



# Deployment Guide for BookIt

This guide covers deploying both the backend and frontend of the BookIt application to production.



## Pre-Deployment Checklist

- ☐ Code is committed to GitHub
- ☐ All tests pass locally
- ☐ Environment variables are documented
- ☐ Database schema is finalized
- ☐ API endpoints are tested



## Backend Deployment (Render/Railway)

### Option 1: Render.com (Recommended)

#### Step 1: Create PostgreSQL Database

1. Go to [Render Dashboard](#)
2. Click "New +" → "PostgreSQL"
3. Configure:
  - **Name:** `bookit-db`
  - **Database:** `bookit`
  - **User:** `bookit`
  - **Region:** Choose closest to your users
  - **Plan:** Free tier is fine for testing
4. Click "Create Database"
5. **Copy the Internal Database URL** (starts with `postgresql://`)

#### Step 2: Deploy Backend Service

1. Click "New +" → "Web Service"
2. Connect your GitHub repository
3. Configure:
  - **Name:** `bookit-backend`
  - **Root Directory:** `backend`

- **Environment:** `Node`
- **Region:** Same as database
- **Branch:** `main`
- **Build Command:** `npm install && npm run build`
- **Start Command:** `npm start`
- **Plan:** Free tier

#### 4. Add Environment Variables:

```
DATABASE_URL = [paste internal database URL from step 1]
NODE_ENV = production
```

#### 5. Click "Create Web Service"

#### 6. Wait for deployment (5-10 minutes)

#### 7. Copy your backend URL: `https://bookit-backend.onrender.com`

### Step 3: Test Backend

```
bash

# Test health endpoint
curl https://bookit-backend.onrender.com/health

# Test experiences endpoint
curl https://bookit-backend.onrender.com/api/experiences
```

### Option 2: Railway.app

1. Go to [Railway](#)
2. Click "New Project" → "Deploy from GitHub repo"
3. Select your repository
4. Add PostgreSQL plugin
5. Set environment variables:

```
DATABASE_URL = ${Postgres.DATABASE_URL}
NODE_ENV = production
```

6. Configure build:

- **Root Directory:** `backend`
- **Build Command:** `npm install && npm run build`
- **Start Command:** `npm start`



## Frontend Deployment (Vercel)

### Step 1: Prepare Frontend

1. Update `frontend/.env.production`:

```
env
```

```
VITE_API_URL=https://bookit-backend.onrender.com/api
```

2. Test production build locally:

```
bash
```

```
cd frontend
```

```
npm run build
```

```
npm run preview
```

### Step 2: Deploy to Vercel

#### Method 1: Vercel CLI

1. Install Vercel CLI:

```
bash
```

```
npm install -g vercel
```

2. Login:

```
bash
```

```
vercel login
```

3. Deploy from frontend directory:

```
bash
```

```
cd frontend
vercel --prod
```

4. Set environment variable in Vercel dashboard:

- Go to Project Settings → Environment Variables
- Add: `VITE_API_URL` = `https://bookit-backend.onrender.com/api`

## Method 2: Vercel Dashboard

1. Go to Vercel Dashboard
2. Click "Add New" → "Project"
3. Import your GitHub repository
4. Configure:

- **Framework Preset:** Vite
- **Root Directory:** `frontend`
- **Build Command:** `npm run build`
- **Output Directory:** `dist`

5. Add Environment Variable:

```
VITE_API_URL = https://bookit-backend.onrender.com/api
```

6. Click "Deploy"

## Step 3: Test Frontend

Visit your Vercel URL (e.g., `https://bookit.vercel.app`) and test:

- Browse experiences
- Select dates and slots
- Complete a booking
- Apply promo codes

## **Alternative: Docker Deployment**

### **Step 1: Build Docker Images**

```
bash

# Build backend
docker build -f Dockerfile.backend -t bookit-backend .

# Build frontend
docker build -f Dockerfile.frontend -t bookit-frontend .
```

### **Step 2: Deploy with Docker Compose**

```
bash

docker-compose up -d
```

This will start:

- PostgreSQL on port 5432
- Backend on port 5000
- Frontend on port 3000

### **Step 3: Deploy to AWS ECS / Google Cloud Run**

Follow your cloud provider's Docker deployment guide.

