

r/algorithmtrading • 1 yr. ago
 LukyLukyLu

Alpaca experiences

Infrastructure

1. What are the fees to buy the stocks, they say they 0 comission is it right? But i know they increased the price of market data api or something
2. How is it with stupid EU regulated KIDS. Eg Europeans cannot buy SPY or QQQ in EU brokers, can you buy them in Alpaca as European?

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Odd-String1491 • 1y ago

skyshadex • 1y ago

I've been paper trading for a month or so and I love the experience so far.

4 Reply ...

JonnyTwoHands79 • 6mo ago

SPY-ROI_dotcom • 1y ago

They work fine for me.

2 Reply ...

yangyang1225 • 1y ago

About Alpaca, I've been charged a commission, they can flag users as non-retail at any time, very opaque, I'm out. I have been placing orders manually by myself and executing my strategy. On average, I operate 3-5 stocks per trading day, and one stock trades 4-5 times on average, and the amount of each transaction is currently \$30. There are about 20 trades per day, the amount is about \$600, and the number of stocks is about 300 shares. At present, this strategy has been losing money. The purpose of using Alpaca is to allow me to place orders, modify orders, and modify stop loss prices faster than manually. I was marked as non-retail, and Alpaca charged 0.004/share as a commission, the reason is that I have some orders placed and canceled within 1 second.

3 Reply ...

xiaoqi7 • 1y ago

1. Yes, except the SEC fees which are negligible.
2. Yes you can buy SPY and QQQ.

Just be aware to not use too many market-on-open or market-on-close orders. Alpaca basically banned me for that by increasing the fees to 0.5ct/share. Now I have to pay a scam \$100 round-turn commission for \$10000 (liquid) stocks of \$1. And no I will never get a better price with commissions and without PFOF, as the commissions are already higher than the spread.

3 Reply ...

LukyLukyLu OP • 1y ago

thanks for the info. you are european? and were you able to buy spy and qqq? i guess american brokers are not affected by the eu regulation?

what you mean by market-on-open and market-on-close and by word "too many".

i noticed that IBKR has also 0.5 cents per one share, but up to \$1 fee per transaction it seems, so if you buy for lot of \$ it is not too high, maybe alpaca installed similar system on you?

1 Reply ...

xiaoqi7 • 1y ago • Edited 1y ago

Dont worry about the market-on-open and close orders (sorry I was just ranting), these are special auction orders to get executed at the open or close price. If you place a order before market open, it becomes a on-open order however.

Yes I am european and have succesfully bought an ETF.

IBKR is not max \$1.

2 Reply ...

LukyLukyLu OP • 1y ago

aha. do you think that they limit like that also some other orders?

yes not max \$1 but min \$1, so when it reaches \$1 you don't pay more or?

1 Reply ...



1 ↓ Reply ...



Riodda • 3mo ago

How is your experience so far in getting the money back to Europe? How is credited the SPY dividend? I would like to make an automatic compounding with SPYI and JEPQ but I don't know how the dividend of the 2 ETFs are paid to automate the compounding.

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brucebrowde • 2mo ago

Alpaca doesn't allow pre-market trading?

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theAndrewWiggins • 1y ago

Why did they add a fee for MoC orders for you? Just due to volume? Wouldn't switching to IBKR fix that if you do enough volume?

1 ↓ Reply ...



xiaoqi7 • 1y ago

Because I almost exclusively used MOO and MOC orders. Account size is only \$10-\$20k. IBKR would be fine if they didn't charge a fixed amount per unit stock, because of that the lower the \$ price is, the higher the commission. It's stupid to charge 1% commission just because the stock is low \$...

1 ↓ Reply ...



CartographerTop6571 • 4mo ago

Works well for me

1 ↓ Reply ...



chazak23 • 1y ago

I've had good experiences overall. The only downfall is the expensive wiring fees, expensive data subscription prices, and I have had 1 or 2 issues when using the paper API calls.

1 ↓ Reply ...



[deleted] • 1y ago

Which other platform do you suggest?

1 ↓ Reply ...



chazak23 • 1y ago

I've only used Alpaca so it's hard to comment!

1 ↓ Reply ...



brucebrowde • 2mo ago

Are you still with Alpaca? If so, how was your experience so far?

Also, are you live with them or paper-only?

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Valuevow • 7mo ago

I had good experience with it, but commissions are high

1 ↓ Reply ...