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Competitive Benchmarking | Flight Booking Webites

Overview

Main purpose of this exercise is to review four flight booking websites including aggregators. Focus will be on desktop format.

- Kulua.com
- FlySafair
- Virgin Australia
- Travelstart

Areas of focus

The indicators below will show postivie, neutral and negative impacts during the flight booking process for each competitor.

- Good
- Neutral
- Needs Improvement

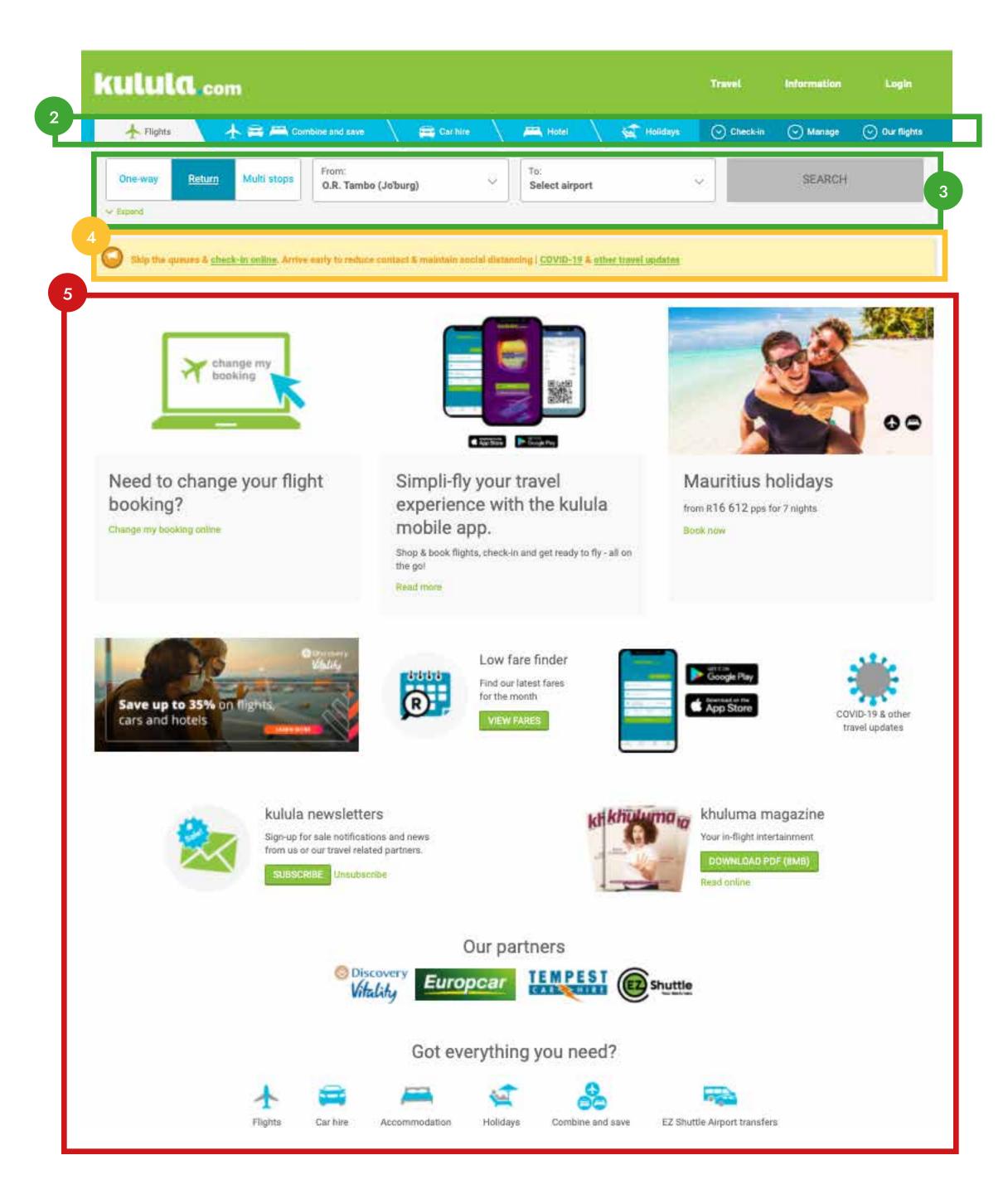
KUUUCL.com

Kulula is a South-African low-cost airline, operating on major domestic routes. Kulula is a subsidiary of Comair Ltd, which also operates flights of British Airways.

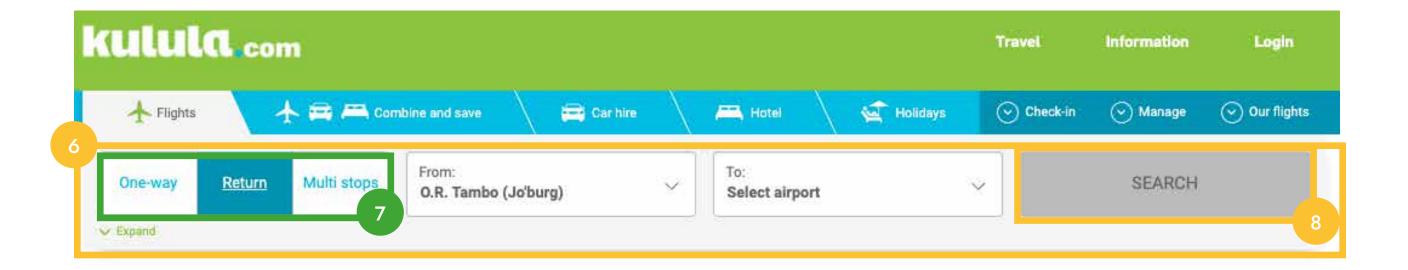
1.1 Homepage

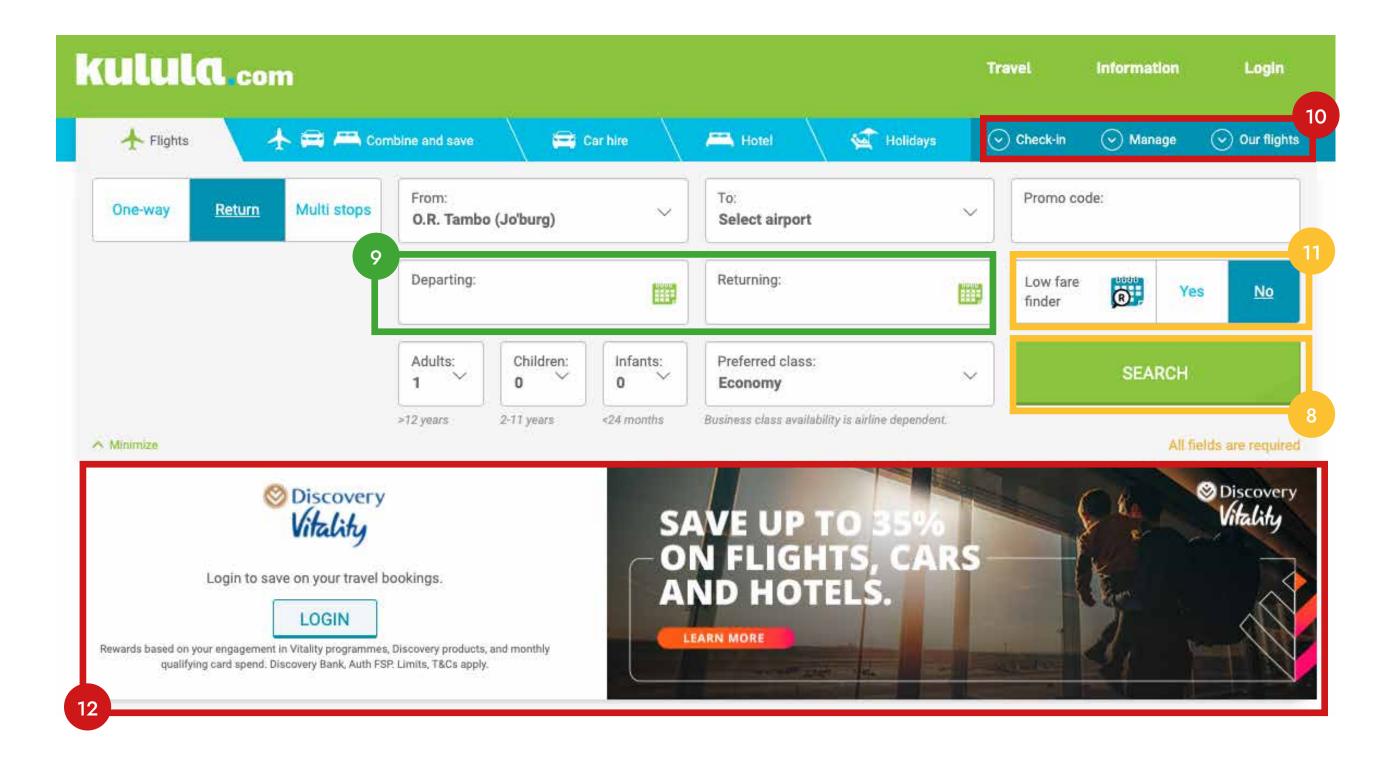
- 1 No clear value proposition. No clear mention of any promotions
- Main navbar is well placed and clear indicators for different type of bookings
- 3 Search bar is well placed and easy to find
- 1 Notification bar underneath search bar with Covid-19 updates.

 A bit cluttered with other information like Check-in Online which should be easier to find in the main nav
- 5 Very cluttered. Tons of CTAs leaving the user confused and uneasy

