

Travelmemory MERN Stack Application Deployment

This document provides a comprehensive guide to deploying the TravelMemory MERN stack application on Amazon EC2 instances. It includes steps to configure the backend and frontend servers, set up Nginx reverse proxy, and integrate the application with a load balancer and Cloudflare.

 **by Ankita Lodha**

Step 1: EC2 Instances Setup

Launch 3 Ubuntu EC2 instances:

- Backend Server: backend_server001
- Frontend Servers: frontend_server001 and frontend_server002

Configure Security Groups:

- Backend Security Group (backendServerSG):
- Open ports: 22 (SSH), 80 (HTTP), 443 (HTTPS), 3000
- Frontend Security Group (frontendServerSG):
- Open ports: 22 (SSH), 80 (HTTP), 443 (HTTPS), 3000

Instances (3) Info

Find Instance by attribute or tag (case-sensitive)

All states

Instance state = running

Clear filters

Last updated less than a minute ago

Connect

Instance state

Actions

Launch instances

	Name	Instance ID	Instance state	Instance type	Status check	Alarm status	Availability Zone	Public IPv4 DNS	Public IPv4 ...	Elastic IP
<input type="checkbox"/>	backend_serve...	i-036380acc581b8b86	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks pass	View alarms	us-east-1d	ec2-3-87-56-248.comp...	3.87.56.248	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	frontend_serv...	i-0036a03c2eb1e7d1e	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks pass	View alarms	us-east-1d	ec2-52-91-227-182.co...	52.91.227.182	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	frontend_serv...	i-07a70e7d65217d706	Running	t2.micro	2/2 checks pass	View alarms	us-east-1d	ec2-44-204-154-64.co...	44.204.154.64	-

Launched 3 instances, 1 instance for backend and 2 instances for frontend server.

Step 2: Backend Server Configuration

Connect to the backend server: `ssh -i ubuntu@`

Install prerequisites:

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt install nodejs  
sudo apt install npm
```

Clone the repository:

git clone <https://github.com/ankitalodha05/TravelMemory.git>

Navigate to the backend folder: `cd TravelMemory/backend`

Create a .env file:

```
sudo nano .env
```

Add the following:

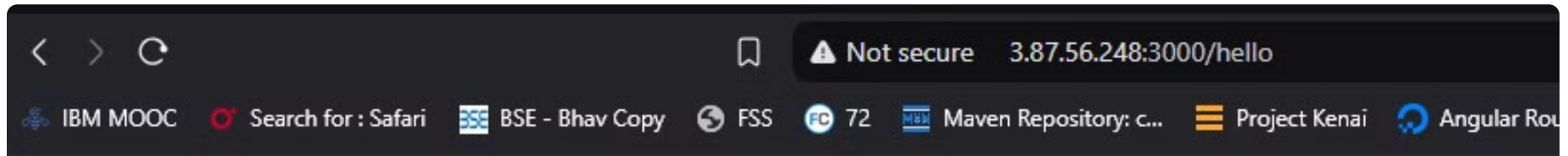
```
PORT=3000  
MONGO_URI="mongodb+srv://ankitalodha05:HXbLCIGpRkRg9gNn@cluster10.as960.mongodb.net/ankitalodha"
```

Update index.js to replace 'localhost' with the backend server's public IP.

Install dependencies and start the server:

```
sudo npm install  
sudo node index.js &
```

Verify the backend is running at `http://3.87.56.248:3000/hello`.



Hello World!

Backend server is running on port-3000

Step 4: Nginx Reverse Proxy Setup for Backend

Install Nginx:

```
sudo apt install -y nginx
```

Edit the Nginx default configuration:

```
sudo nano /etc/nginx/sites-available/default
```

Replace with the following:

```
server {  
    listen 80;  
    server_name 3.87.56.248;  
    location / {  
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:3000;  
        proxy_http_version 1.1;  
        proxy_set_header Upgrade $http_upgrade;  
        proxy_set_header Connection 'upgrade';  
        proxy_set_header Host $host;  
        proxy_cache_bypass $http_upgrade;  
    }  
}
```

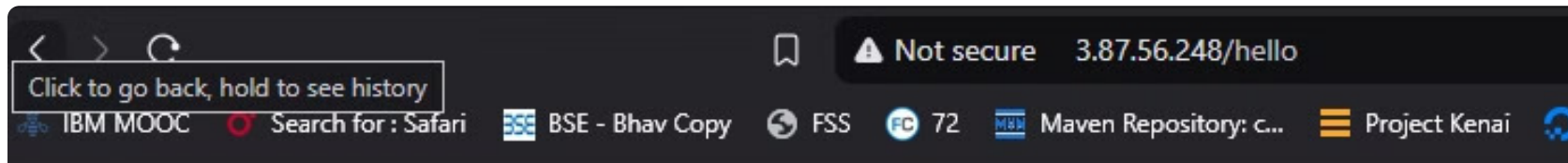
Test the configuration:

```
sudo nginx -t
```

Restart Nginx:

```
sudo systemctl restart nginx
```

Verify the backend is accessible at <http://3.87.56.248>



Hello World!

backend running successfully on port 80

Step 5: Frontend Server Configuration

Connect to the frontend001 server: `ssh -i ubuntu@`

Install prerequisites:

```
sudo apt update  
sudo apt install npm
```

Clone the repository:

git clone <https://github.com/ankitalodha05/TravelMemory.git>

Navigate to TravelMemory/frontend/src and edit url.js to replace 'localhost' with the backend server's public IP.

Install dependencies and start the frontend server:

```
sudo npm install  
sudo npm start
```

Verify the frontend001 is running at <http://52.91.227.182:3000>

Step 6: Nginx Reverse Proxy Setup for frontend

Install Nginx:

```
sudo apt install -y nginx
```

Edit the Nginx default configuration:

```
sudo nano /etc/nginx/sites-available/default
```

Replace with the following:

```
server {  
    listen 80;  
    server_name 52.91.227.182;  
    location / {  
        proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:3000;  
        proxy_http_version 1.1;  
        proxy_set_header Upgrade $http_upgrade;  
        proxy_set_header Connection 'upgrade';  
        proxy_set_header Host $host;  
        proxy_cache_bypass $http_upgrade;  
    }  
}
```

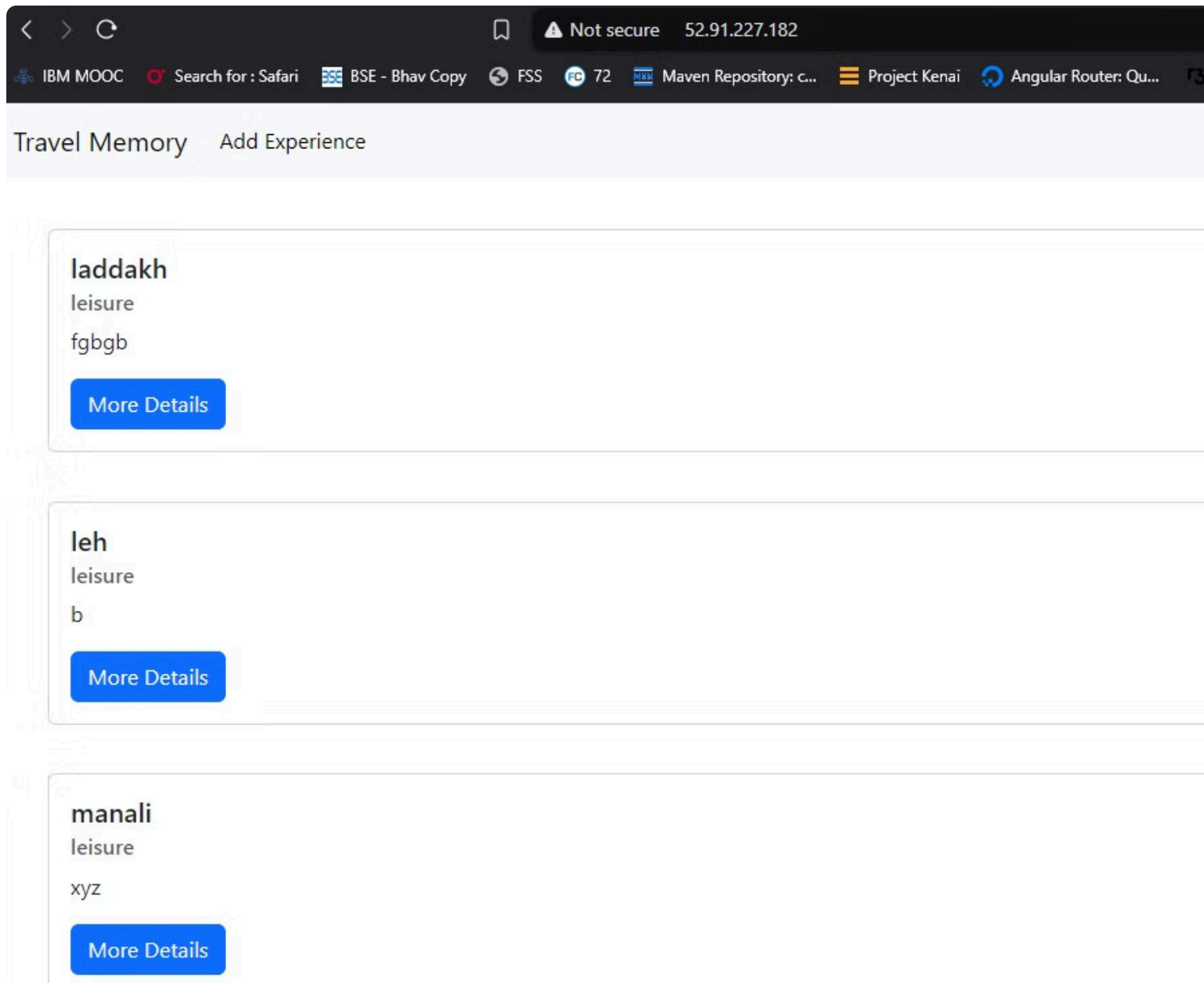
Test the configuration:

```
sudo nginx -t
```

Restart Nginx:

```
sudo systemctl restart nginx
```

Verify the frontend001 is accessible at <http://52.91.227.182>



Frontend001 running on port 80

Step 7 :Frontend server002

To configure the frontend server002 - same process as frontend server 001

```
Compiled successfully!

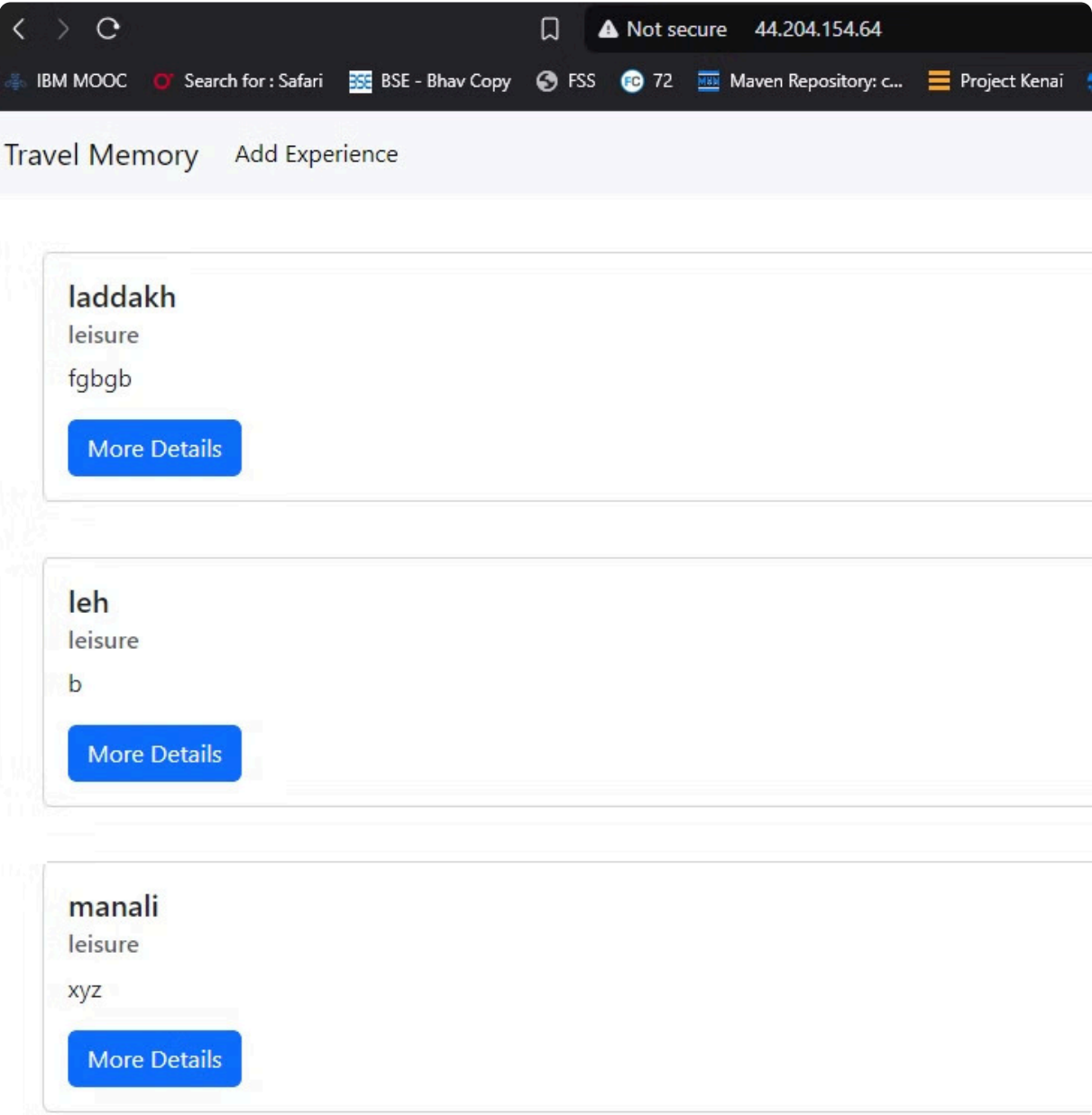
You can now view frontend in the browser.

