

Shaun O'Connell

Aspiring field guide, nature photographer, and seasoned web developer

While I have almost 27 years of experience as a Web Developer, I'm gradually shifting my career towards more conservation-centric roles.

Work experience

2026

Freelance Front-end Web Developer at various South African organisations

August, 2024 to present day

In August 2024, I returned to South Africa. During this time I worked primarily as a web developer, but I also used my spare time to improve my photography and birding skills.

Some of the projects I worked on:

- [Birds of Zevenwacht](#)
- [SASTI @ CREST, Stellenbosch University](#)

2021

Freelance Front-end Web Developer at various New Zealand organisations

February, 2021 to July, 2024

Upon returning to New Zealand after COVID, I primarily worked as a freelance web developer. Some of my clients and employers included:

- [Te Whatu Ora, Health NZ](#)
- [Ackama](#)
- [Adminis](#)
- [Lil Regie](#)

2020

Volunteer Web Development Teacher at [Onja](#) Madagascar

December, 2019 to October, 2020

During 2020, I worked in Madagascar, as a volunteer teacher for 20 aspiring web development students.

Feel free to [read more about this adventure on my blog](#).

2019

Senior Front-end Developer & Interaction Designer at various New Zealand organisations

October, 2014 to December, 2019

In October 2014, I moved to New Zealand for work.

I worked with several organisations over the 5 years:

- [Abletech](#) and [AddressFinder](#)
- [Homes.co.nz](#)
- [Tangram](#) at [Trade Me](#)
- [Flick Electric co.](#)

2014

Front-end Developer & Interaction Designer at various South African organisations

January, 1999 to August, 2014

I then worked in South Africa for several organisations over 15 years, including: [Dimension Data](#), [Consology](#), [CareerJunction](#), [Kalahari.com](#), [Yola](#), [22seven](#)

1998

Junior Web Developer

My career started in 1998 with [Sams Teach Yourself HTML4](#). I started making websites shortly thereafter.

Then in the August of that year, I studied programming (COBOL) at Van Zyl & Pritchard

Skills

General skills

- Nature photography
- Birding tours / guiding
- Bird surveying and identification

Tech-specific skills

- Web development, design systems development
- Usability research
- Storyboarding, prototyping, and interaction design
- General IT, networking, etc.

Interests

- Birding & Wildlife** Birding has been an interest for me over the last 40 years, but it wasn't until 2024 that I started prioritising my learning here. Take a look at my [eBird](#) and [iNaturalist](#) profiles. I'm also a contributor to [SABAP2](#).
- Volunteering** I work in my spare time as a volunteer. Offering mentorship to junior web developers, as well as aiding conservation efforts.
- Photography** I'm particularly interested in Bird, wildlife, landscape, macro, and astro photography.

Get in touch

- Visit my site: tactile.co.za
- Email me: shaun@tactile.co.za
- [LinkedIn: ndorfin](#)
- [GitHub: ndorfin](#)

The latest version of this CV is available online at ndorfin.github.io/cv