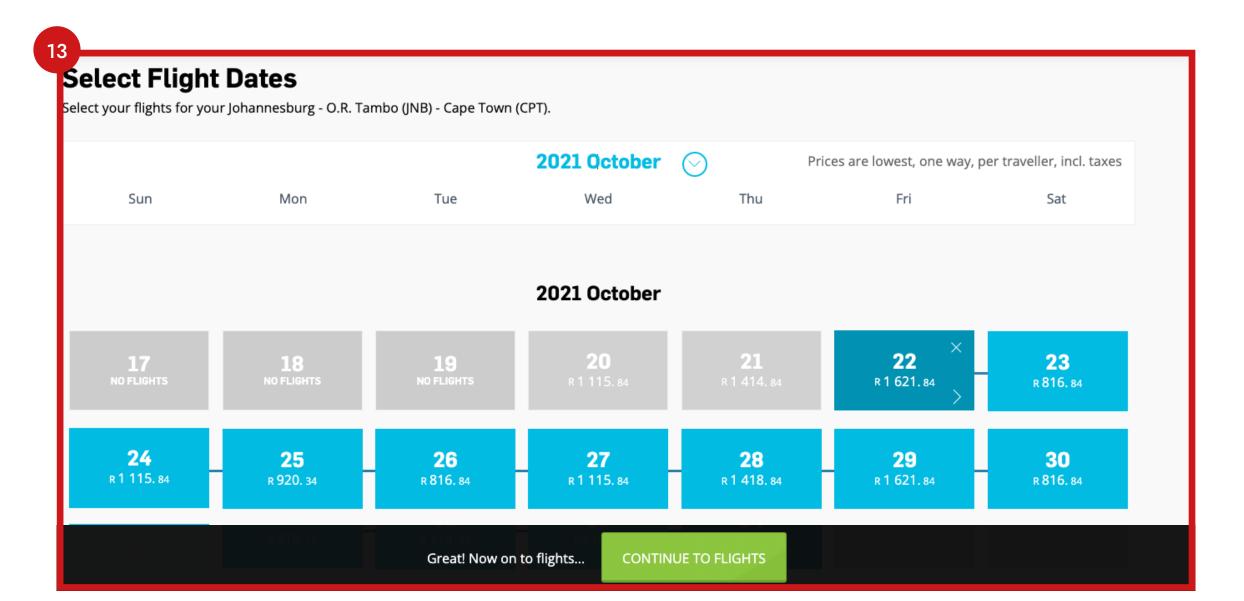


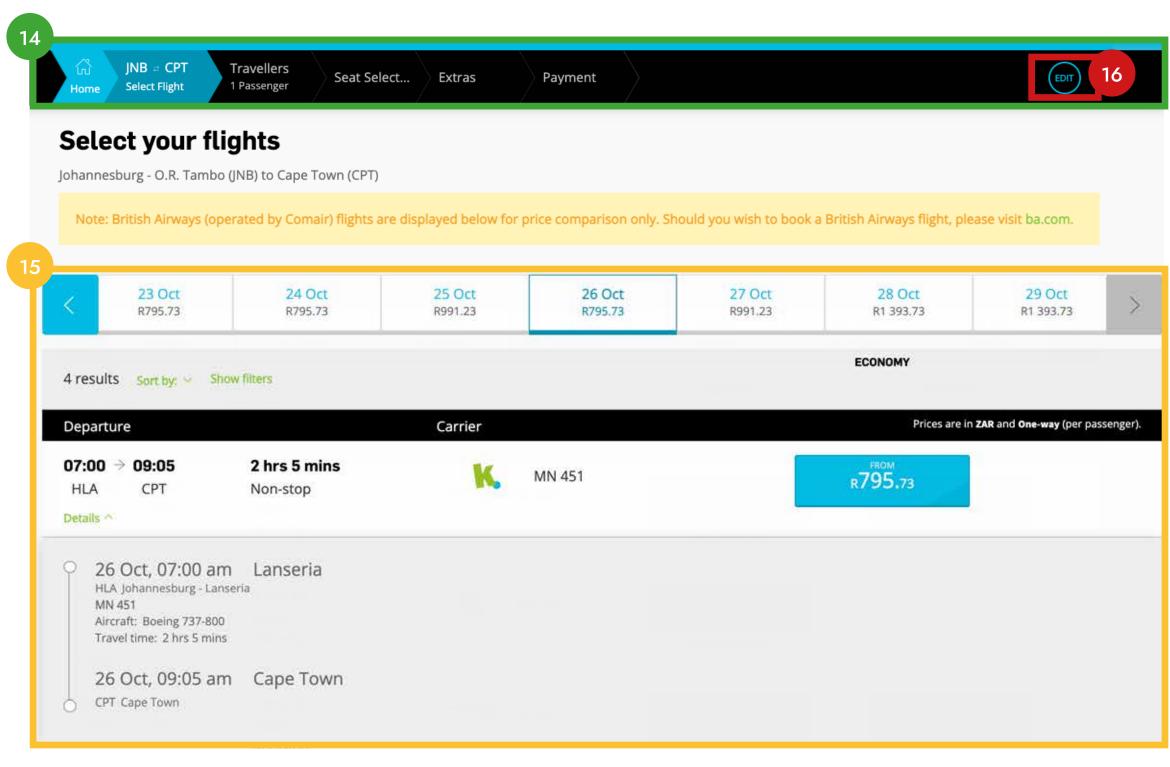
- Clean selection options. Rest of options are hidden (dates, class etc.) but gets revealed once the user clicks on an option
- 7 Type of flight selection is clearly marked with a background
- At first glance the submit/search button is hard to see. Button text should include actionable text i.e. Search Flights. Button changes colour to green when selection options are made
- Selecting dates are easy and intuitive with a calendar dropdown for both departing and returning. Same applies to rest of the dropdown selection options
- Very difficult for the user to find the "Check-in" and "Managing Flights" section. This should be clearer. "Our Flights" menu item is misleading and should rather be straight forward "Flight Status"
- Selection options for Low fare finder is very clear but could let the user know before hand that it will be flexible dates
- These Ads pop up immediately when the user makes a selection which is a distraction to the main task. Same ad can be found lower down the page





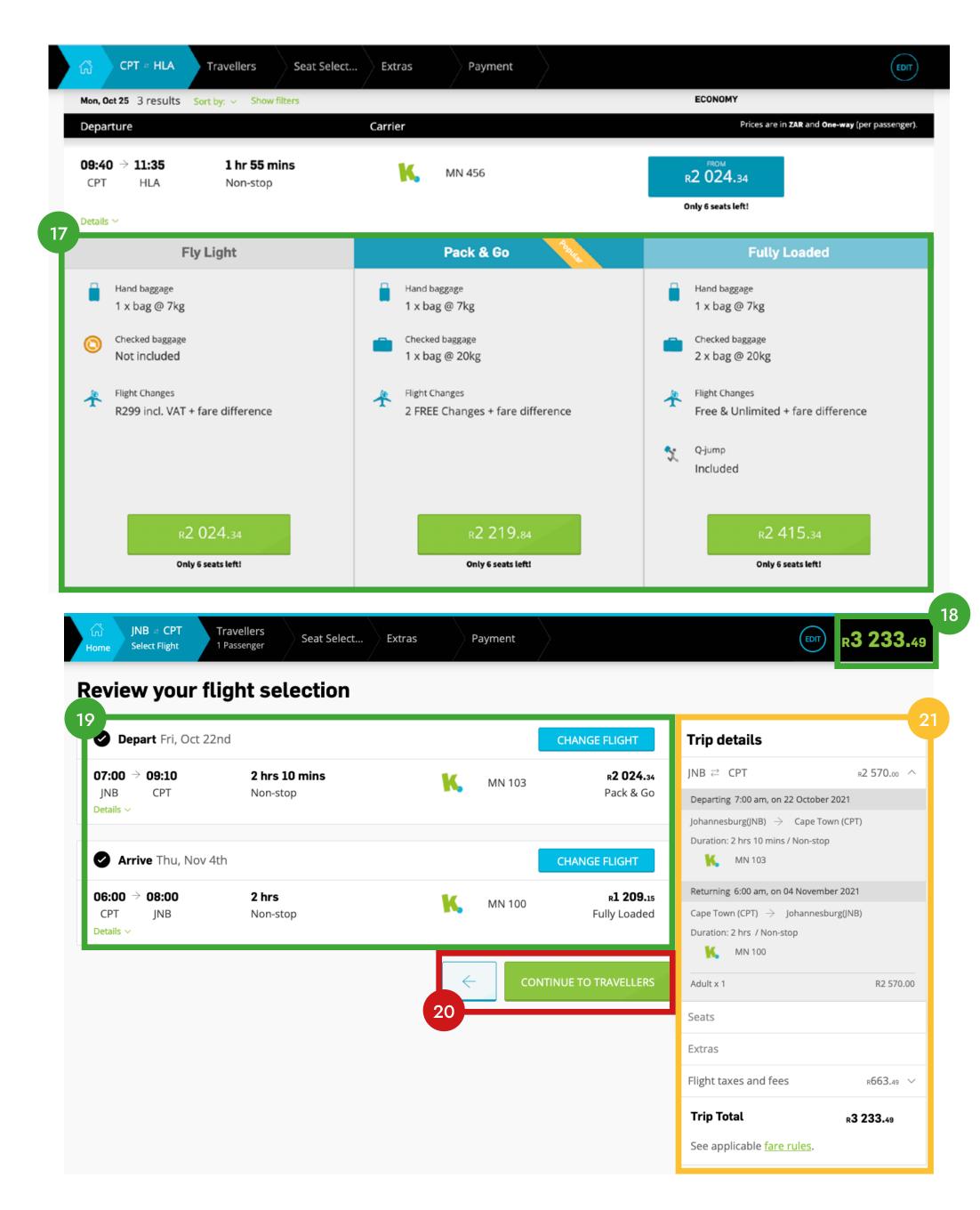
- This step is unnecessary and gets repeated with a different layout once the user clicks on continue to flights
- 14 Clearly shows where the user are in the booking process
- Flight dates, time, and cheapest pricing are clearly laid out. But no other pricing option until the user selects a time
- "Edit" is not clearly visible. Naming convection should be more actionable as in "Edit Search" or "Edit Flights"





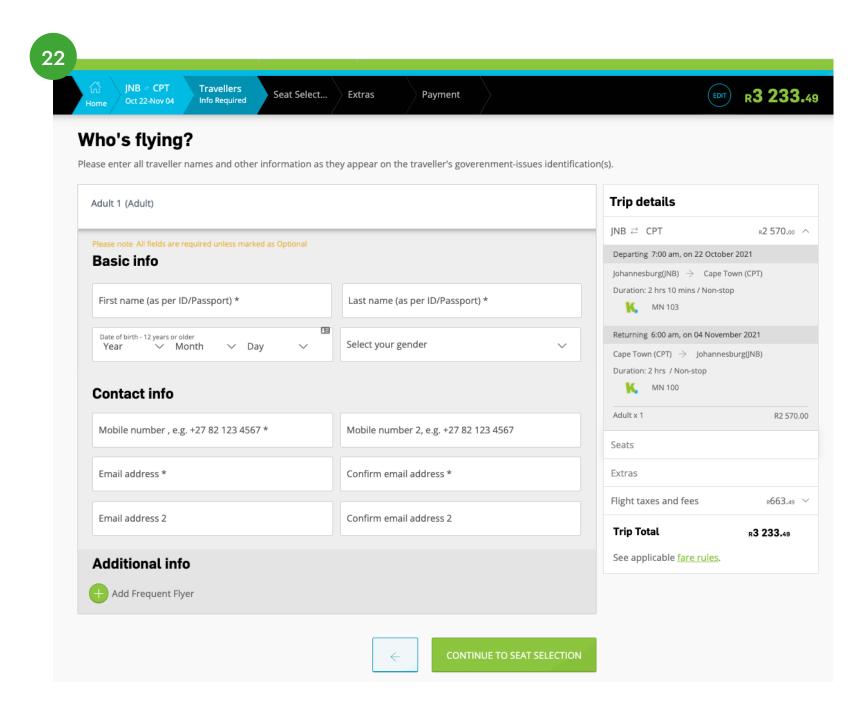
- On flight selection the user gets a good overview on what's included in each package.
- 18 Clear indication of flight cost
- Quick and easy review of the user selection including package and ability to change the flight
- Two buttons next to each other is a bit confusing. The back button should have a naming convention or be left aligned.

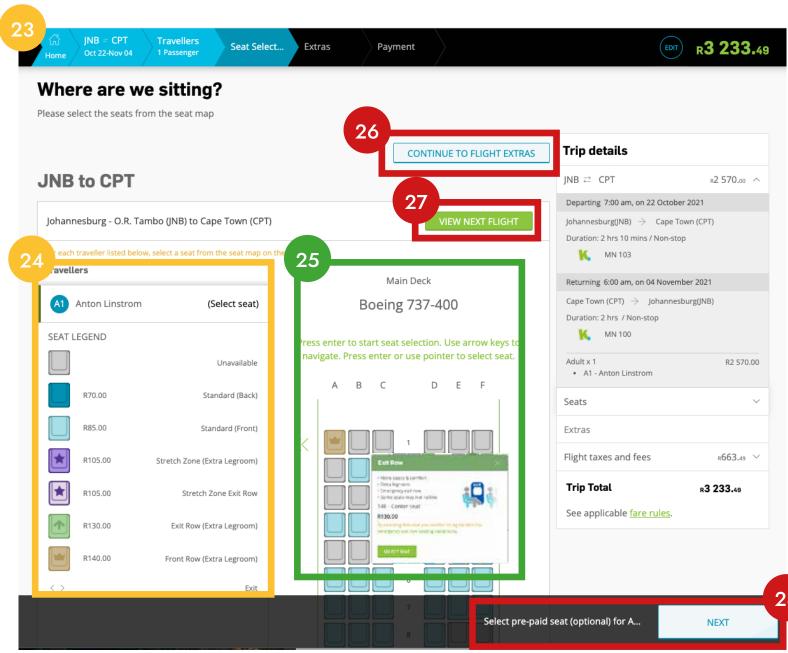
 Text on main button to proceed could be better "Continue" or "Passenger Details
- 21 Overview of trip details



1.3 Booking

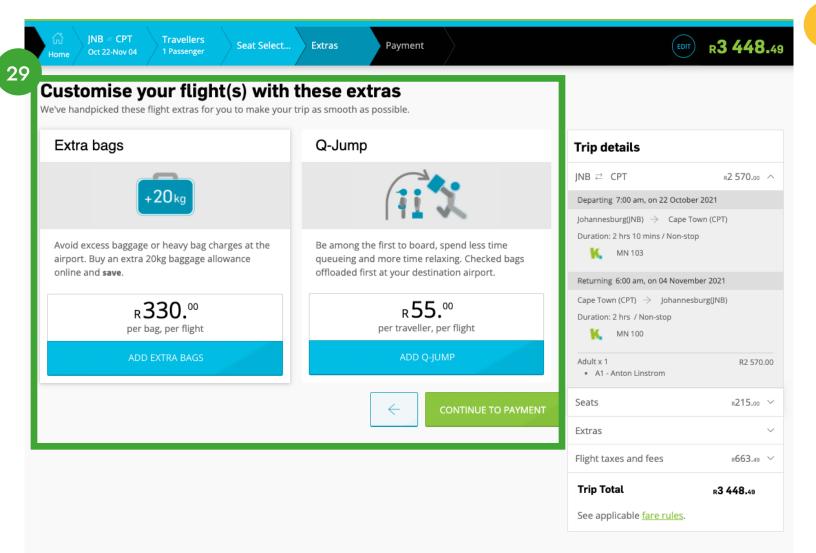
- Booking page is very well laid out and easy to enter the necessary details.
- Although the seat selection page shows the user all the necessary information it could be laid out better. Too many loose CTAs buttons.
- 24 Information on seat selection and price.
- Interactive seat selection with layout of seats. Clearly shows what is available and colorized according to seat legend. The user can click on a seat of choice to select it and view more information.
- CTAs to next steps are badly placed and confusing. "Continue to extra flights" seems to be placed in a more prominent position than viewing seats for the next flight.
- CTA for selecting seats for the return flight is badly placed.
 Should be under the selection or trip details. The flow on each page seems different and can be confusing to the user.
- Floating bottom bar is confusing and doesn't make sense.
 Wording is cut off and not sure what action will take place when the user clicks on "Next". No consistency in the pages.

