Szabolcs Sajben

Full-Stack Web Developer

Location: Cardiff, UK (plan to relocate to Japan in 2025)

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Professional Summary

- Full-stack engineer with 8+ years building high-traffic e-commerce and SaaS platforms for UK and global clients.
- Proven track record modernizing legacy systems, reducing page-load times by up to 40%, and leading teams of up to 4 engineers.
- Experienced in cross-cultural and remote collaboration; seeking to bring technical leadership and innovation to teams in Japan.

Professional Experience

Core, Cardiff, UK — Full-Stack Developer

Jan 2025 - Present

- Managed 12+ WordPress sites (Trellis, Bedrock, Sage) on DigitalOcean droplets, building 20+ custom ACF blocks with Tailwind CSS and SCSS.
- Developed features and UI components in Next.js with Tailwind, collaborating with 2 develops, 2 designers and 2 product managers.
- Modernized the Laravel Classic Cars project: upgraded from Laravel 9/Nova 3 to Laravel 12/Nova 4, integrated a third-party vehicle API, and reduced import times by 30%.
- Performed daily DevOps tasks.

Box UK, Cardiff, UK — PHP Developer

Jan 2022 – Jan 2025

- Enhanced the DesignSpark platform, upgrading from PHP 7.4/Symfony 2.4 to PHP 8/Symfony 5.4, refactored REST APIs for 25% better performance and stability.
- Built a YAML-based mega-menu editor, integrated FastSpring payments and HubSpot CRM, and expanded Optimizely A/B testing capabilities.
- Collaborated on front-end development using TypeScript and SASS, translating Figma designs into dynamic UI components.

Freelance Full-Stack Developer, Remote

Sep 2018 - Dec 2021

- Created WooCommerce plugins for multi-vendor imports, VAT calculation, and automated invoicing.
- Developed i-bidder.com, a Laravel-based e-commerce platform, and viewplex.io, a 360° virtual tour app with THREE.js and subscription services.
- Managed client communications, maintained production environments, and implemented CI/CD pipelines for 10+ clients.

Web Developer, SourceCode Labs, Luton, UK

Apr 2017 – Sep 2017

- Migrated parent company site from custom CMS to WordPress, leading a team of 3 and ensuring seamless deployment.
- Contributed to an internal Laravel map application, using ES6 and THREE.js for interactive mapping.

Junior Software Developer, Quantina Intelligence Ltd, London, UK

Feb 2016 - Feb 2017

 Redeveloped flagship Java software, updated MQL4 trading tools, and built new C#/.NET applications.

Apprentice IT Engineer, Fresh Consulting Ltd, London, UK

September 2015 – January 2016

 Supported IT across five schools, performed server maintenance, and refurbished Ubuntu desktops for fundraising

Technical Skills

Programming Languages & Frameworks

- PHP (8.x), Laravel (Expert, 7 yrs), Symfony (Advanced, 4 yrs)
- JavaScript/TypeScript (Expert, 8 yrs), Next.js, React, Vue.js
- C#/.NET (Intermediate, 2 yrs), Java, MQL4

Content Management & Frontend

- WordPress (Trellis, Bedrock, Sage), ACF (Advanced, 4 yrs)
- CSS Frameworks: Tailwind CSS (Advanced, 5 yrs), SCSS/SASS (Expert, 6 yrs)
- 3D Graphics: THREE.js (Beginner, 1 yrs)

Infrastructure & DevOps

- Cloud Platforms: DigitalOcean (Advanced, 2 yrs)
- Containerization: Docker (Advanced, 5 yrs)
- Version Control: Git (Expert, 8 yrs)
- CI/CD Pipelines (Advanced, 5 yrs)

Databases & APIs

- Databases: MySQL, PostgreSQL (Advanced, 6 yrs)
- API Development: RESTful APIs, YAML (Expert, 7 yrs)
- Third-party Integrations: FastSpring, HubSpot CRM, Optimizely

Additional Skills

- Performance tuning and optimization
- Infrastructure management
- Project leadership and team collaboration

Languages

- English (Native)
- Japanese (Beginner)
- Hungarian (Native)

Education

BTEC in Games Development

Uxbridge College, London Sep 2013 – Jul 2015
Awarded Distinction