

FAQ: Python Itinerary Generator

Learn about building a dynamic travel planner with AI and web scraping.

Based on [Building A Python Itinerary Generator With Ai And Location Scraping Cursor Gemini 2 5 Flash](#) by Casey Builds It

Q: What is this Python itinerary generator tool?

A: This is a Python-based application that generates trip plans based on user input like dates, party size, budget, and custom activity requests. It can also export the final itinerary to a PDF.

Q: How does the tool get location information?

A: Instead of using a fixed database, the tool dynamically pulls location-based ideas on the fly. It uses free sources like OpenStreetMap, Wikipedia, and DuckDuckGo to find real businesses, restaurants, and activities.

Q: What kind of user input does the tool accept?

A: The tool accepts user input for dates, the number of adults, kids, and dogs, budget preferences, and custom activity requests.

Q: What is the advantage of using free data sources?

A: This build tests a scrappy, free-data approach to see if it can generate a usable itinerary, contrasting with AI travel tools that often rely on static datasets or expensive APIs.

Q: What is 'vibe coding' in this context?

A: It refers to a coding approach using Cursor and an LLM (like Gemini 2.5 Flash) to define features conversationally, test live, and debug in real time, rather than planning every detail upfront.

Q: How did the development process start?

A: The process began by feeding reference material from an existing Airbnb-style website's itinerary feature into Cursor as an example.

Q: What core features were defined for the tool?

A: The core features defined include date selection, party composition (adults, kids, dogs), budget level, custom activity requests, and PDF export.

Q: What locations were used for testing?

A: The tool was tested live against Colorado Springs and Portland, Maine. Portland, Maine was specifically chosen to test how the tool handles ambiguous or duplicate place names.

Q: Were there any debugging challenges?

A: Yes, there was a debugging session around a broken location scrape. The article also discusses a practical comparison between free scraping methods and paid options like the Google Places API.

Q: How does the cost of APIs factor into this tool?

A: The article compares the cost of using Gemini Flash against other models like Claude for this workload, highlighting that API pricing is a significant consideration as a tool scales beyond personal use.

Q: What are potential future enhancements for this tool?

A: Future enhancements could include integrating a Weather API for smarter planning, GPS-based distance filtering, using Event APIs to surface local happenings, and database caching for previously scraped areas.

Q: Can free scraping sources produce usable results?

A: Yes, free scraping sources like OpenStreetMap, Wikipedia, and DuckDuckGo can produce usable results, but there are tradeoffs compared to using paid APIs.

Q: How does using an LLM in Cursor affect prototyping?

A: Defining features conversationally with an LLM inside Cursor is shown to significantly speed up the prototyping process.

Q: What is the potential for this tool to evolve?

A: A tool like this has a clear path to evolve from a standalone script into a full web application with added features like caching and further API integrations.

Resources & Further Reading

Related guides for these FAQs:

■ Build a Python Itinerary Generator (Action Sheet)

<https://storage.googleapis.com/casey-builds-it-checklists-20260729-0c6048/casey-builds-it/Action%20Sheet/building-a-python-itinerary-generator-with-ai-and-location-scraping-cursor-gemin-action-sheet.pdf>

■ Questions to Ask Before Building Your Own AI Itinerary Generator

<https://storage.googleapis.com/casey-builds-it-checklists-20260727-d45d2a/casey-builds-it/Questions%20to%20Ask/building-a-python-itinerary-generator-with-ai-and-location-scraping-cursor-gemin-questions-to-ask.pdf>

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