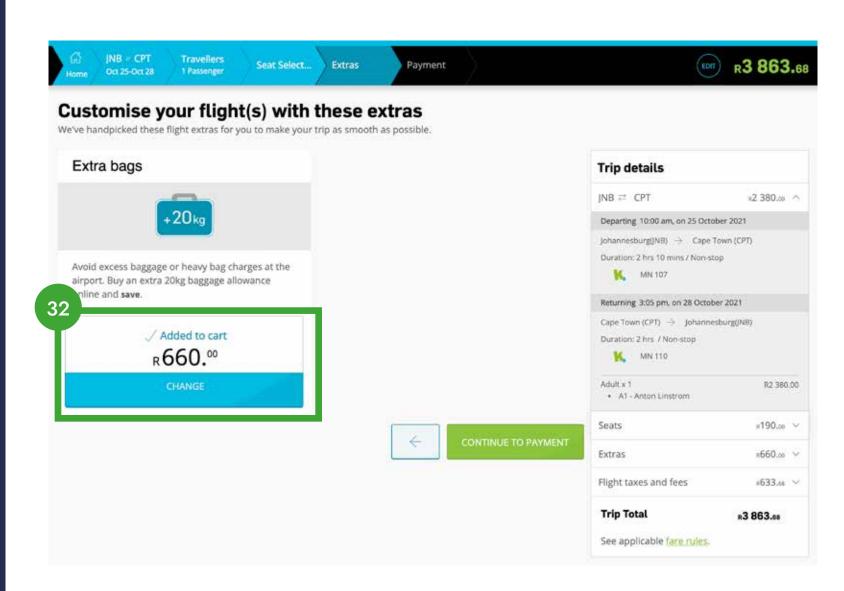


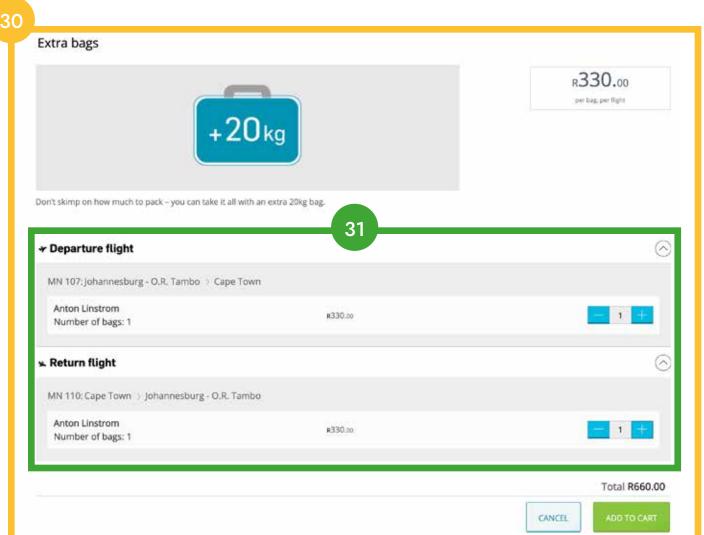


1.3 Booking

- Adding extras are clearly defined as well as price and information. Big CTAs and easy to use.
- When selecting to add extra bags the selection process occurs through a pop up unlike the selecting seats process. The experience should be consistent throughout.
- Adding bags per flight (departure & return) are clearly marked for the user to add extra bags per flight. The amount of bags can be added per flight through selection. Total of cost are also shown.
- Any added extras are clearly marked and can be changed.

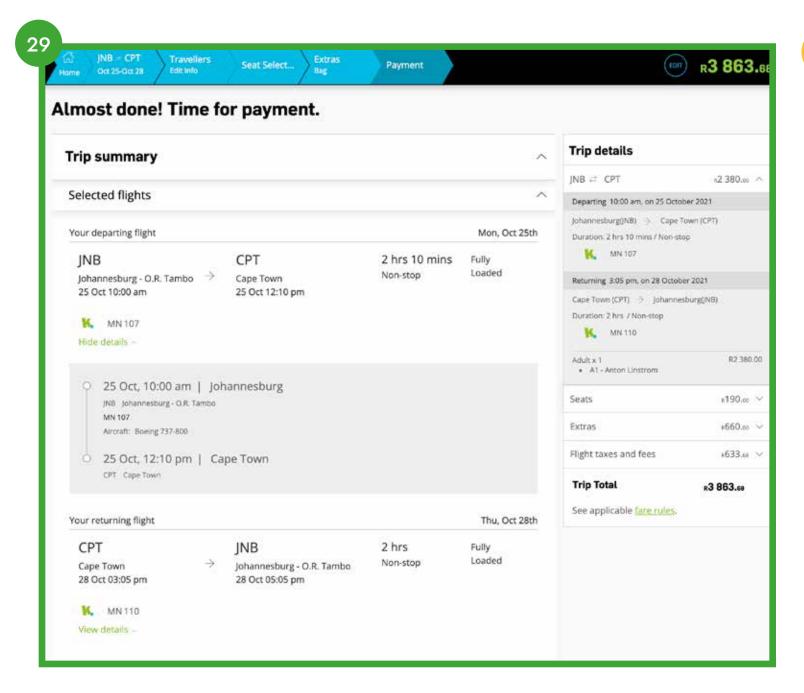


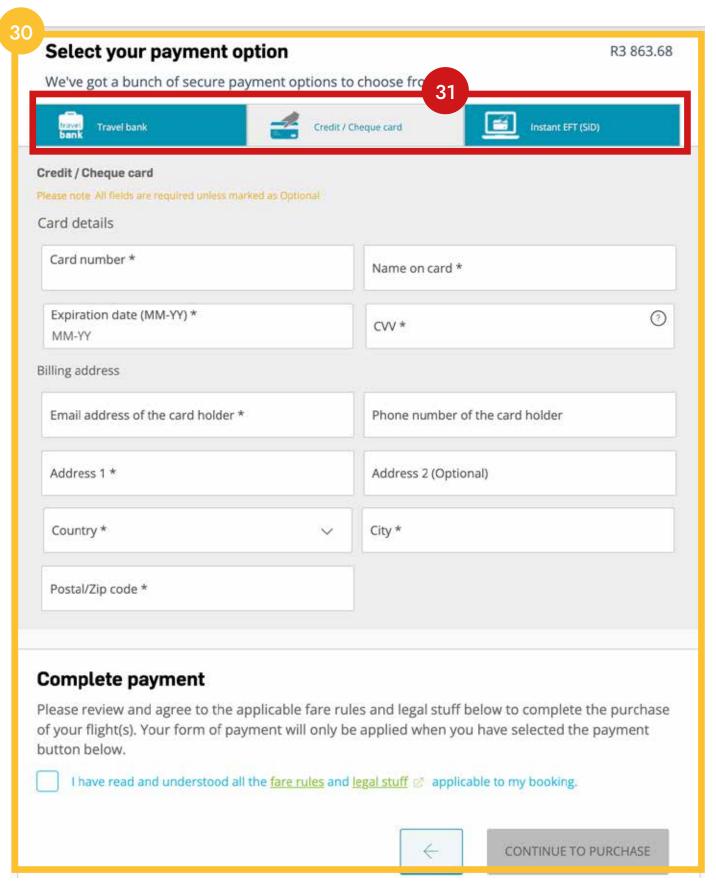




1.4 Payment

- Trip summary can be viewed on the payment page as well as a cost breakdown on the right with any extras, seats, etc. Any unwanted extras can be easily removed.
- Payment screen is pretty straightforward. Fields are cleary marked to what is required.
- Not very clear on which tab you are. Rather have the primary colour depicting on which tab the user are.



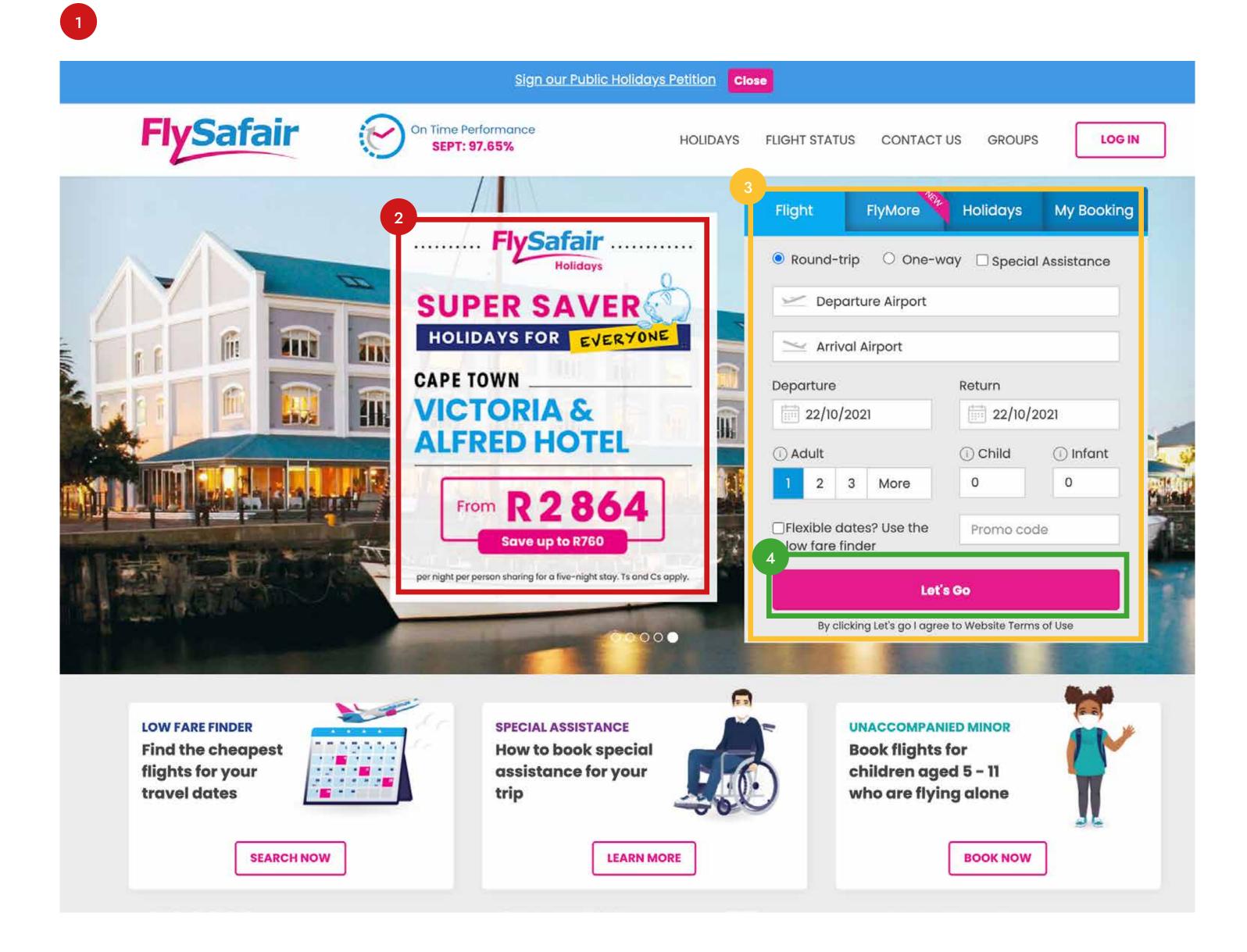




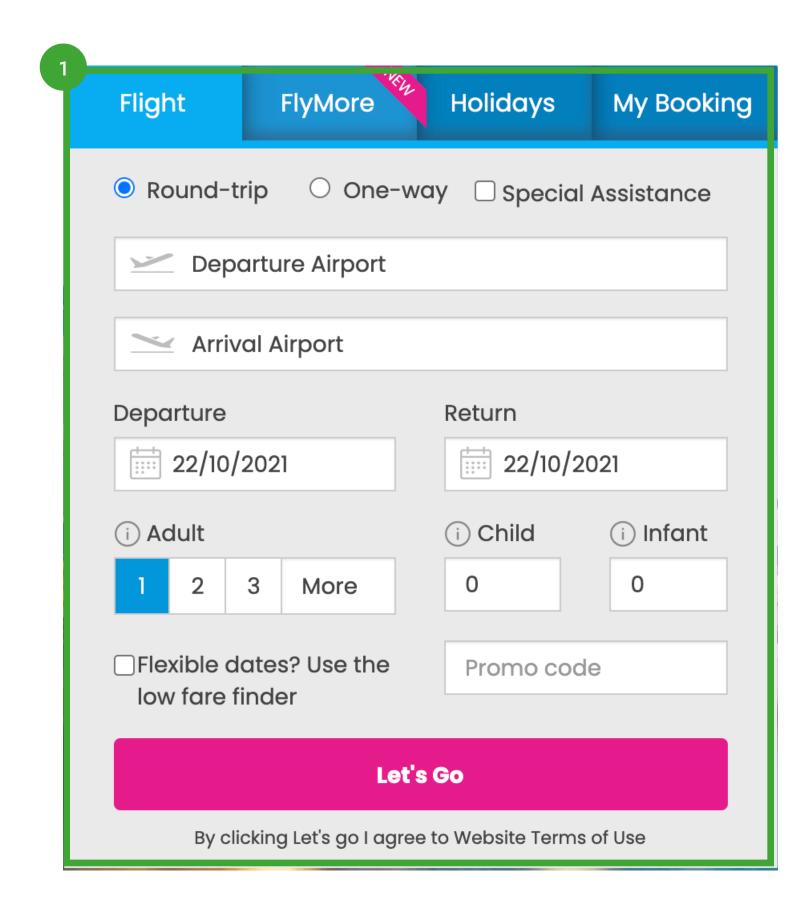
FlySafair is a low-cost airline based in Johannesburg, South Africa. It is a wholly owned subsidiary of Safair.

