JSON, AJAX, and External Web APIs

Listed APIs

- Random User Generator
- REST Country
- MARS Rover Photos
- The Internet Chuck Norris Database
- Weather Underground
- xkcd

Random User Generator

The web service generates a random user each time it is called.

Home Page

General information, and calling instructions

```
https://randomuser.me`
```

Request

```
$.ajax({
  url: 'https://randomuser.me/api/',
  dataType: 'json',
  success: function(data){
    console.log(data); // Or whatever
  }
});
```

Response

Returns JSON

```
results: [{
 user: {
    gender: "female",
    name: {
     title: "ms",
     first: "manuela",
     last: "velasco"
    },
   location: {
     street: "1969 calle de alberto aguilera",
     city: "la coruña",
     state: "asturias",
     zip: "56298"
    },
    email: "manuela.velasco50@example.com",
    username: "heavybutterfly920",
    password: "enterprise",
    salt: ">egEn6Ys0",
    md5: "2dd1894ea9d19bf5479992da95713a3a",
    sha1: "ba230bc400723f470b68e9609ab7d0e6cf123b59",
    sha256: "f4f52bf8c5ad7fc759d1d4156b25a4c7b3d1e2eec6c92d80e508aa0b7946d4ba",
   registered: "1303647245",
    dob: "415458547",
    phone: "994-131-106",
    cell: "626-695-164",
   DNI: "52434048-I",
   picture: {
     large: "http://api.randomuser.me/portraits/women/39.jpg",
     medium: "http://api.randomuser.me/portraits/med/women/39.jpg",
      thumbnail: "http://api.randomuser.me/portraits/thumb/women/39.jpg",
    },
   version: "0.6"
   nationality: "ES"
 },
 seed: "graywolf"
} ]
```

REST Countries

Get information about countries via a RESTful API

Home Page

General information, and a listing of the calls available.

```
https://restcountries.eu/
```

Request

There are a number of ways to retrieve country information, but only two are shown below, since they all follow the same format.

Retrieve country information using a partial spelling of the country name

```
https://restcountries.eu/rest/v1/name/Rus
```

Returns JSON objects for Belarus, Cyprus, and Russia

Retrieve country information using a specific country code

```
https://restcountries.eu/rest/v1/alpha/cy
```

Returns a single JSON object for Cyprus

Response

Returns JSON

Note, a number of the the calls can potentially return multiple countries, the resulting JSON objects may be wrapped in a JSON array as shown below. In the case where the call returns a single country JSON object, it will not be in wrapped inside an array.

```
[
    {
        "name": "United States",
        "capital": "Washington D.C.",
        "altSpellings": [
            "US",
            "USA",
            "United States of America"
        ],
        "relevance": "3.5",
        "region": "Americas",
        "subregion": "Northern America",
        "translations": {
            "de": "Vereinigte Staaten von Amerika",
            "es": "Estados Unidos",
            "fr": "États-Unis",
            "ja": "アメリカ合衆国",
            "it": "Stati Uniti D'America"
        },
        "population": 321645000,
        "latlng": [
            38,
            -97
        ],
        "demonym": "American",
        "area": 9629091,
        "gini": 48,
        "timezones": [
            "UTC-12:00",
            "UTC-11:00",
```

```
"UTC-10:00",
             "UTC-09:00",
            "UTC-08:00",
            "UTC-07:00",
            "UTC-06:00",
            "UTC-05:00",
            "UTC-04:00",
             "UTC+10:00",
             "UTC+12:00"
        ],
        "borders": [
            "CAN",
             "MEX"
        "nativeName": "United States",
        "callingCodes": [
            "1"
        ],
        "topLevelDomain": [
            ".us"
        ],
        "alpha2Code": "US",
        "alpha3Code": "USA",
        "currencies": [
            "USD",
            "USN",
            "USS"
        ],
        "languages": [
             "en"
        ]
    }
]
```

Mars Rover Photos

Retrieve black-and-white photos taken by the Mars Rover.

