

Craig Simpson CV

2026-03-01

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Craig Simpson

Lead Cloud Architect / Engineer

Cardiff, UK | Open to Remote & Relocation
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Professional Summary

Lead Cloud Architect and DevOps specialist with 10+ years of experience designing, scaling, and automating high-availability multi-cloud environments across AWS, Azure, and OpenStack. Deep hands-on expertise with Red Hat OpenShift, Kubernetes, and Terraform, combined with a track record of guiding teams through complex cloud transformations. Trusted by startups and enterprises alike to drive modernization and DevSecOps adoption — blending strategy, automation, and technical excellence.

Consulting Highlights

- Architected OpenStack and OpenShift platforms for telecom, finance, and media clients across EMEA.
- Advised CTOs and engineering leads on multi-cloud strategy, CI/CD automation, and infrastructure modernization.
- Reduced provisioning times by up to 60% through IaC and workflow automation.

- Led transformation workshops to drive DevOps culture and operational maturity.
 - Delivered governance models and reusable Terraform templates enabling secure, scalable cloud deployments.
 - Acted as SME for a mission-critical OpenShift installation supporting UK 999 emergency systems.
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Core Skills

Cloud Platforms: AWS, Azure, Oracle, DigitalOcean, Cloudflare

Private Cloud & OpenStack: Red Hat OpenStack, Canonical OpenStack, CEPH, Keystone, Neutron, Nova, Heat

Containers & Orchestration: Kubernetes, Red Hat OpenShift, Docker

Infrastructure as Code: Terraform, Ansible, Helm, SaltStack

DevOps & CI/CD: GitHub Actions, GitLab CI, Jenkins, ArgoCD, Concourse, Drone.io

Monitoring & Observability: Elastic Stack, DataDog, Splunk, Grafana, CloudWatch, Azure Monitor, OpenSearch

Networking & Security: AWS VPC, Azure Networking, F5, Nginx, HAProxy, Brocade

Languages: Python, Bash

Methodologies: DevSecOps, Agile, Site Reliability Engineering

Professional Experience

Principal Cloud Architect | Bauer Media — Remote

Feb 2025 – Oct 2025

- Lead architect for multi-region scaling of the Rayo audio app backend across AWS and Azure.
- Designed GDPR-compliant right-shoring for databases, ensuring full EU data sovereignty.
- Member of Bauer Digital Audio's Technology Steering Board.
- Authored integration patterns, Terraform modules, and DevSecOps guardrails adopted globally.

Cloud Architect | KX — Remote

Jul 2023 – Dec 2024

- Delivered OpenShift and Kubernetes-based analytics platforms for global enterprise clients.
- Designed cloud-native architecture supporting multi-tenant, high-performance workloads.
- Developed Terraform/Helm frameworks, standardizing hybrid-cloud deployments.
- Implemented GitOps via ArgoCD and GitLab CI/CD — boosted release velocity by 50%.

Lead Cloud Architect (OpenStack / OpenShift / DevOps) | Rackspace Technology — Remote

Apr 2021 – Feb 2023

- EMEA SME for OpenStack/OpenShift for government and finance sectors.

- Built OpenShift clusters integrated with OpenStack and CEPH for secure workloads.
- Designed hybrid-cloud CI/CD automation pipelines.
- Authored reference architectures and reusable IaC templates.
- Mentored teams on DevOps transformation.

Senior DevOps Engineer | SECCL — Bath

Jan 2020 – Apr 2020

- Migrated monolith to serverless microservices using AWS Lambda.
- Introduced observability with Grafana and CloudWatch.
- Reduced manual ops by 70% via CI/CD + IaC.

Cloud Architect | O2 (Telefonica UK) — Slough / Remote

Nov 2019 – Dec 2020

- Deployed OpenStack-based private cloud supporting O2's 5G packet-core.
- Automated infra with Ansible + Heat templates — cut