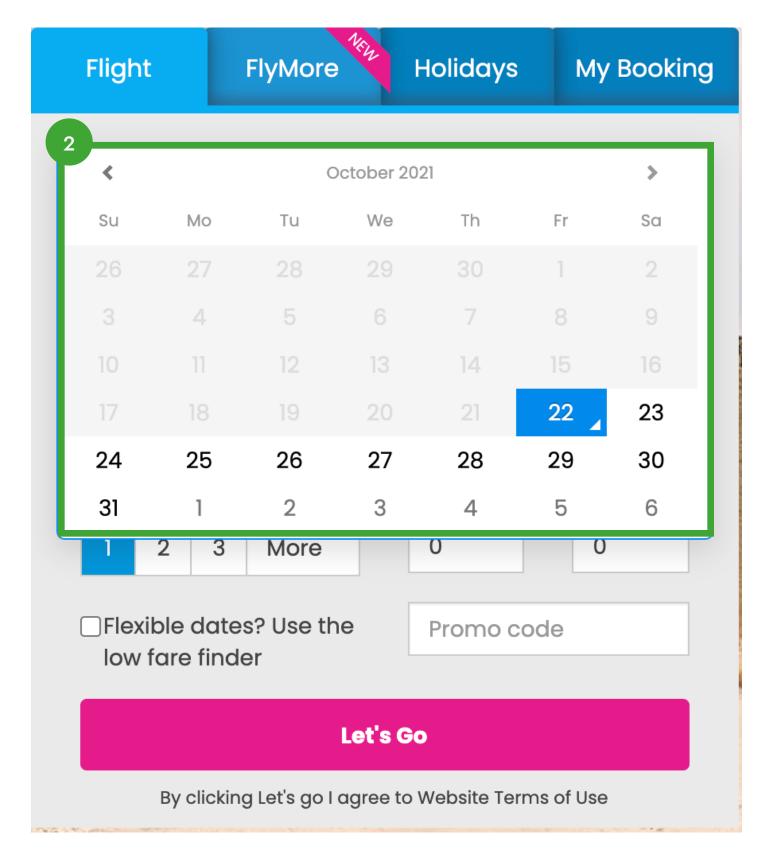
2.1 Homepage

- No clear value proposition or Covid guidance.
- 2 Sliders are used for promotions, quite distracting when landing on the page. Reason the user is here is to make a booking. Too close to the booking form making it cluttered and distracting.
- Booking form is laid out well with all fields visible to the user. Missing car rental option which comes up during the flight booking process.
- 4 CTA for booking stands out and naming convention shows action in "Let's Go".

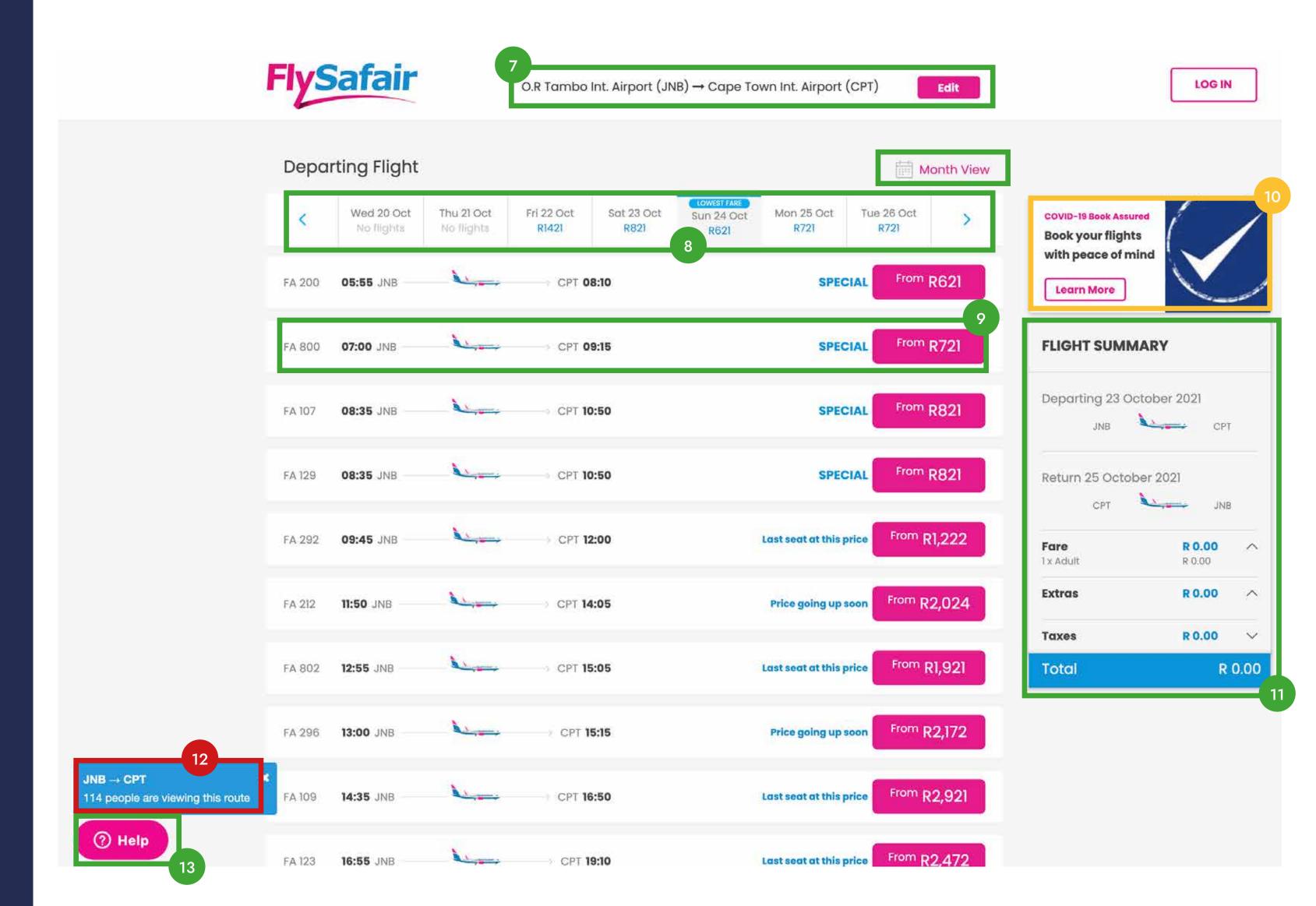


- When booking for a flight it is easy and intuitive. Selection options are simple, visible and easy to navigate. Field labels are clearly marked with the option of searching for low fares and flexible dates.
- 2 Choosing dates for departure and return is easy and both have a pop up calendar which makes the process intuitive.

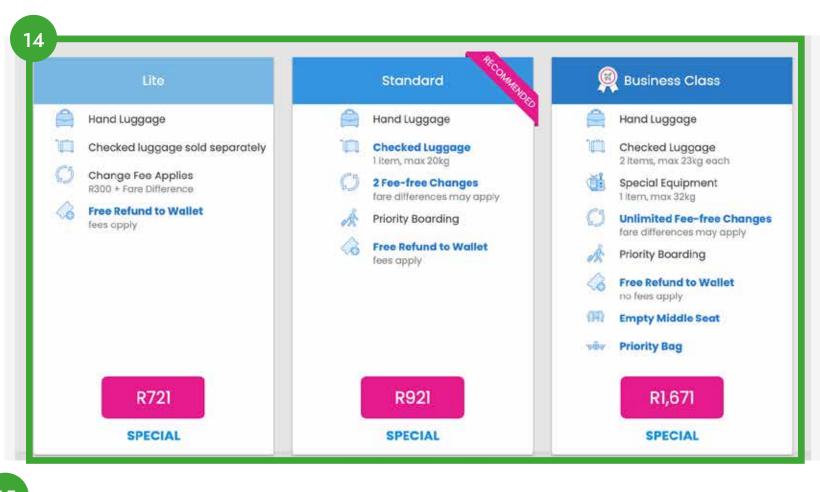


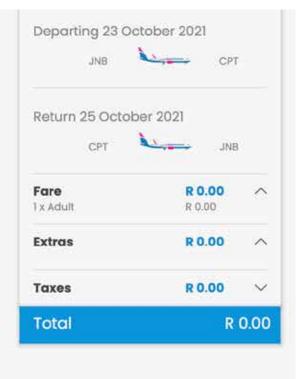


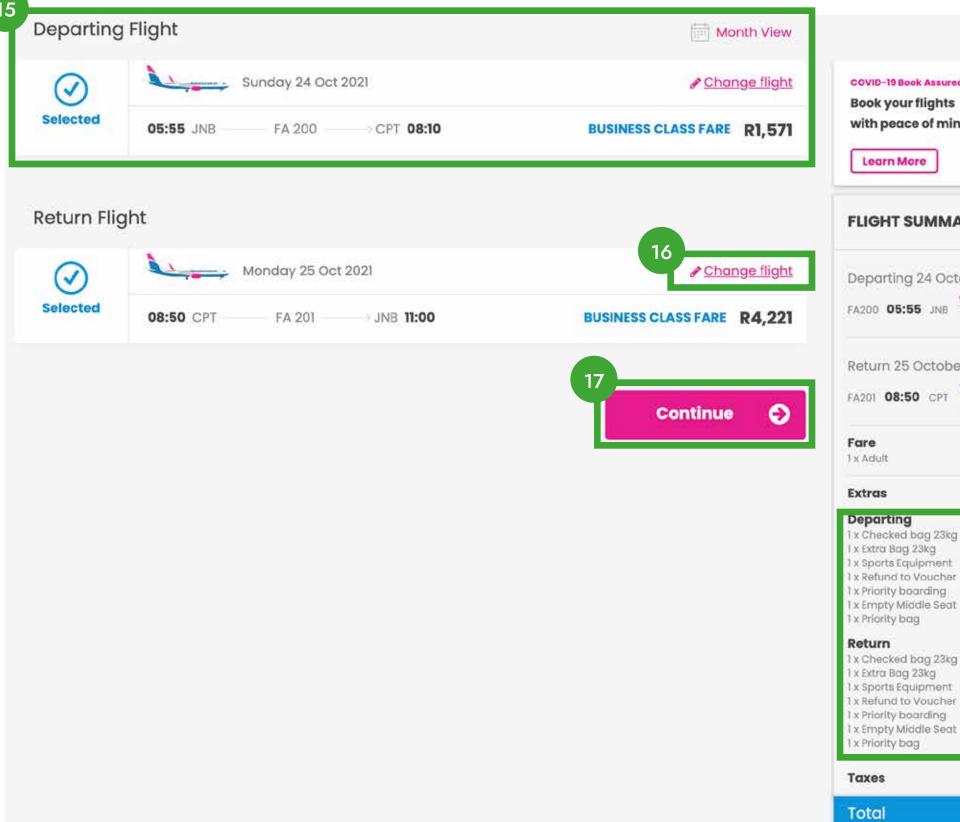
- 6 Selecting your flights page is extremely intuitive and easy to follow. No distractions and primary CTAs are clearly visible.
- 7 Flight route are marked at the top with the option to edit the search.
- 8 Shows lowest pricing for flights on specific days close to your selection and the lowest fare is clearly marked.
- 9 Flight pricing clearly marked and shows indicators if the price is going to go up or if it is a special.
- Covid-19 booking assurance. Important but very prominent on the selection page which can be distracting.
- Flight summary is visible and updates as the user makes changes or selections.
- Not necessary for the user to have this information during the booking process.
- 13 Online assistance is clearly visible.

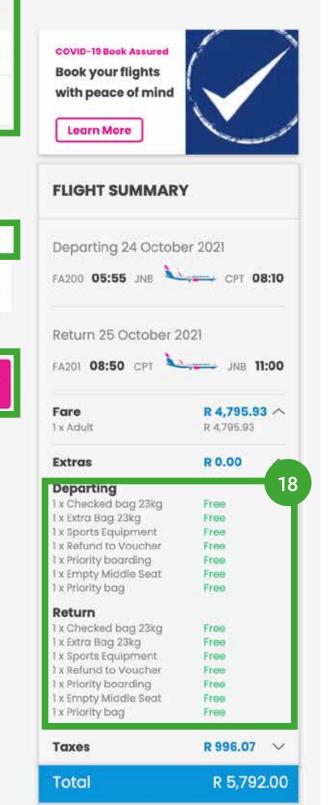


- On flight selection the user will get prompted with different packages. All information of each package are clearly visible from price, what's included etc. Use of icons and a clean cut design.
- Selected flights get displayed in two rows. One for departing and one for resturning. This is well marked.
- 16 The user can easily change a flight.
- 17 CTA is clear and concise for the user to go on to the next step.
- Flight summary gets updated as the user goes through the booking selection.