Home Page

NASA offers a surprising number of APIs. Check them out.

```
https://api.nasa.gov/index.html
```

Request

To request Mars Rover photos for a specific day, use the following URL. Set the earth_date (yyyy-m-d) request paramater to the desired day.

https://api.nasa.gov/mars-photos/api/v1/rovers/curiosity/photos?earth_date=2016-3-30&api_key=DEMO KEY

Note, the request makes use of the DEMOKEY. The DEMOKEY is limited to 30 calls per hour, and 50 calls per day. Individual keys are available for free.

https://api.nasa.gov/index.html#apply-for-an-api-key

Response

Returns JSON

Sorry for the size and formatting of the JSON returned, but it isn't all that difficult to parse, plus, *THEY'RE PICTURES FROM MARS!*.

Note, the number of photos returned can vary from day to day.

```
{"photos": [ {"id":550612, "sol":1297, "camera": {"id":20, "name": "FHAZ", "roverid":5, "fullname": "Front Hazard Avoidance
Camera"},"imgsrc":"http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl-raw-
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```
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```
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Camera"}]}},{"id":550700,"sol":1297,"camera":{"id":23,"name":"CHEMCAM","roverid":5,"fullname":"Chemistry and Camera
Complex"},"imgsrc":"http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl-raw-
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Imager"}, "name": "MARDI", "fullname": "Mars Descent Imager"}, "name": "Rear Hazard Avoidance
Camera"}]}},{"id":550702,"sol":1297,"camera":{"id":23,"name":"CHEMCAM","roverid":5."fullname":"Chemistry and Camera
Complex"},"imgsrc":"http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/msl-raw-
images/proj/msl/redops/ods/surface/sol/01297/opgs/edr/ccam/CR0512635952EDRF0532644CCAM04296M.JPG", "earthdate": "2016-
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{"name":"NAVCAM","fullname":"Navigation Camera"},{"name":"MAST","fullname":"Mast Camera"},
{"name":"CHEMCAM","fullname":"Chemistry and Camera Complex"},{"name":"MAHLI","fullname":"Mars Hand Lens
Imager"},{"name":"MARDI","fullname":"Mars Descent Imager"},{"name":"RHAZ","fullname":"Rear Hazard Avoidance
Camera"}]}}]}]
```

The Internet Chuck Norris Database

Who doesn't love Chuck Norris jokes? Especially, if you can insert your name, or the name of a friend or loved one into it.

Home Page

General information.

```
http://www.icndb.com
```

See API for more information

```
http://www.icndb.com/api/
```

Request

There are several ways to access and modify the jokes outlined on the API page. Only obtaining a random is shown below.

```
http://api.icndb.com/jokes/random/
```

Channel your inner Chuck, and in the grand tradition of the master, roundhouse kick the rest of the calls into submission.

Response

Returns JSON

Note, the calls may return multiple jokes, in which case, they are wrapped in a JSON array as shown below. In the case where the call returns a single joke JSON object, it will not be in wrapped inside an array.

Weather Underground

Weather information from around the world.

Home Page

General information.

```
https://www.wunderground.com/
```

API documentation.

```
https://www.wunderground.com/weather/api/d/docs
```

Request

There are a number of calls available. The simpliest is getting the current weather for a given city in the US. For instance, the

```
http://api.wunderground.com/api/api-key/conditions/q/OH/Cleveland.json
```

