

# Cristian Yepes

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## Experience

### Katapult Labs

Aug 2025 – Present

Full Stack Engineer

Remote

- > Working for **Trashie**, a New York-based sustainable rewards platform that empowers consumers to recycle unwanted clothing and textiles in exchange for TrashieCash™, redeemable across a wide network of retail and lifestyle brands.
- > Designed and implemented a *Stripe* integration to manage the full discount coupon lifecycle; creation, distribution and redemption. This for supporting Trashie's rewards infrastructure across its brand partner network.
- > Engineered logistics and returns integrations with *FedEx Easy Returns*, *UPS*, and *Happy Returns*, enabling QR code-based return operations that streamline the Take Back Bag experience at scale.
- > Enhanced the web authentication system using *Firebase Authentication*, improving login reliability, security flows, and overall user experience across web and mobile platforms.
- > Developed and maintained full-stack features across the web (*React*) and mobile (*React Native*) applications, consuming and extending *NodeJS* backend services and *PostgreSQL* databases hosted on *Google Cloud Platform*.
- > Leveraged *Google Cloud Platform* services for infrastructure, storage, and deployment pipelines, ensuring scalability and reliability of production workloads.
- > Adopted AI-assisted development as a core part of the daily workflow, using *Claude Code*, *Cursor* and other AI-powered coding tools to accelerate feature delivery, reduce development cycle times, and improve code quality through intelligent code generation and review.
- > **Tech stack:** TypeScript, JavaScript; NodeJS, React, React Native; PostgreSQL; Firebase Authentication; Google Cloud Platform; Stripe API; FedEx, UPS & Happy Returns APIs; Claude Code, Cursor (AI-assisted development).

### Personal Projects and Technical Practice

May 2024 – Aug 2025

Software Engineer - Self-directed Development

Remote

- > Actively developing and maintaining personal software applications to sharpen full-stack development skills.
- > Practicing backend development using *NestJS*, *Ruby on Rails* and *Python*, focusing on building robust APIs, applying clean code practices and improving architectural design.
- > Created and deployed a personal portfolio [website](#) to showcase professional experience, technical skills, and project highlights.
- > Exploring modern development tools and best practices, including *Docker*, *Kubernetes*, *CI/CD*, *TDD* and dependency injection.
- > **Tech stack:** NodeJS, NestJS, React, Ruby on Rails, Python; Sequelize, TypeORM, ActiveRecord; Docker, Kubernetes, PostgreSQL, MongoDB.

### Gases del Caribe SA ESP

Jun 2022 – May 2024

Full Stack Developer

Barranquilla, Colombia

- > Worked on **Sistema Brilla**, a web platform enabling users to apply for non-banking credits and pay monthly through their gas bill. Contributed to backend, frontend, and database layers.
- > Co-led the migration of the backend from *Ruby on Rails* to *NodeJS* (with the *NestJS* framework and the *Sequelize* ORM) to improve scalability and performance.
- > Led the development of integrations with external store services using *NestJS*, consuming third-party APIs to expand platform functionalities.
- > Designed and implemented PDF document processing and digital signing using *NestJS* and *AWS S3 Storage*.
- > Create and manage background workers for **Sistema Brilla** using the *Sidekiq* tool.
- > Developed new user interfaces and features in **Sistema Brilla** using *React* with *Redux*, enhancing usability and visual consistency and improving user experience.
- > Led the development of **Messaging**, an internal application for sending Whatsapp and SMS notifications to company users.
- > **Performance improvements:** Implemented database query optimizations, resulting in a 30% faster page load time across the platform.

- > **User impact:** Contributed to a 25% increase in user satisfaction scores (measured via internal surveys) thanks to UX improvements and faster response times.
- > **Tech stack:** JavaScript, TypeScript, Ruby; NodeJS, NestJS, React, NextJS, Ruby on Rails; Sequelize, ActiveRecord, Redux; PostgreSQL; Docker, Redis, Sidekiq, Github Actions; AWS Services: S3 Storage.

## Koombea

Backend Developer

Feb 2021 – Jun 2022  
Barranquilla, Colombia

- > Worked on a **Ruby on Rails bootcamp** (3 months). Watching Udemy courses, learning language syntax and solving coding tests using the mentioned framework.
- > Worked on **Doit-Center** project (which is an e-commerce of a panamanian store) as backend developer on the web/mobile app, adding new features and doing support and maintenance.
- > Led the development of core backend features using *Ruby on Rails*, including business logic implementation, API design, and data modeling to support key e-commerce functionality.
- > Integrated *Shopify* services with the backend and database to synchronize product catalogs, manage orders, users data and automate inventory updates in real time.
- > Co-led the development of new multi-order logic to allow users to place and manage multiple product orders in a single transaction, improving purchasing flexibility and backend processing efficiency.
- > Led deployment of new features to testing and production environments using *AWS EC2*.
- > **Tech stack:** Ruby on Rails; PostgreSQL; ActiveRecord, Shopify; Redis, Sidekiq, Docker; AWS Services: S3 Storage, EC2; Github Actions.

## Projects/Freelance

### Analysis pipeline for whole exome data

Freelance

May 2020 – Oct 2020  
Barranquilla, Colombia

- > Worked with a Universidad del Norte professor to build a python desktop program that works as a pipeline processing human genome data.
- > Implement a pipeline using python processing a human genome data file with specific programs.
- > Build python IU for a desktop app.
- > **Tech stack:** Python.

### Global Game Jam 2020 edition

Jan 2020

- > I adventured into game development using Unity and create a platform game named *Otto* in 48 hours with a team of developers and artists.

## Education

### Universidad del Norte

Bachelor of Science in Systems and Computing Engineering  
Cumulative GPA: 3.9/5

2016 – 2020  
Barranquilla, Colombia

## Certifications

- > Data Engineering using Python Course | Platzi | Issued Oct 2019 – No expiration date.
- > Python Course | Platzi | Issued Sep 2019 – No expiration date.
- > The Complete Ruby on Rails Developer Course | Udemy | Issued Mar 2021 – No expiration date.

## Skills

**Programming Languages** Proficient in Javascript, Typescript, Ruby, Python; Familiar with C#, C++, Java, CSS.

**Technologies/Libraries** Proficient in NodeJS, NestJS, Ruby on Rails, ReactJS, React Native, Redux, PostgreSQL, ActiveRecord, Sequelize, TypeORM, Firebase Authentication, Google Cloud Platform, AWS services, Docker; Familiar with NextJS, SpringBoot, Django, Astro, MongoDB, Kubernetes, .NET, Wordpress.

**AI-Assisted Development** Proficient in leveraging AI coding tools as a core part of the development workflow; including *Claude Code* (agentic terminal-based development) and *Cursor* (AI-powered code editor) to accelerate feature delivery, reduce cycle times, and improve overall code quality.

**Languages** Native Spanish speaker, English (Overall CEFR Level: B2 - Certified by IELTS-British Council).