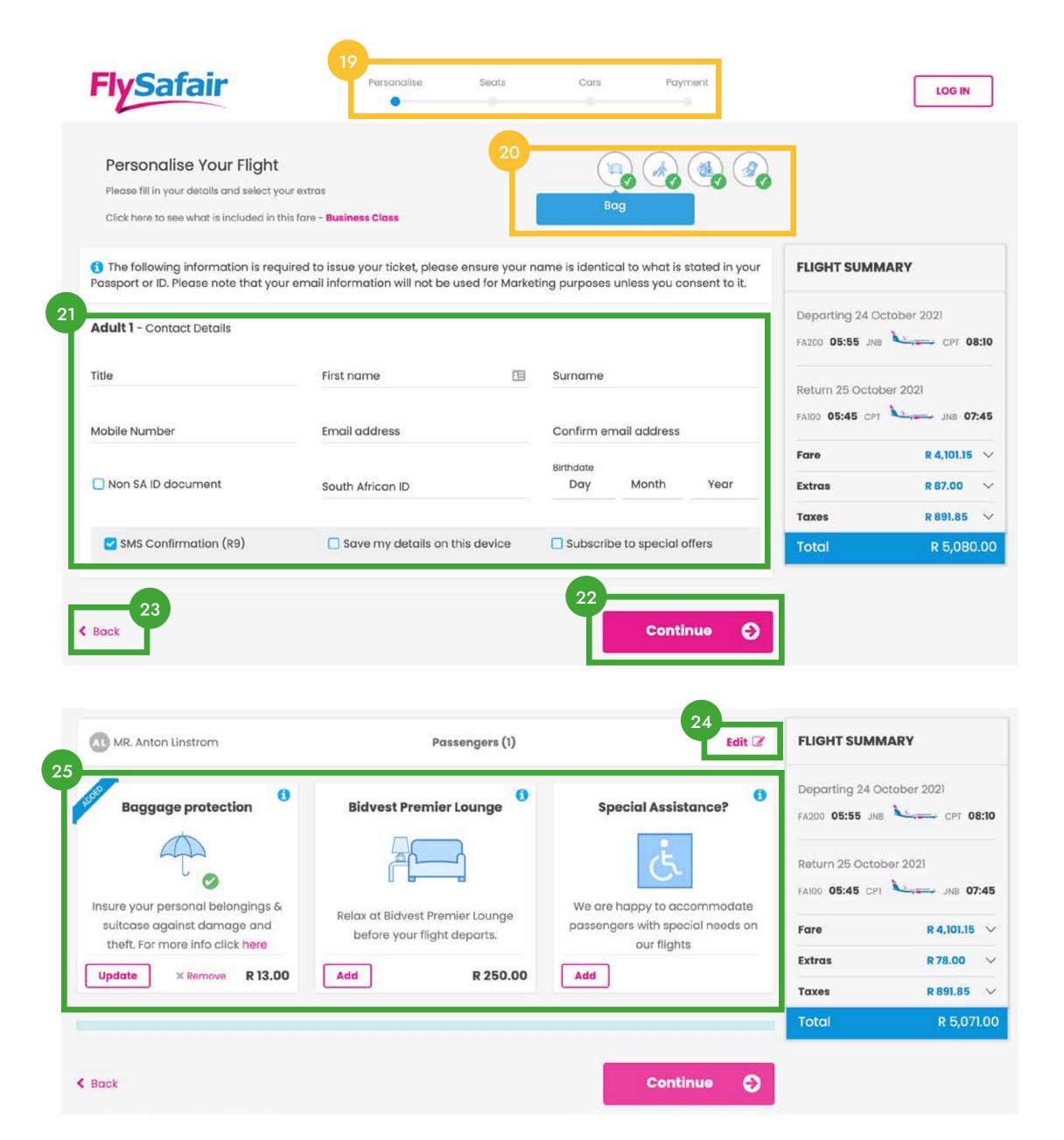






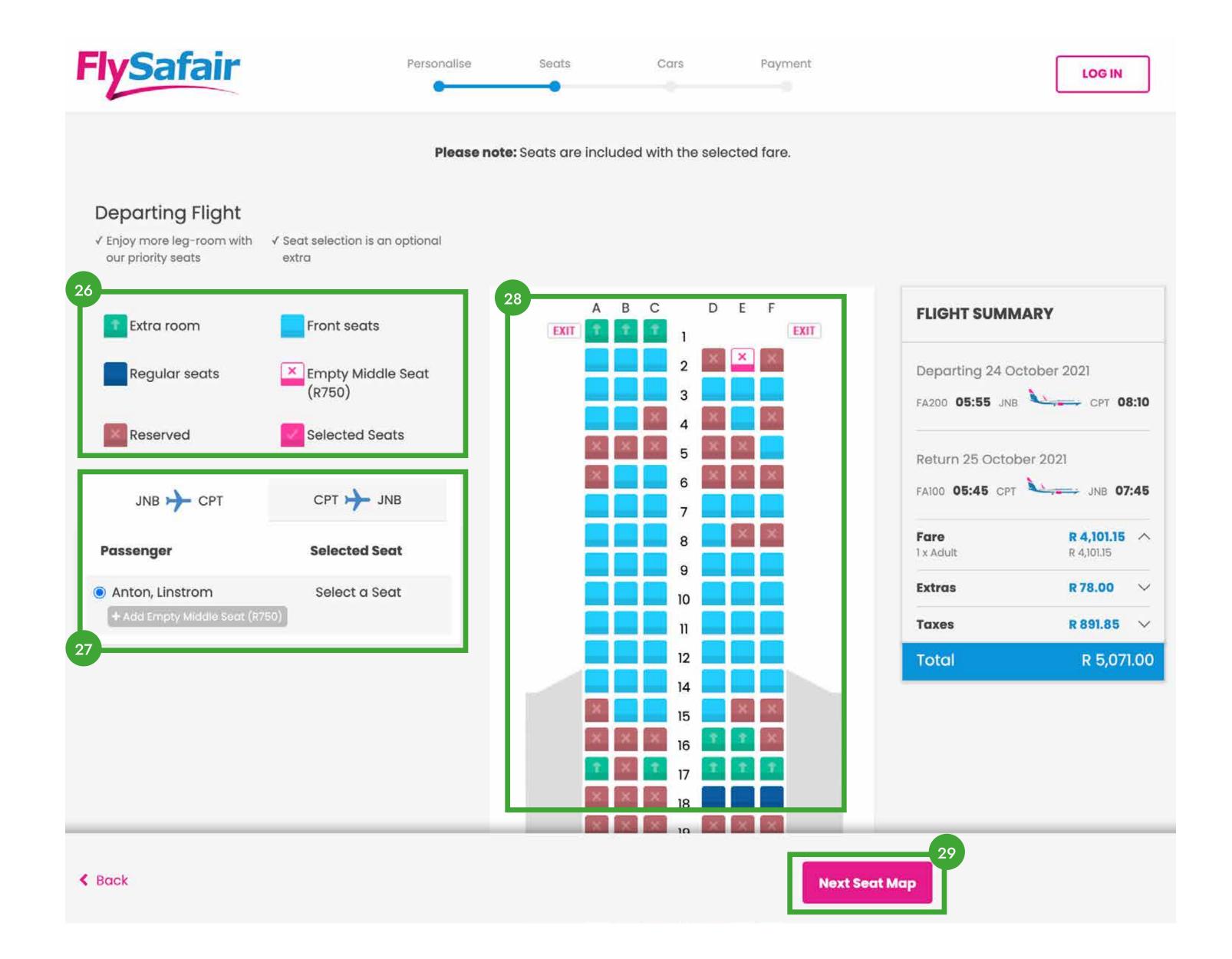
2.3 Booking

- 19 Indicator of where the user are with the booking process.
- Showcase of added extras. Not sure how relevant this information is during personalising the flight details.
- 21 Adding the user details is intuitive. A one step process.
- CTA is clear and concise for the user to go on to the next step.
- Ability to go back a step incase the user wants to change details.
- 24 User can easily go back and edit their details.
- After entering the user details the option comes up to add any extras.



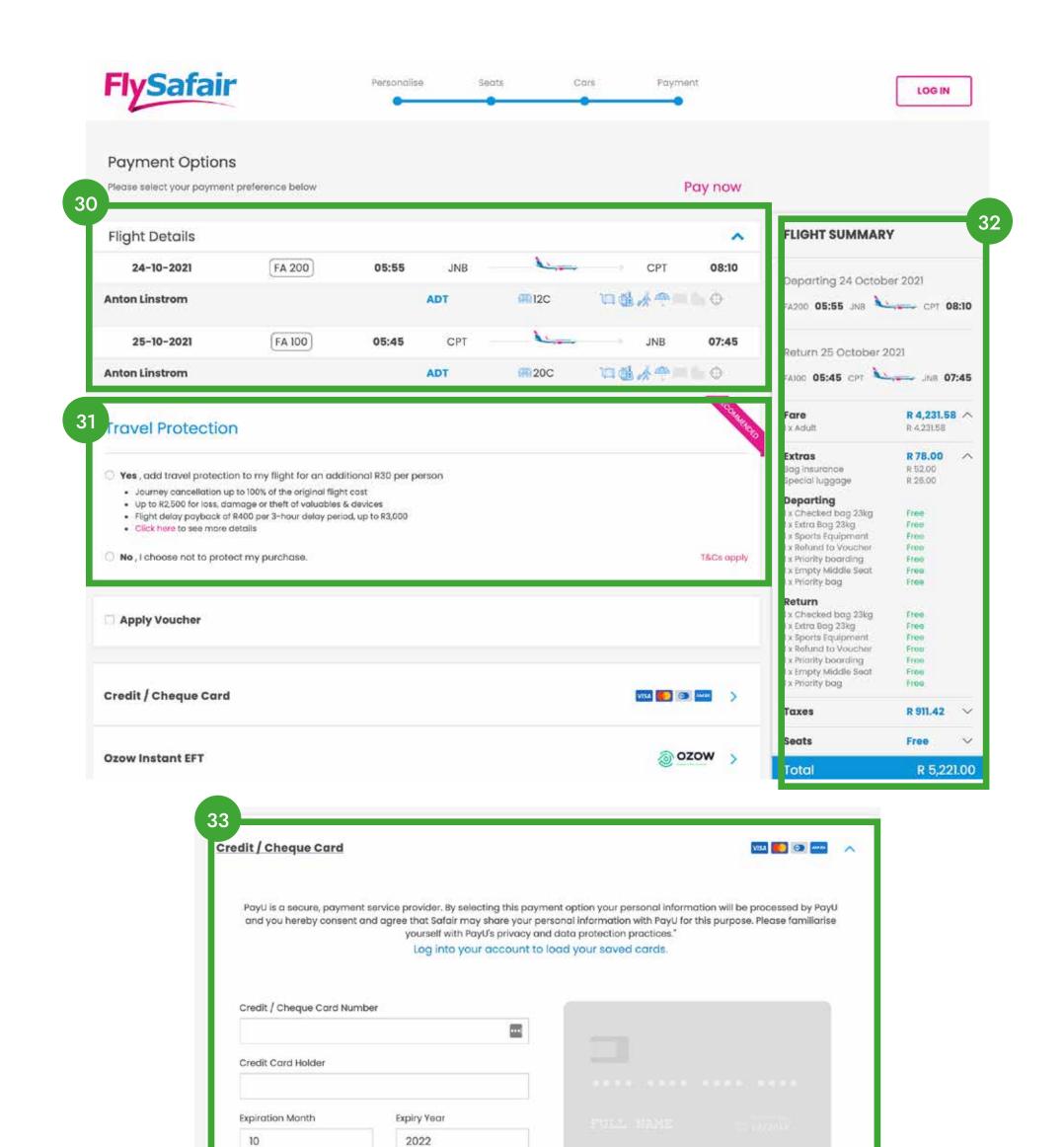
2.3 Booking

- 26 Seat indicators.
- 27 Ability to switch between flights and see seat selection.
- Interactive map of seats and on click pop up for more information.
- 29 CTAs clear indication on what's happening next.



2.4 Payment

- 30 Flight details are visible.
- 31 Option to add Travel Protection.
- Flight summary and cost breakdown. User can easily remove items if needed.
- 33 Payment is easy.



