



# Hi! I'm Santiago Espada Escolar

(a.k.a. SantiEspada, Santies)

I consider myself a **creator** and a **builder**, one that happens to **love technology** and the way it **empowers** and **enables** us to **solve problems** and drive memorable experiences for everyone.

My journey in coding started when I was around **12 years old**. I discovered the *Habbo Hotel* scene community, and **immediately started working** to create my own *holo* (clone) so that **my friends and I could play together for free**. I fell in love with web technologies and **decided to make a career out of it**.

Since then, I've had the chance to collaborate with **25+ teams** across a **wide range of sectors**, from non-profits to the media to the fintech world.

Contact info + links

✉ hola@santiespada.dev

☎ (+31) 0 683 12 47 74

🌐 linkedin.com/in/SantiEspada

🐙 github.com/SantiEspada

## Location

Utrecht, NL

I'm based in the Netherlands, although I'm originally from Spain and I enjoy living between both places #remote-work

Madrid, ES

## Education and Skills

Formal education

### Undergraduate Studies (Science and Technology)

IES Butarque  
2014 - 2016

### BSc in Computer Science (first two years)

Universidad Carlos III de Madrid  
2014 - 2016

### BSc in Computing & IT

The Open University (UK)  
2018 - present

Technologies & Skills

TypeScript Node.js DDD REST

GraphQL Docker Kubernetes

Distributed systems React Next.js

Python RabbitMQ Microservices

## Work experience



MAY 2022 - JANUARY 2023

### Backend Engineer Secfi

Secfi is the leading financial advisor for tech people, combining learning resources with powerful tools to get insights into your equity and offering financing among other resources to give back power to the people actually building the tech space.

I worked mostly in the Planning Domain, specially in the Equity Planner, an all-in-one tool to help you understand your exercise costs in detail, giving you all the info you need to act wisely.

#### PERSONAL TAKE-AWAYS

- First *proper startup* (SF-like) experience: stressfully fun.
- Learned a fair amount about taxes and equity, not my cup of tea - but really good to know.
- First 100% international role and relocation, stressfully fun too + lots of self-improvement.
- Learned a lot about startup dynamics, leadership and rapid iteration.

#### TECH STACK HIGHLIGHTS

Python + Django/FastAPI, microservices, kubernetes, PostgreSQL, Metabase.



DECEMBER 2019 - MARCH 2022

### Full-stack Developer Billionhands (nc43|tech)

nc43|tech constitutes the technology branch of the NextChance group, known for their success with the spanish startup La Nevera Roja (acquired later by Just Eat).

My job was focused on Billionhands, a platform that aimed to become the "Google for offers", providing access to more than 15M offers from stores all over the internet. In my last period there, we relaunched it with a focus on just fashion and home-deco and introduced visual search features.

#### PERSONAL TAKE-AWAYS

- First more backend-focused role: *I actually enjoy this too!*
- First contact with a *startup-ish* world, technically a venture builder, but focused on just 1 ever-changing product + small team.
- Amazing way of working, optimal amount of people + great set of methodologies made by and for everyone, continuously improving.

#### TECH STACK HIGHLIGHTS

TypeScript + NodeJS, MySQL, DDD, RabbitMQ, Redis, Docker, AWS, CI/CD w/Jenkins, real QA.



MARCH 2019 - DECEMBER 2019

### Frontend Developer ING Bank (via Sopra Steria)

ING is a Dutch multinational banking and financial services corporation, situated among the top 10 largest European companies by revenue.

I worked as a Front-End developer at ModelBank/Maggie, an ambitious project aimed to create a multi-country and multi-channel platform for Spain, Italy, France and Czech Republic.

#### PERSONAL TAKE-AWAYS

- First role in a large *enterprise* environment: definitely not my cup of tea.
- First experience with scaled agile models.
- Dramatically improved my JavaScript and accessibility skills.
- Taught me the difficulties and risks in really large tech projects with quickly changing requirements + classic/hierarchical organisational models (goes wrong).

#### TECH STACK HIGHLIGHTS

JavaScript, web components, Storybook, Gitlab CI/CD, micro-frontends architecture (not a fan)

Read more at [santiespada.dev](https://santiespada.dev) ↗