

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Social Travel Network Mapify raises \$1m in Seed Funding, launches Team in Los Angeles.

The Social Travel Network Mapify connects travelers all over the world by curating an AI-backed travel guide based on personal experiences.

BERLIN — Mapify, the trending Social Travel Network, announces its **\$1m Seed Funding Round** from US- and European-based funds and renowned angel investors. The startup which launched in November 2017 backed by **MIT's Sandbox Innovation Fund**, has raised \$1.3m to this day and aims at becoming the most relevant social travel platform.

“We are absolutely excited to be onboarding our new investors to Mapify and to be scaling the team in Berlin and LA”, Mapify’s CEO **Patrick Haede** said. The 24-years old serial founder dropped out of MIT in the beginning of this year to lead Mapify full-time and pitched the company’s vision in the finals of **TechCrunch Battlefield Paris**. “We want to remove the friction from today’s travel experience by creating the most engaging and seamless social platform for travel. We believe it is possible to unify the world of travel into a single application which connects travelers around the globe through their personal experiences”, adds Haede, who’s company has virally grown to a six-figure userbase in six months. “Today, Mapify is the fastest growing social platform in the European travel community.”

The investment round comes just a week after the company announced it is **now covering the entire globe** with travel content shared by its users and released a major update to its mobile apps, preparing the product for scaling. “We are on the way of making the Mapify platform as global as our userbase. By adding nine additional languages last week and by designing an entirely new *Explore* experience for our iOS app, we shipped Mapify’s largest update since our launch and users worldwide are already in love with it”, says **Sebastian Haede**, the 20-year old co-founder in charge of Mapify’s product development.

Amongst the new investors are well-known names and specialized travel funds. **Ennea VC** from Switzerland is led by Jan Valentin who served as Senior Vice President at **Kayak** in Europe. **Roland Grenke**, co-founder of **Dubsmash** and **Navid Hadzaad Javaherian**, former Founder & CEO at **GoButler** and Product Leader at **Amazon Alexa**, both scaled companies globally and raised several funding rounds with US backing. **Pheed** co-founder **Phil Haus** who sold his company for \$40m in 2013 and LA-based actor **Zach Horwitz** are investing through their venture fund **LayJax Ventures** based in Los Angeles. **Niv Dror** from San Francisco who held positions at **Product Hunt** and **AngelList** joins the round as well as **Lucas von Cranach**, CEO of **OneFootball**, one of the most relevant soccer apps globally. The investment round was advised by a team of lawyers around Philipp Glock from Luther Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft, who had already supported Mapify during the founding phase.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The new investors are joining Mapify's earliest backers **Gunnar Froh**, who launched Airbnb's international expansion, **Fredrik Posse**, Partnerships Manager at **Spotify** and **Hagen Angermann**, former Senior Manager at **Daimler** in Asia. In just six months, the company has thus built an astonishingly international and experienced investors portfolio.

The company plans on using the newly gained resources to launch the US market and start building a team in Los Angeles. "Our strongest market in terms of content is the US and after having launched this successfully in Europe, we will now be looking at the US market as well", adds Tobias Schnorpfeil, co-founder of Mapify and Operational Lead. "Mapify has been the most successful travel app amongst social media influencers and we believe this momentum will support US growth".

About Mapify

Founded in December 2016 and based in Berlin, Mapify is a social travel platform for people to visualize, find and plan travel experiences. By developing a website and app which launched in November 2017, the company has attracted users worldwide to share trips and spots in more than 190 countries and has continuously been trending on several country App Stores worldwide. The company has raised \$1.3m from MIT's Sandbox Innovation Fund, European and US VC funds and renowned angel investors.

Key Features of Mapify's Apps and Website

- Visualization of past or current travel experiences by uploading single spots or entire trips with photos, descriptions, and attachments
- Connecting with travelers worldwide by following them, commenting on the places they share or creating collections with them to start planning a new travel experience
- Becoming inspired by Mapify's unique "Explore Feed" and receiving personal recommendations based on travel interests the platform recognizes
- Searching for countries, regions, and cities on Mapify to discover spots and add them to a private bucket list or collections

Editors

For more information on Mapify's iOS App, visit <https://mapify.travel/s/app>

For images and videos, please see <http://press.atmapify.com/assets/>

An iOS-App demo video can be found here: <https://youtu.be/nMRfukf3oqE>

Contact

Eva Burdack, press@mapify.travel