☐ By selecting to continue you agree to FlySafair's booking T's & C's

Competitive Benchmarking

CVV Code

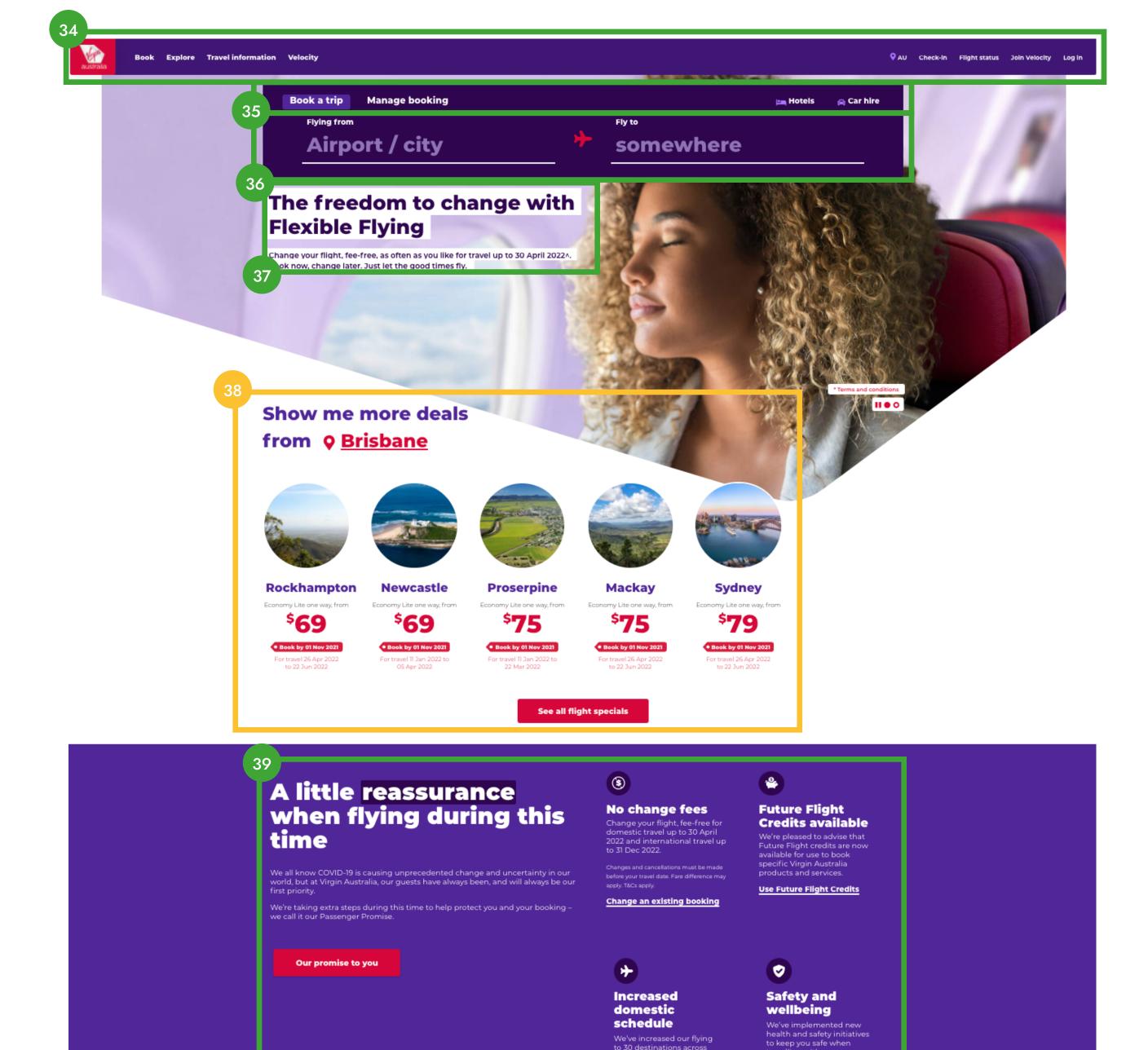


Virgin Australia, the trading name of Virgin Australia Airlines Pty Ltd, is an Australian-based airline. It is the largest airline by fleet size to use the Virgin brand.

3.1 Homepage

- Main menu is clear and well laid out with secondary actions right aligned i.e "Flight Status, Check In, Login" etc.
- What action the user is about to take is clearly defined by highlighting the action "Book a trip". Secondary booking options i.e "Hotels, Car Hire" is right aligned making the primary actions of booking a trip or managing a booking stand out. Follows the same pattern as the main menu at the top.
- Simple and clean way to start the booking process by only focussing on the booking destination. Clear and concise.
- Value proposition is clear and nice to give reassurance to the user of flexible bookings during the pandemic.
- Showing deals and lets the user choose from which destination.

 Dropdown could be made a bit clearer.
- 39 Again reassuring the user of flexibility.

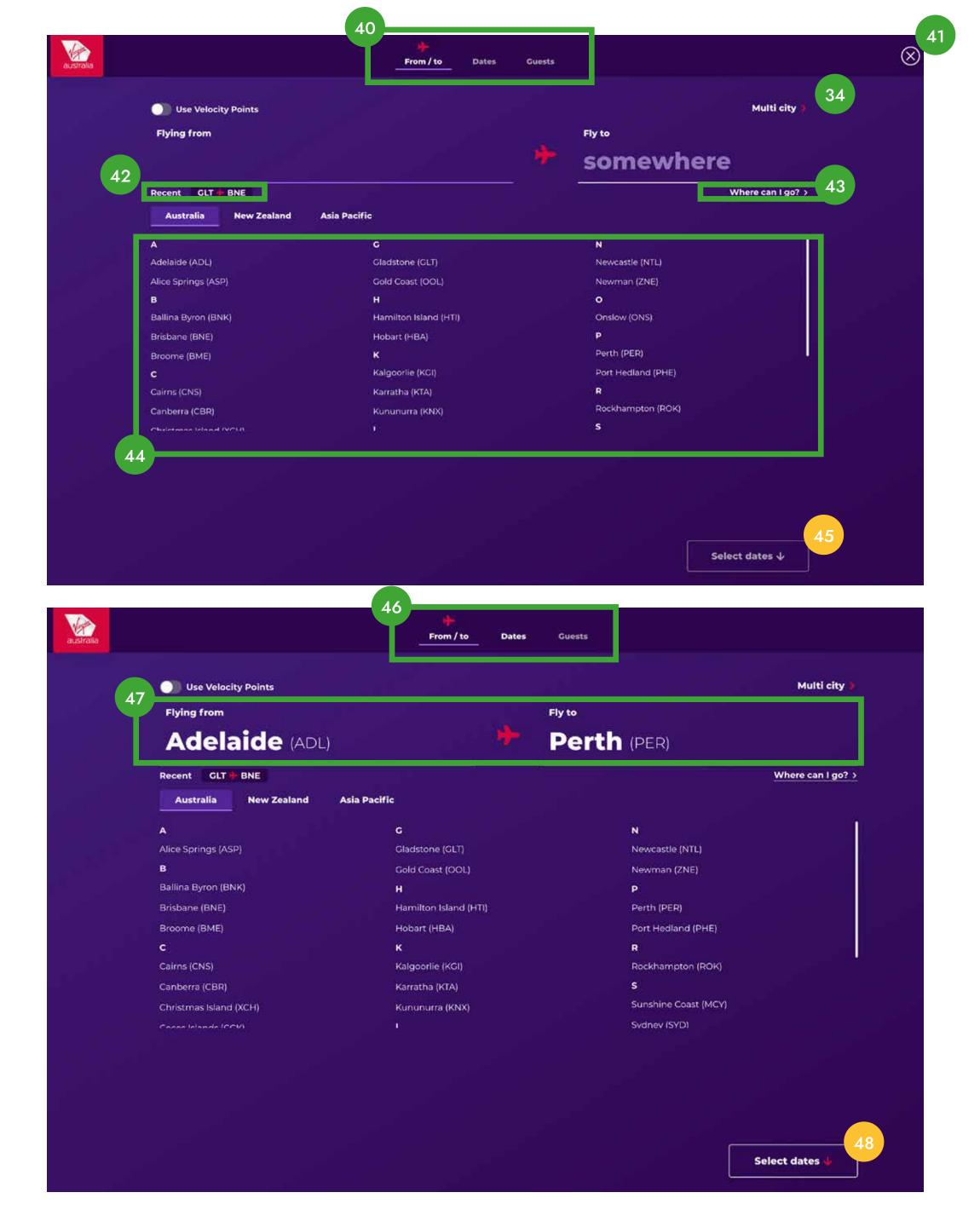


View health and safety

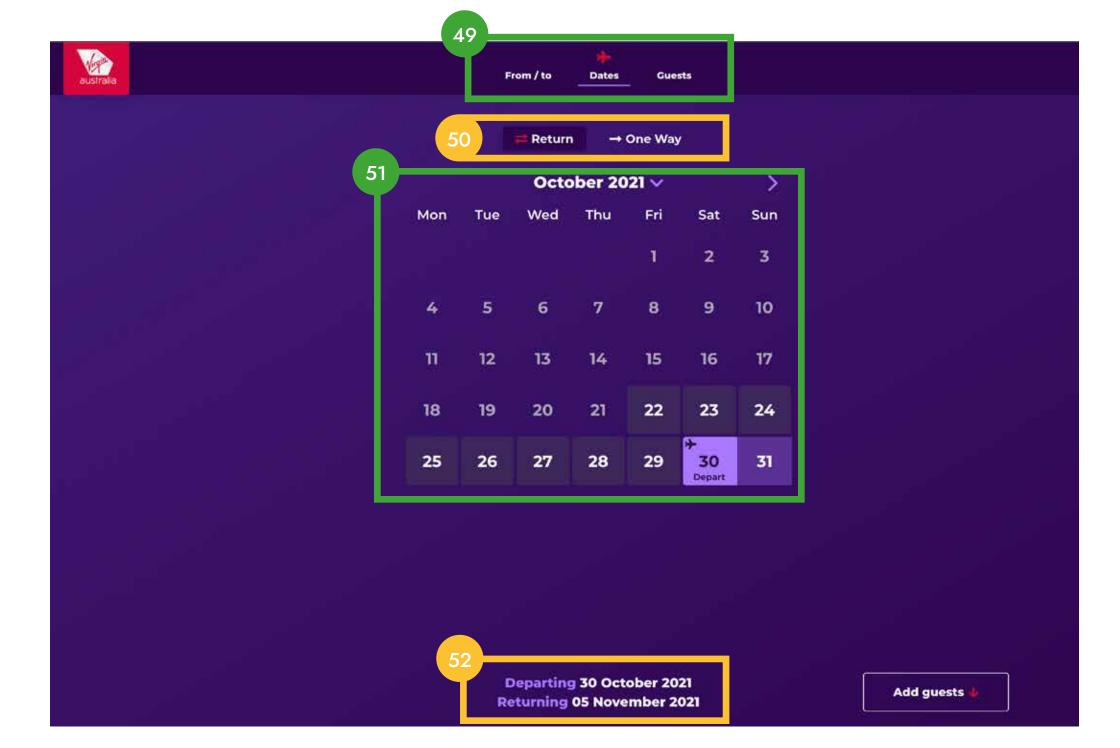
View domestic schedule

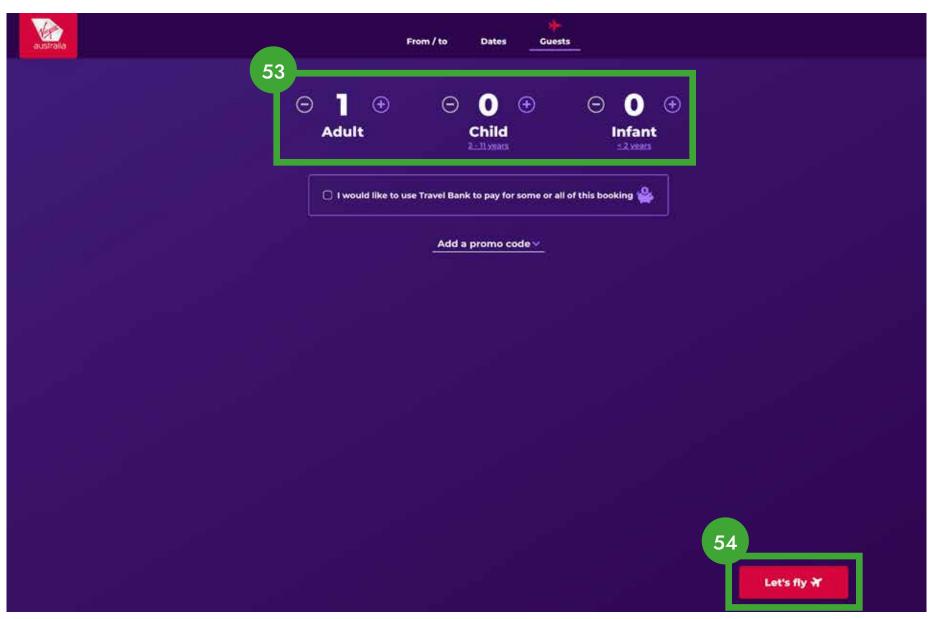
- Booking process of where the user are in the process is clearly defined and highlighted at the top.
- Once the user starts his/her booking process it goes full screen placing great emphasis and focus on the task at hand. Can easily go back to the homepage.
- 42 Shows recent searches.
- Opens up a new tab with interactive map showing where there are flight during the pandemic. Covid-19 Map. Again shows reassurance to the user.
- Shows the whole list of Airports in a clear way. More focus on the task at hand.
- CTA for next step has a great naming convention indication to the user that the next step would be to select dates. The arrow points down which at first feels like I can scroll down. Having an icon pointing to the right would better.
- The next step in the booking process gets semi highlighted once the user selected his/her flights.
- Focus area is clearly defined with the selected flights.
- CTA gets highlighted once the user has made his/her selection.

 Arrow pointing down indicates to scroll down.

