

- CppRestSDK is not an option anymore, no support for years and the github page recommend not to use it
- Pistache
 - May lack documentation.... but it's something I can contribute... they are looking for volunteers
- Crow
 - Seems like a good option, has support (github page s active) <https://github.com/CrowCpp/Crow>
 - Looks like there are some documentation around it https://crowcpp.org/master/getting_started/setup/linux/
 - GPT gave a solid answer... that is nice

2 Structuring the C++ API Project

A well-structured project makes it easier to **maintain and expand**. Below is the recommended **folder structure**:

```
bash Copy Edit

/cpp-api
├── /src
│   ├── main.cpp      # Entry point of the API
│   ├── handler.cpp    # Logic to process requests
│   ├── handler.h      # Header file for the handler
│   ├── CMakeLists.txt # CMake build configuration
│   ├── Dockerfile     # Instructions to containerize the API
│   ├── .dockerignore  # Ignore unnecessary files in Docker
│   └── README.md      # Documentation
```

3. Running the API in Development Mode

Now, you can run your API without rebuilding the image every time.

Start the API

```
sh Copy Edit

docker-compose up --build
```

This will:

- Build the container (if needed).
- Mount your local source code inside the container.
- Compile the code (`cmake . && make`).
- Run the API.

Stop the API

```
sh Copy Edit

docker-compose down
```

Recompile Without Restarting

If you change your C++ code, you don't need to restart Docker.
Instead, inside the running container, recompile:

```
sh Copy Edit

docker exec -it cpp-api-dev bash # Open a shell inside the container
cmake . && make                  # Recompile the API
./api_server                    # Restart it
```

🔥 Summary: Fast Development Workflow

Action	Command
Start API (auto-recompiling)	<code>docker-compose up --build</code>
Stop API	<code>docker-compose down</code>
Recompile code inside container	<code>docker exec -it cpp-api-dev bash → cmake . && make && ./api_server</code>
Restart API after code changes	<code>./run_dev.sh</code>

1 Build & Start Container

`docker-compose up --build`

2 Manually Rebuild (if needed)

```
docker exec -it cpp-api-dev bash
cd build && cmake .. && make -j$(nproc)
./api_server # Run manually
```

3 Stop Container

`docker-compose down`