# A statically generated blog example using Next.js and Umbraco Heartcore

This example showcases Next.js's <u>Static Generation</u> feature using <u>Umbraco Heartcore</u> as the data source.

#### **Demo**

- Live: https://next-blog-umbraco-heartcore.vercel.app/
- Preview Mode: https://next-blog-umbraco-heartcore.vercel.app/api/preview...

# **Deploy your own**

Once you have access to the environment variables you'll need, deploy the example using Vercel:



#### **Related examples**

- WordPress
- DatoCMS
- Sanity
- <u>TakeShape</u>
- Prismic
- Contentful
- Strapi
- Agility CMS
- Cosmic
- ButterCMS
- <u>Storyblok</u>
- GraphCMS
- Kontent
- Ghost
- Blog Starter

# How to use

Execute <u>create-next-app</u> with <u>npm</u> or <u>Yarn</u> to bootstrap the example:

```
npx create-next-app --example cms-umbraco-heartcore cms-umbraco-heartcore-app
# or
yarn create next-app --example cms-umbraco-heartcore cms-umbraco-heartcore-app
# or
pnpm create next-app -- --example cms-umbraco-heartcore cms-umbraco-heartcore-app
```

# **Configuration**

#### Step 1. Create an account and a project in Umbraco Heartcore

First, create an account in Umbraco Heartcore, this will also create an empty project.

#### Step 2. Login into Umbraco Heartcore and install sample data

After your account has been created, you are redirected to the Umbraco Cloud Portal, from here you click on the **Go to backoffice** link and login to your new Umbraco Heartcore project.



From the dashboard click Install sample on the Blog Starter sample.



#### Step 3. Set up environment variables

Copy the .env.local.example file in this directory to .env.local (which will be ignored by Git):

```
cp .env.local.example .env.local
```

Then set each variable in .env.local:

- UMBRACO\_PROJECT\_ALIAS: Set it to the project alias, which can be found under **Settings** -> **Headless**.
- UMBRACO API KEY: Create a new API Key under Users > "Your Username" > API Keys.
- UMBRACO\_PREVIEW\_SECRET can be any random string (but avoid spaces), like MY\_SECRET this is used for <u>Preview Mode</u>.

Your .env.local file should look like this:

```
UMBRACO_PROJECT_ALIAS=...

UMBRACO_API_KEY=...

UMBRACO_PREVIEW_SECRET=...
```

# Step 4. Run Next.js in development mode

```
npm install
npm run dev

# or

yarn install
yarn dev
```

Your blog should be up and running on http://localhost:3000! If it doesn't work, post on GitHub discussions.

# Step 5. Try preview mode

Then click save and go back to the **Content** section, click on *Posts* and then on a post and:

- Update the title. For example, you can add [Draft] in front of the title.
- Click Save, but DO NOT click Publish. By doing this, the post will be in the draft state.

Now, if you go to the post page on localhost, you won't see the updated title. However, if you use **Preview Mode**, you'll be able to see the change (<u>Documentation</u>).

To enable the Preview Mode, go to this URL:

http://localhost:3000/api/preview?secret=<secret>&slug=<slug>

- <secret> should be the string you entered for STRAPI PREVIEW SECRET.
- <slug> should be the post's url , which can be found under Info.

You should now be able to see the draft post. To exit the preview mode, you can click **Click here to exit preview mode** at the top of the page.

To make it easier to go into Preview Mode you can enable a preview button on the posts in the backoffice.

In Umbraco Heartcore, go to **Settings > Headless > Preview**. From here you can add a new Preview Url by clicking the **Add Preview Url** button.

Fill in the form with the following values:



- Root Content: Select the Posts node
- Culture: en-US
- Url: http://localhost:3000/api/preview?secret=YOUR PREVIEW SECRET
- Name: Local Test
- Path type: Path in querystring
- Querystring parameter nam: slug

If you go back to one of the posts, you should now see a **Preview** button at the bottom right of the screen next to the **Save** button. If you click it, you should be in **Preview Mode**.



### Step 6. Deploy on Vercel

You can deploy this app to the cloud with Vercel (Documentation).

#### **Deploy Your Local Project**

To deploy your local project to Vercel, push it to GitHub/GitLab/Bitbucket and import to Vercel.

**Important**: When you import your project on Vercel, make sure to click on **Environment Variables** and set them to match your <code>.env.local</code> file.

#### **Deploy from Our Template**

Alternatively, you can deploy using our template by clicking on the Deploy button below.