## **Alternative Backend Hosting**

### **Heroku**

```
bash
```

*# Login to Heroku*

heroku login

*# Create app*

heroku create bookit-backend

*# Add PostgreSQL*

heroku addons:create heroku-postgresql:mini

*# Deploy*

`cd` backend

`git` push heroku main

*# Set environment variables*

heroku config:set `NODE_ENV`=production

## DigitalOcean App Platform

1. Connect GitHub repository
2. Select "Node.js" as component type
3. Add PostgreSQL database
4. Configure build commands
5. Deploy

## Post-Deployment Verification

### Backend Health Check

bash

*# Health endpoint*

`curl` https://your-backend-url.com/health

*# Get experiences*

`curl` https://your-backend-url.com/api/experiences

*# Get specific experience*

`curl` https://your-backend-url.com/api/experiences/1

*# Get slots*

`curl` "https://your-backend-url.com/api/experiences/1/slots?date=2025-11-10"

## Frontend Testing

1. Open browser DevTools → Network tab
2. Navigate through the app
3. Verify all API calls succeed (200 status)
4. Test booking flow end-to-end
5. Verify promo codes work

## Database Verification

```
bash

# Connect to production database
psql $DATABASE_URL

# Check tables
\dt

# Count experiences
SELECT COUNT(*) FROM experiences;

# Check recent bookings
SELECT * FROM bookings ORDER BY booking_date DESC LIMIT 5;
```

## Troubleshooting

### Backend Issues

**Issue:** Database connection fails

```
bash

# Solution: Verify DATABASE_URL format
# Should be: postgresql://user:password@host:port/database
# Check SSL settings for production
```

**Issue:** CORS errors

```
javascript
```

```
// Solution: Update CORS settings in server.ts
```

```
app.use(cors({  
  origin: ['https://your-frontend-url.com'],  
  credentials: true  
}));
```

## Issue: Build fails on Render

```
bash
```

```
# Solution: Check Node version
```

```
# Add to package.json:
```

```
"engines": {  
  "node": ">=18.0.0"  
}
```

## Frontend Issues

### Issue: API calls fail with CORS

```
typescript
```

```
// Solution: Update API base URL in api.ts
```

```
const API_BASE_URL = import.meta.env.VITE_API_URL || 'http://localhost:5000/api';
```

### Issue: Environment variables not loading

```
bash
```

```
# Solution: Rebuild and redeploy
```

```
vercel --prod --force
```

### Issue: 404 on routes

```
json
```

```
// Add to vercel.json
```

```
{  
  "rewrites": [  
    { "source": "/(.*)", "destination": "/index.html" }  
  ]  
}
```



## Monitoring

### Render Monitoring

- View logs: Dashboard → Service → Logs
- Metrics: CPU, Memory, Request count
- Alerts: Set up email notifications

### Vercel Analytics

```
bash
```

```
# Install Vercel Analytics
```

```
npm install @vercel/analytics
```

```
typescript
```

```
// Add to main.tsx
```

```
import { Analytics } from '@vercel/analytics/react';
```

```
<Analytics />
```

## Security Hardening

### Environment Variables

Never commit `.env` files. Use:

- Render: Dashboard → Environment Variables
- Vercel: Project Settings → Environment Variables

### Database Security

```
sql
```

```
-- Create read-only user for analytics
```

```
CREATE USER analytics WITH PASSWORD 'secure_password';
```

```
GRANT SELECT ON ALL TABLES IN SCHEMA public TO analytics;
```

### Rate Limiting

```
typescript
```

*// Add to server.ts*

```
import rateLimit from 'express-rate-limit';

const limiter = rateLimit({
  windowMs: 15 * 60 * 1000, // 15 minutes
  max: 100 // limit each IP to 100 requests per windowMs
});

app.use('/api/', limiter);
```



## Performance Optimization

### Backend

typescript

*// Add caching*

```
import NodeCache from 'node-cache';
const cache = new NodeCache({ stdTTL: 600 });

app.get('/api/experiences', async (req, res) => {
  const cached = cache.get('experiences');
  if (cached) return res.json(cached);

  const experiences = await getExperiences();
  cache.set('experiences', experiences);
  res.json(experiences);
});
```

### Frontend

typescript

*// Code splitting*

```
const CheckoutPage = lazy(() => import('./pages/CheckoutPage'));
```

*// Use Suspense*

```
<Suspense fallback={<Loading />}>
  <CheckoutPage />
</Suspense>
```



# Continuous Deployment

## GitHub Actions

Create `.github/workflows/deploy.yml`:

```
yml
name: Deploy

on:
  push:
    branches: [main]

jobs:
  deploy-backend:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - uses: actions/checkout@v2
      - run: npm install
      - run: npm run build
      # Add deployment steps

  deploy-frontend:
    runs-on: ubuntu-latest
    steps:
      - uses: actions/checkout@v2
      - run: npm install
      - run: npm run build
      # Add deployment steps
```



## Final Checklist

- ☐ Backend deployed and accessible
- ☐ Frontend deployed and accessible
- ☐ Database migrations run successfully
- ☐ Sample data populated
- ☐ All API endpoints working
- ☐ CORS configured correctly
- ☐ Environment variables set
- ☐ SSL certificates active (HTTPS)
- ☐ Error logging configured

- ☐ Monitoring set up
- ☐ Domain name configured (optional)
- ☐ Documentation updated with live URLs

## **You're Live!**

Your application is now deployed! Share these URLs:

- **Frontend:** <https://bookit.vercel.app>
  - **Backend API:** <https://bookit-backend.onrender.com>
  - **GitHub Repo:** <https://github.com/username/bookit>
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**Need Help?** Check the main README.md or open an issue on GitHub.