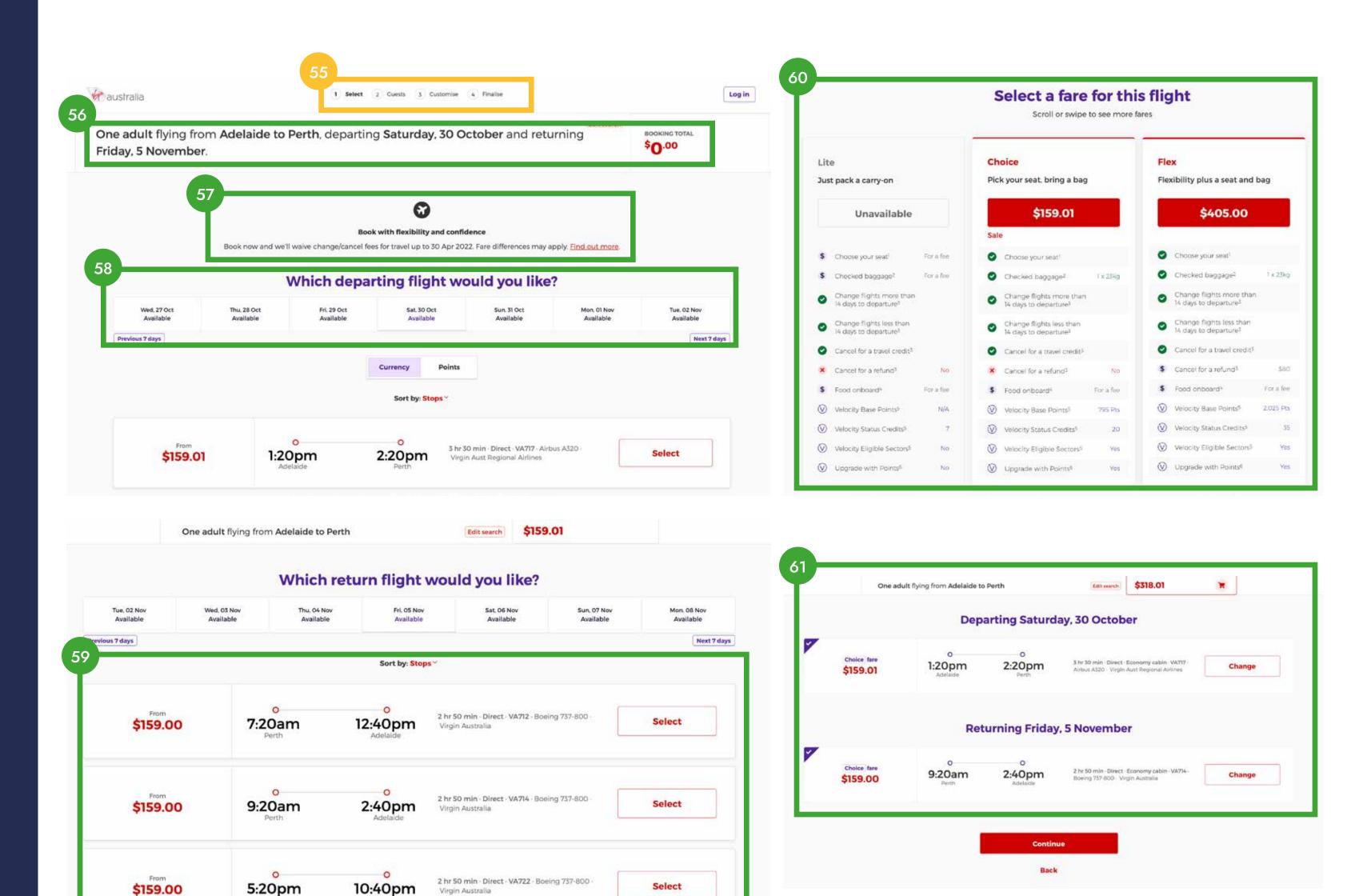


- Booking process of where the user are.
- User can toggle between return and one way flights. It's a bit unclear could have a headline as indicator.
- Calendar is big and serves as the primary action point. Choosing dates are easy and "depart, return" are indicated on the selected dates.
- 52 Selected dates could be higher for better visibility.
- 53 Selecting number of guests are easy and intuitive.
- 53 CTA final step gets clearly highlighted.



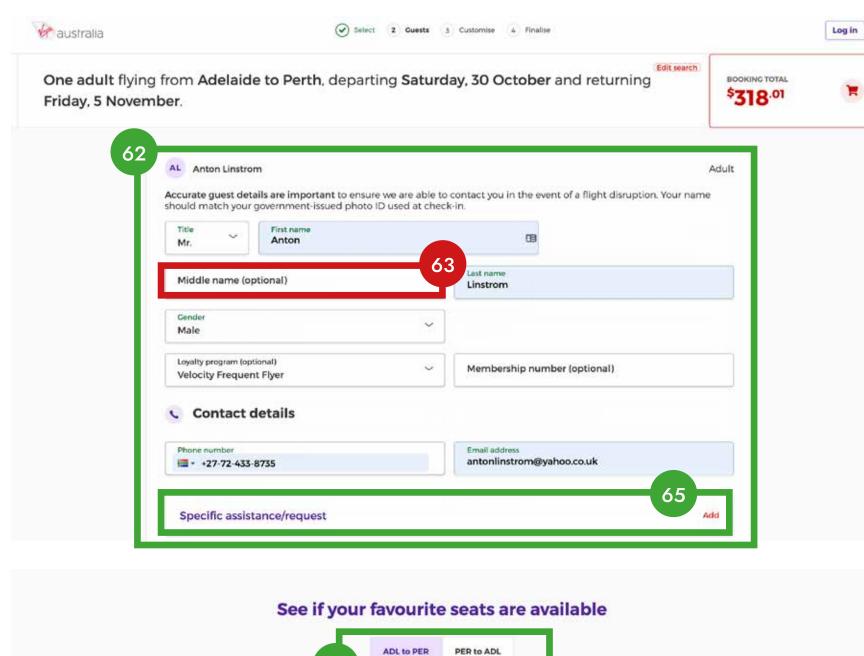


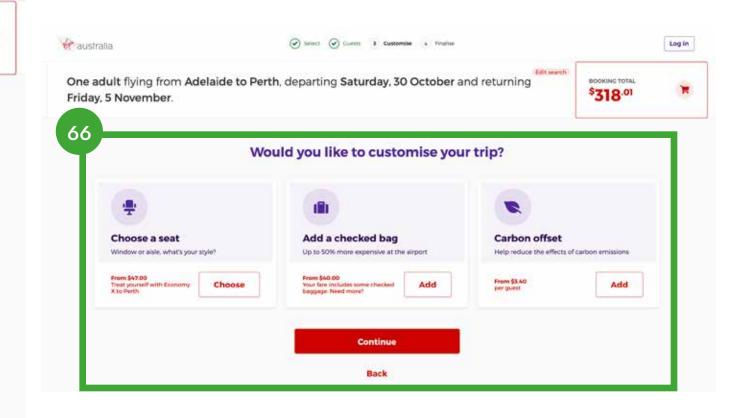
- New phase in the booking process are indicated and clearly marked. UI looks different than the previous phase and "Guests" are part of each phase. Naming convention on the second phase for Guests could change to "Details".
- 56 Summary of booking.
- 57 Reassuring the user of flexibility.
- 58 Which flight the user is selecting with dates/weeks.
- Clearly shows which flights are available on a certain date with price, time and flight details. Secondary CTAs are used for selecting.
- Different flight packages per flight including cost and what the fare includes.
- Overview of selection and option to change before continuing to the next step.

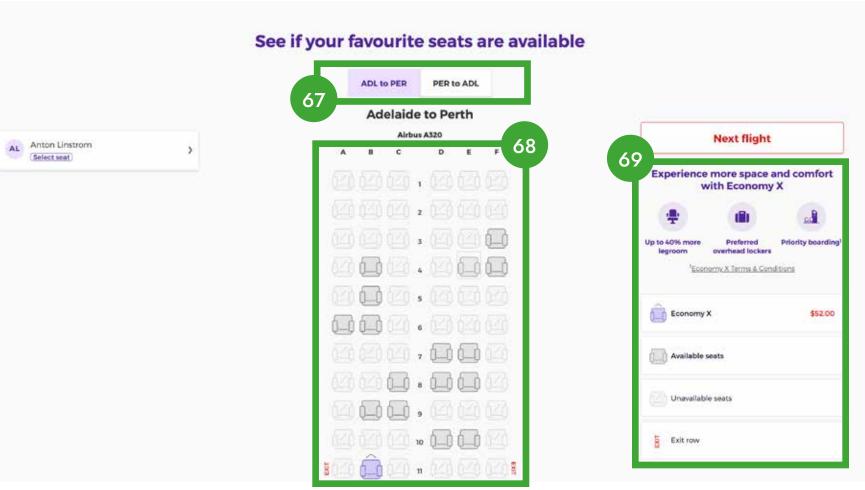


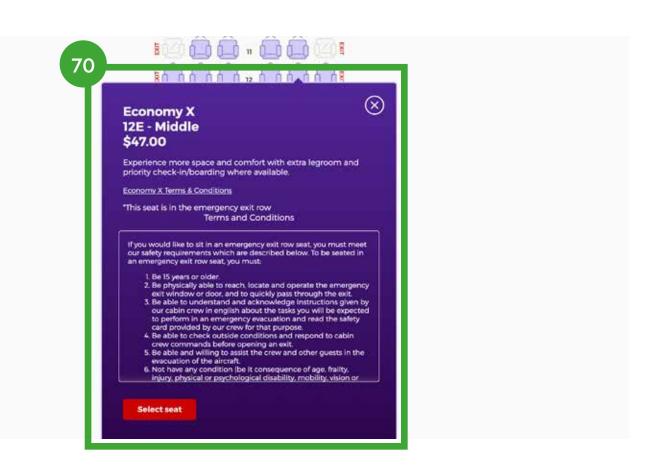
3.4 Booking

- Clear form to fill in user details. No distractions, emphasis on the task at hand.
- 63 Unnecessary field
- Ability to add special assistance/request ex. travelling with wheelchair etc.
- Ability to customize your trip. Seat selection, extra bags etc.
- 67 Clear indicator of which flight you are selecting a seat for.
- 68 Interactive map of seats.
- 69 Seat indicator.
- Modal pop up to give more information of the seat your are selecting.



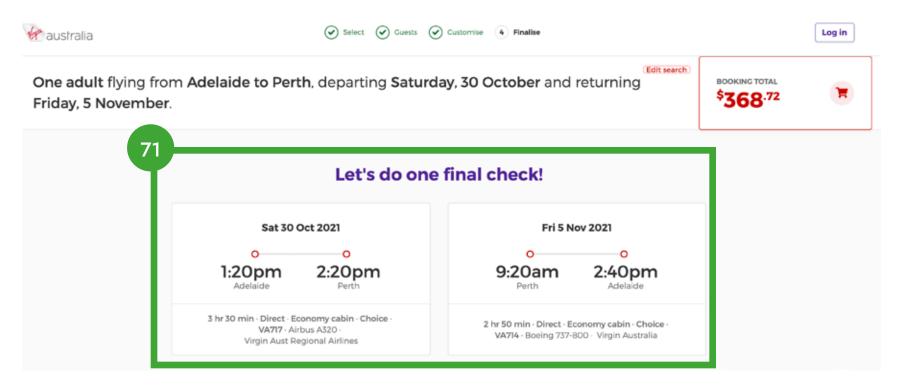


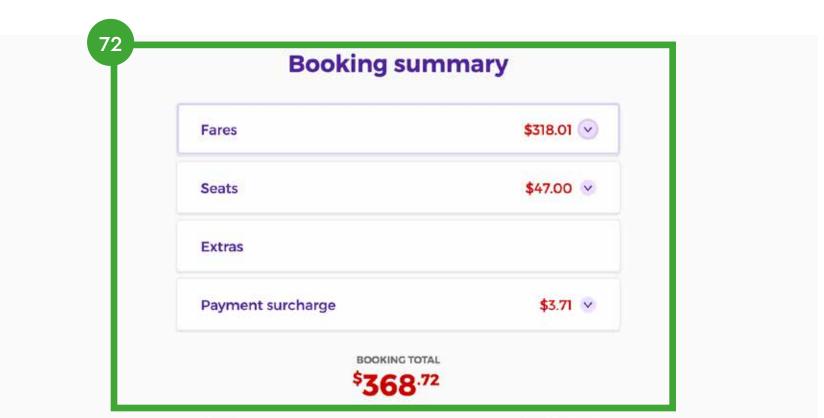


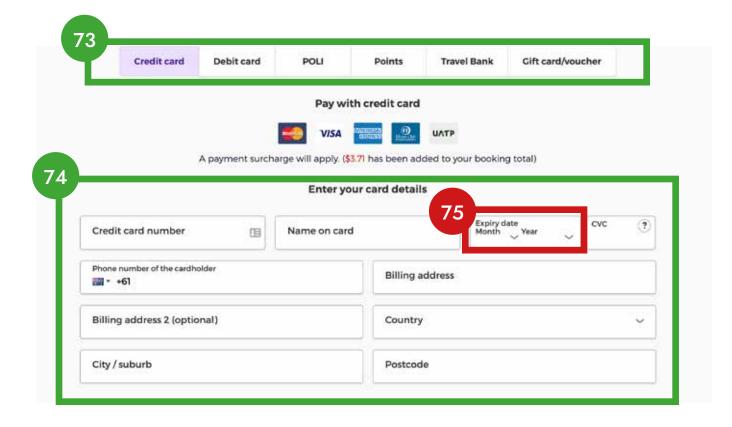


3.5 Payment

- 71 Last final check before payment.
- Booking summary with dropdowns showing all information.
- 73 Payment options, clearly defined.
- Clear form for adding banking details.
- 75 Exipry date selection could be laid out better.





