to connect with and share their experiences at various B&B establishments with others. Icreon has developed the solution on Joomla (for the front-end) and Bug Hotel Reservation system (for handling the listing and booking process).

Business Requirements

With the concept of bed and breakfasts increasing in popularity, our client wanted a solution that would enable him to cash-in on this popularity. The solution was required to allow B&B establishments to get themselves listed on the website and also manage the details of their properties – including room availability, photos, videos etc themselves. Travelers, in turn, were to be provided with the means to search for listed establishments, browse through the details and book rooms online. Options for the travelers to rate establishments, post reviews etc were also required. Our client required full administrative control over the website – managing content, tracking listed B&B establishments, travelers etc.

A web based solution to list and manage bookings for B&B establishments

The solution has been developed using Joomla and the BugHotel Reservation software package. BugHotel provides a full-fledged hotel booking system, with separate back-end interfaces for vendors i.e. hotels (to manage their properties and bookings) and administrators (to manage all the vendors). BugHotel provides several component that enable interaction with Joomla. Through these components, property listing, room availability info from the BugHotel back-end interfaces can be retrieved in Joomla. In addition, to the booking mechanism, the solution includes various interactive features. For this various other Joomla components have been used.

B&B owners can register with the website (through an offline process) and get themselves listed on the website. As registered members, they are provided with a web based administration panel to manage the details of their property (description, room availability calendars, photos, videos etc) and also view and track reservations made by travelers.

Travelers, in turn, can search for and browse through the details of the listed B&B establishments. They can register to book rooms at these establishments. As members, travelers have access to various interactive features (reviews, rating, forums etc) and can also track and manage their bookings online.

Several additional features and components have been integrated with website to extend its functionality. One of them is the reviews and rating mechanism. Herein members can rate a property on a scale of 1 to 10 and can also post reviews on the same. They can also post their comments on any of the listed reviews.

“Fire Board”, the Joomla discussion forum component has been integrated with the solution allowing members to share their experiences, of staying at various B&B establishments, with others.

Members can also upload and share photos and videos with other. For the same, various Joomla components have been customized and integrated with the solution. In addition, various interactive features and tools such as opinion polls, favorite B&B establishments, currency converter etc have been provided.

BugHotel comes equipped with back-end administration interfaces – separate for vendors (B&B establishments) and the administrator. We have customized these interfaces to map to the client's requirements.

With the successful delivery of the solution Icreon has provided the client with an easy and effective means to operate and manage a travel portal. The website provides B&B owners with a cost effective platform to market their services to a global audience.

Technology Used

