Global Navigation Strategy

The navigation architecture for the Event Ticket Booking Application adopts a **hybrid navigation strategy**, combining tab-based primary navigation with contextual and system-driven navigation patterns. This approach was selected to balance high-frequency user tasks with complex, conditional flows that occur during booking and post-booking scenarios.

The primary navigation uses a **tab-based structure** to expose the most frequently accessed user goals: Event Discovery, Bookings, Tickets, Profile, and Support. Tab-based navigation is appropriate for this product because users regularly switch between these sections, and the tabs provide persistent visibility and quick access without increasing cognitive load.

Contextual navigation is used extensively within task flows such as booking, seat selection, checkout, and payment. These flows require sequential progression and temporary focus, making them unsuitable for permanent global navigation placement. Contextual screens such as seat maps, order summaries, payment validation, and confirmation pages are therefore accessed through in-flow transitions rather than direct navigation links.

System-driven navigation is used for non-user-initiated transitions, including error states, loading screens, retry prompts, authentication redirects, and session expiration handling. These routes are not exposed in the global navigation but are embedded into the architecture to ensure predictable recovery paths and continuity of user journeys.

Alternative navigation patterns such as drawer-based or fully hierarchical navigation were evaluated and rejected. Drawer-based navigation increases discoverability cost and slows access to time-critical actions such as ticket retrieval. Fully hierarchical navigation introduces unnecessary depth and makes it difficult to handle cross-functional flows such as booking-to-ticket transitions.

The hybrid approach ensures that core user goals remain immediately accessible while complex system behavior is handled contextually, resulting in a navigation structure that is both flexible and scalable.