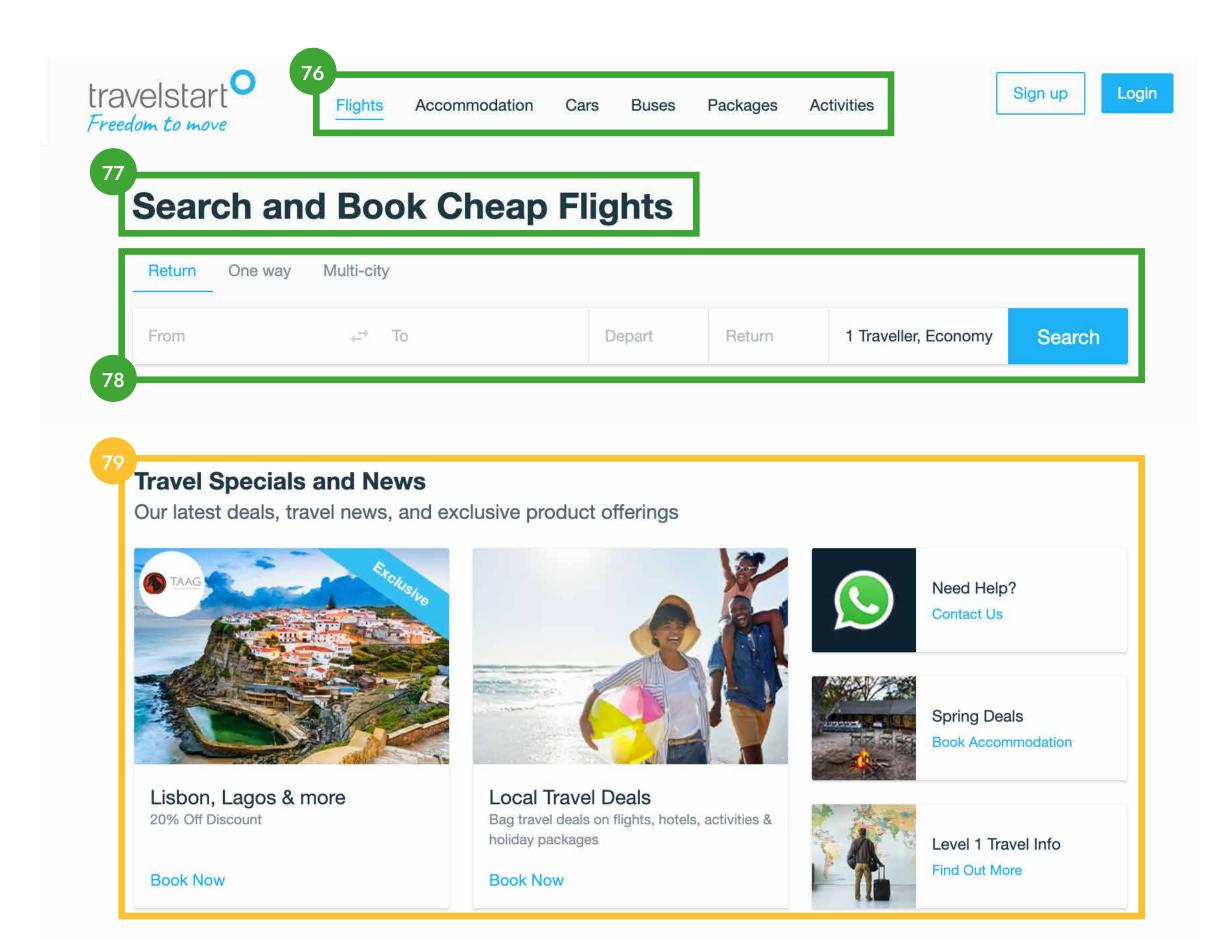


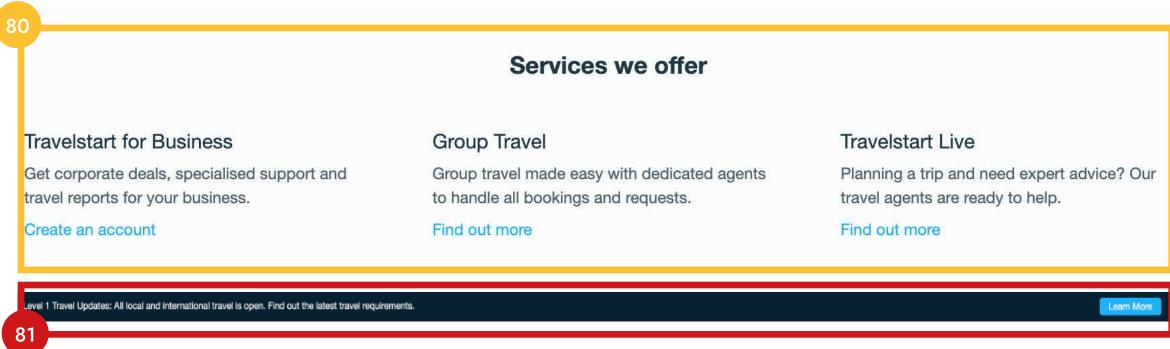


Travelstart is Africa's leading online travel agency. Our mission is to save you time, money and stress with our simple online booking platform. You can search, compare and book your travel all in one place.

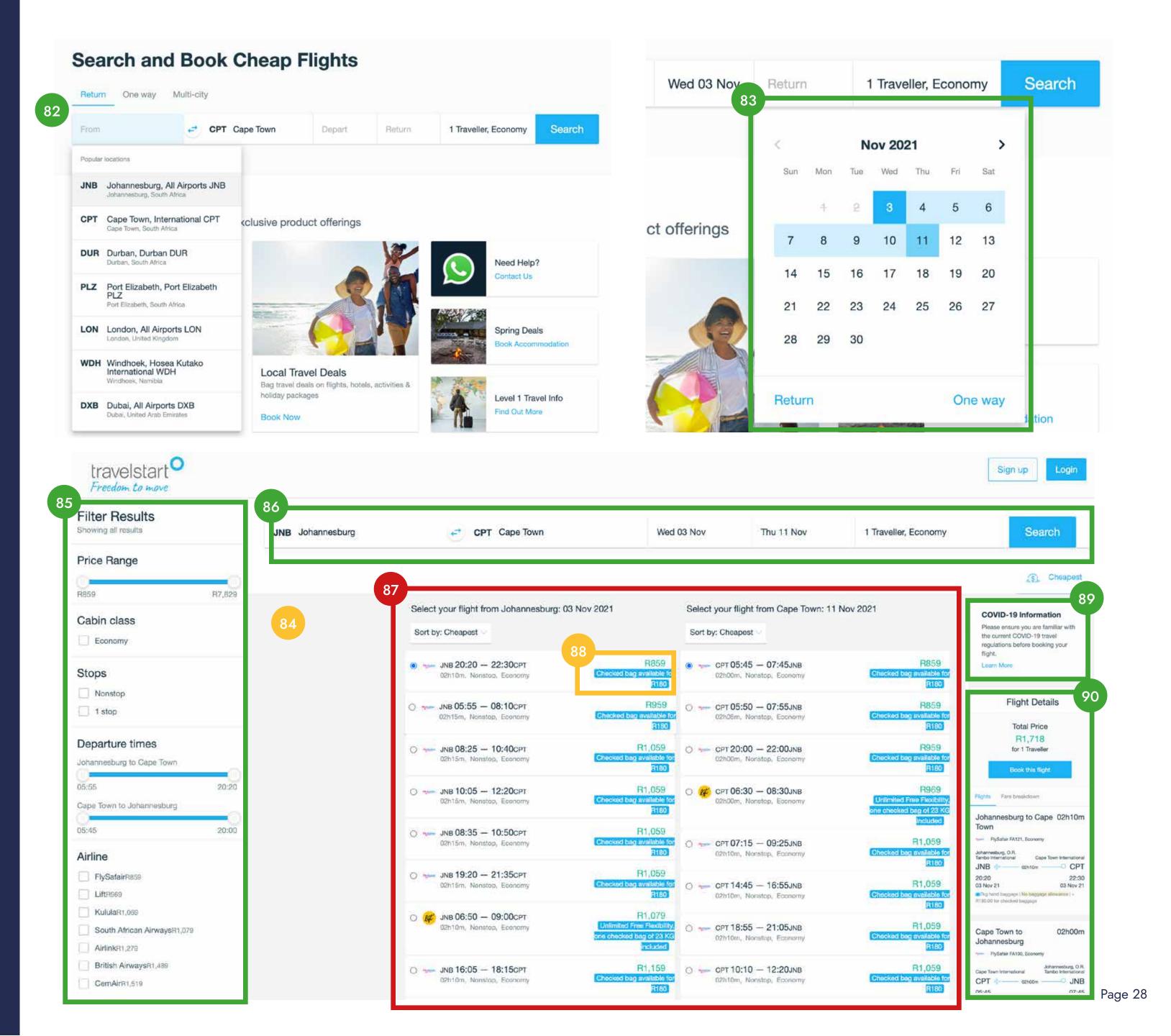
4.1 Homepage

- 76 Main menu is clear and easy to navigate.
- 77 Clearly defined actionable proposition headline
- 78 Booking search bar is clear and intuitive.
- 79 Very cluttered and not informative.
- 80 Services on offer.
- Important travel notifications are hard to find and not eye catching.



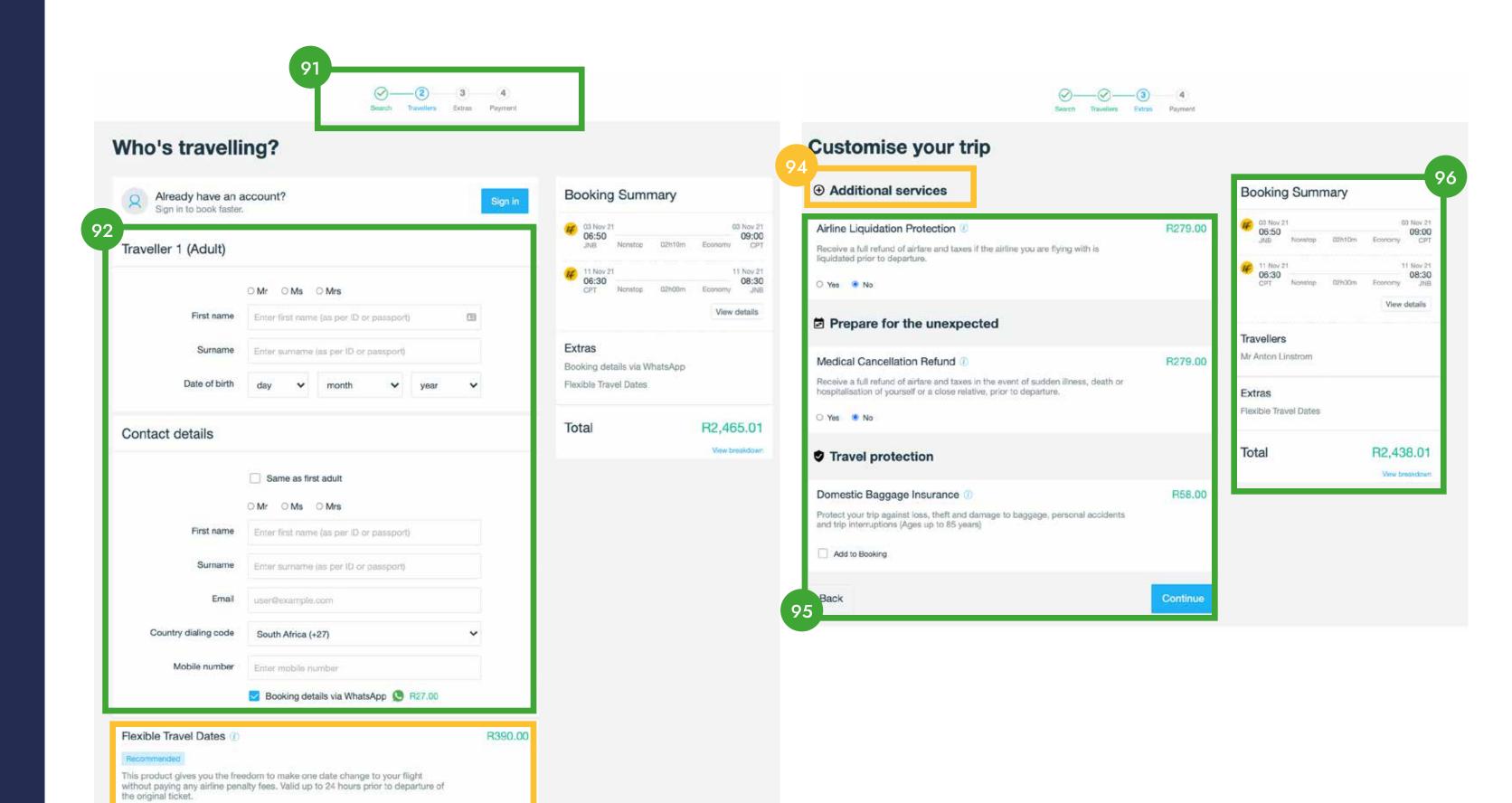


- 82 Easy to select flights.
- Selecting dates are easy with calendar dropdowns for each departure and return.
- Page structure can be a bit difficult to navigate.
- Filtering options for the user to breakdown the search for easier results according to their preferences.
- 86 Can easily search for new flights and dates.
- Confusing layout. Not clear on selecting departure and return flights.
- User needs to be careful when selecting flights as some flights might not include extra bags etc. This could be better communicated to the user.
- 89 Covid-19 information.
- 90 Selected flight details are clearly defined and easy to read.



4.3 Booking

- 91 Booking process are clearly marked for the user.
- 72 Traveller details are clear to navigate.
- The next screen has a list of additional extras. This step should be on the next screen. Focus should only be places on user details.
- + sign indicates accordion dropdown but nothing happens when clicking on it. Misleading.
- 95 Adding extra services are clearly marked.
- 96 Booking summary with full breakdown.



4.4 Payment

- 97 Method of payment options.
- 98 Payment details.