Tech Elevator's limited api-key: ff29edd8a8808b08

Response

Returns JSON

```
"response": {
"version":"0.1",
"termsofService": "http://www.wunderground.com/weather/api/d/terms.html",
"features": {
"conditions": 1
}
  }
, "current observation": {
      "image": {
      "url": "http://icons.wxug.com/graphics/wu2/logo 130x80.png",
      "title": "Weather Underground",
      "link": "http://www.wunderground.com"
      "display location": {
      "full": "Cleveland, OH",
      "city": "Cleveland",
      "state": "OH",
      "state name": "Ohio",
      "country": "US",
      "country iso3166":"US",
      "zip":"44101",
      "magic":"1",
      "wmo": "99999",
      "latitude": "41.49306870",
      "longitude": "-81.66831970",
      "elevation": "210.00000000"
      },
      "observation_location": {
      "full": "LeanDog, Cleveland, Ohio",
      "city": "LeanDog, Cleveland",
      "state": "Ohio",
      "country": "US",
      "country_iso3166":"US",
      "latitude": "41.510742",
      "longitude": "-81.691978",
      "elevation": "574 ft"
      },
      "estimated": {
      "station_id": "KOHCLEVE65",
```

```
"observation time": "Last Updated on April 1, 11:48 AM EDT",
        "observation time rfc822": "Fri, 01 Apr 2016 11:48:00 -0400",
        "observation epoch": "1459525680",
        "local time rfc822": "Fri, 01 Apr 2016 11:48:09 -0400",
        "local epoch": "1459525689",
        "local tz short": "EDT",
        "local tz long": "America/New York",
        "local_tz_offset":"-0400",
        "weather": "Overcast",
        "temperature string":"44.5 F (6.9 C)",
        "temp f":44.5,
        "temp c":6.9,
        "relative_humidity": "85%",
        "wind string": "From the ESE at 13.0 MPH",
        "wind_dir": "ESE",
        "wind degrees":108,
        "wind mph":13.0,
        "wind_gust_mph":0,
        "wind kph":20.9,
        "wind_gust_kph":0,
        "pressure mb": "1004",
        "pressure in":"29.64",
        "pressure_trend":"+",
        "dewpoint string": "40 F (5 C)",
        "dewpoint_f":40,
        "dewpoint c":5,
        "heat_index_string":"NA",
        "heat_index_f":"NA",
        "heat index c": "NA",
        "windchill_string":"38 F (3 C)",
        "windchill_f":"38",
        "windchill c":"3",
        "feelslike string":"38 F (3 C)",
        "feelslike_f":"38",
        "feelslike_c":"3",
        "visibility mi":"10.0",
        "visibility_km":"16.1",
        "solarradiation":"--",
        "UV": "2", "precip_1hr_string": "0.00 in ( 0 mm)",
        "precip 1hr in":"0.00",
        "precip_1hr_metric":" 0",
        "precip_today_string":"0.00 in (0 mm)",
        "precip_today_in":"0.00",
        "precip_today_metric":"0",
        "icon": "cloudy",
        "icon url": "http://icons.wxug.com/i/c/k/cloudy.gif",
        "forecast url": "http://www.wunderground.com/US/OH/Cleveland.html",
        "history url": "http://www.wunderground.com/weatherstation/WXDailyHistory.asp?ID=KOHCLEVE65",
        "ob_url": "http://www.wunderground.com/cgi-bin/findweather/getForecast?query=41.510742,-81.69
1978",
        "nowcast":""
    }
```

}

xkcd

Get any xkcd cartoon.

Home Page

API documentation (in the the form of a cartoon, of course)

```
https://xkcd.com/1481/
```

Request

There are really only two requests possible, today's

```
http://xkcd.com/info.0.json
```

or a previous, for instance, number 614.

```
http://xkcd.com/614/info.0.json
```

Response

Returns JSON

```
"month": "3",
   "num": 1662,
   "link": "",
   "year": "2016",
   "news": "", "safe_title":
   "Jack and Jill", "transcript": "",
   "alt": "Jill and Jack \/ began to frack. \/ The oil boosts their town. \/ But fractures make
   \/ the bedrock shake \/ and Jack came tumbling down.",
   "img": "http:\/\/imgs.xkcd.com\/comics\/jack_and_jill.png",
   "title": "Jack and Jill",
   "day": "30"
}
```