Setting Up Preview

Once configured in the GatsbyJS settings page in wp-admin, Previews will work out of the box as long as your Gatsby pages have the corresponding node id as part of their pageContext. See this starter's gatsby-node.js for an example of how to set up your Gatsby pages. See the feature page on Preview for more information about how Preview works, considerations you should keep in mind while writing Preview-ready templates, and how to debug Preview templates.

Connecting Preview

To get started, set up a Preview instance on Gatsby Cloud or set up your self-hosted Preview instance. If you want to try out Preview but aren't sure whether you want to subscribe to Gatsby Cloud or self-host, you can start a free 2 week Gatsby Cloud trial with no credit card to help you make up your mind!

WordPress Settings Navigate to your GatsbyJS WordPress settings by visiting this path in your WP instance /wp-admin/options-general.php?page=gatsbyjs or by hovering on "Settings" in the WordPress admin menu and clicking on "GatsbyJS".

You will see 4 fields related to Gatsby Preview. "Enable Gatsby Preview?", "Preview Instance", "Preview Webhook", and "Preview JWT secret".

If you don't see this settings page, or you don't see these 4 fields, make sure the latest version of WPGatsby is installed in your WordPress instance.

wp-gatsbyjs-preview-settings

- 1. Check the "Enable Gatsby Preview?" Checkbox When this checkbox is checked, WPGatsby will override the functionality of the WordPress "preview" button in the page/post edit screen. Clicking "preview" will open the regular WordPress preview template, but the WP frontend will be replaced with your Gatsby Preview instance.
- **2. Fill the "Preview Instance" Field** This field should be filled with the public frontend URL of your Gatsby Preview instance.

To find your **Preview Instance URL**, navigate to the "Preview" tab in Gatsby Cloud, wait for your first Preview build to complete, and then copy the frontend URL from above the build history list in the center of the page.

Gatsby Cloud Preview frontend URL Screenshot

3. Fill the "Preview Webhook" Field You can find your **Preview webhook** by navigating to "Site Settings" in Gatsby Cloud and then navigating to "Webhooks" via the left-side menu.

Gatsby Cloud Preview Webhook URL

4. Double check the "Preview JWT secret" field This field should be filled for you automatically with a cryptocraphically secure key when you install WPGatsby. If this field is empty, feel free to copy a salt from the WordPress salts generator page and use that as your JWT secret key.

This secret key is used to authenticate short-lived JWT tokens when you're viewing previews from WordPress so a very strong key should be used to prevent security issues.

Using your Preview

Now that you've configured WPGatsby for your Preview instance, visit a page or post you'd like to preview, edit it, and press "preview" in the top right corner of the edit screen like you usually would in WordPress. You should see a new tab pop open with your Preview instance and previewed content visible!

:point_left: Back to Features