

Real-Time Trip Planning Assistant — Setup & Run Guide

Requirements:

- Node.js 18+, npm 9+
- MongoDB Atlas (free cluster) connection string

Environment Variables:

server/.env (copy from .env.example)

- PORT=4000
- MONGODB_URI=<atlas-uri>
- NOMINATIM_URL=https://nominatim.openstreetmap.org
- NOMINATIM_EMAIL=<your email>
- OSRM_URL=https://router.project-osrm.org

Local Run (from repo root):

- 1) npm run install:all
- 2) npm run build # builds React client
- 3) npm run dev # starts Express+Socket.IO at http://localhost:4000

Deployment (Render, single service):

- Root directory: server
- Build Command: npm run build:client
- Start Command: npm start
- Configure env vars from server/.env.example

Deployment (Fly.io):

- fly launch --path server --copy-config --no-deploy
- fly secrets set MONGODB_URI=... JWT_SECRET=... OSRM_URL=... NOMINATIM_URL=... NOMINATIM_EMAIL=...
- fly deploy --path server

Usage:

- Create a trip with a name + your display name
- Share the code with friends; they join and collaborate in real time
- Add destinations/accommodations/activities
- Click Optimize Order to reorder based on travel time

Notes:

- Respect Nominatim usage policy (provide email, limit requests).
- OSRM public endpoint is a community service; for production, consider hosting your own.
- This demo skips auth; add JWT auth for multi-tenant production use.