Local:      http://localhost:3000
On Your Network:  http://172.31.94.125:3000

Note that the development build is not optimized.
To create a production build, use npm run build.

webpack compiled successfully
```

i-07a70e7d65217d706 (frontend_server002)
PublicIPs: 44.204.154.64 PrivateIPs: 172.31.94.125



frontendServer002 is running on port 80

Step 5: Load Balancer Configuration

Create a target group:

- Include both frontend servers (frontend_server001 and frontend_server002).

Create an Application Load Balancer (ALB):

- Attach the target group.

Verify the ALB DNS name and ensure it routes traffic correctly to the frontend servers.

Access the application via the ALB DNS name.

▼ Details

Load balancer type

Application

Scheme

Internet-facing


Status

✔ Active


Hosted zone


Z35SXDOTRQ7X7K


VPC


[vpc-00cb05b21565275ae](#) 


Availability Zones


[subnet-05c37f01e67e39c98](#)  us-east-1f (use1-az5)

[subnet-03d1526a3103910f0](#)  us-east-1b (use1-az6)

[subnet-0c6d584984b3ba3ac](#)  us-east-1e (use1-az3)

[subnet-004d842af0341cece](#)  us-east-1c (use1-az1)

[subnet-05ae42201ba7fe590](#)  us-east-1a (use1-az4)

[subnet-0dc6855caf36a4d9c](#)  us-east-1d (use1-az2)

Load balancer IP address type

IPv4

Date created

November 29, 2024, 23:00 (UTC+05:30)

Load balancer ARN

[arn:aws:elasticloadbalancing:us-east-1:746669215817:loadbalancer/app/loadbalancer/7f799808635e638d](#)

DNS name

Info

[loadbalancer-1072278344.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com](#) (A Record)

Target-Group

Details

[arn:aws:elasticloadbalancing:us-east-1:746669215817:targetgroup/Target-Group/8a370e35fcfaa5b3](#)

Target type

Instance

IP address type

IPv4

Protocol : Port

HTTP: 80


Load balancer

[None associated](#)

Protocol version

HTTP1

VPC

[vpc-00cb05b21565275ae](#) 

2

Total targets

✔ 0

Healthy

0 Anomalous

✖ 0

Unhealthy

⌚ 2

Unused

⌚ 0

Initial

⌚ 0

Draining

► Distribution of targets by Availability Zone (AZ)


Select values in this table to see corresponding filters applied to the Registered targets table below.

- Targets
- Monitoring
- Health checks
- Attributes
- Tags

Registered targets (2)

Info

Anomaly mitigation: Not applicable




Deregister

Register targets

Target groups route requests to individual registered targets using the protocol and port number specified. Health checks are performed on all registered targets according to the target group's health check settings. Anomaly detection is automatically applied to HTTP/HTTPS target groups with at least 3 healthy targets.

Q Filter targets

< 1 >

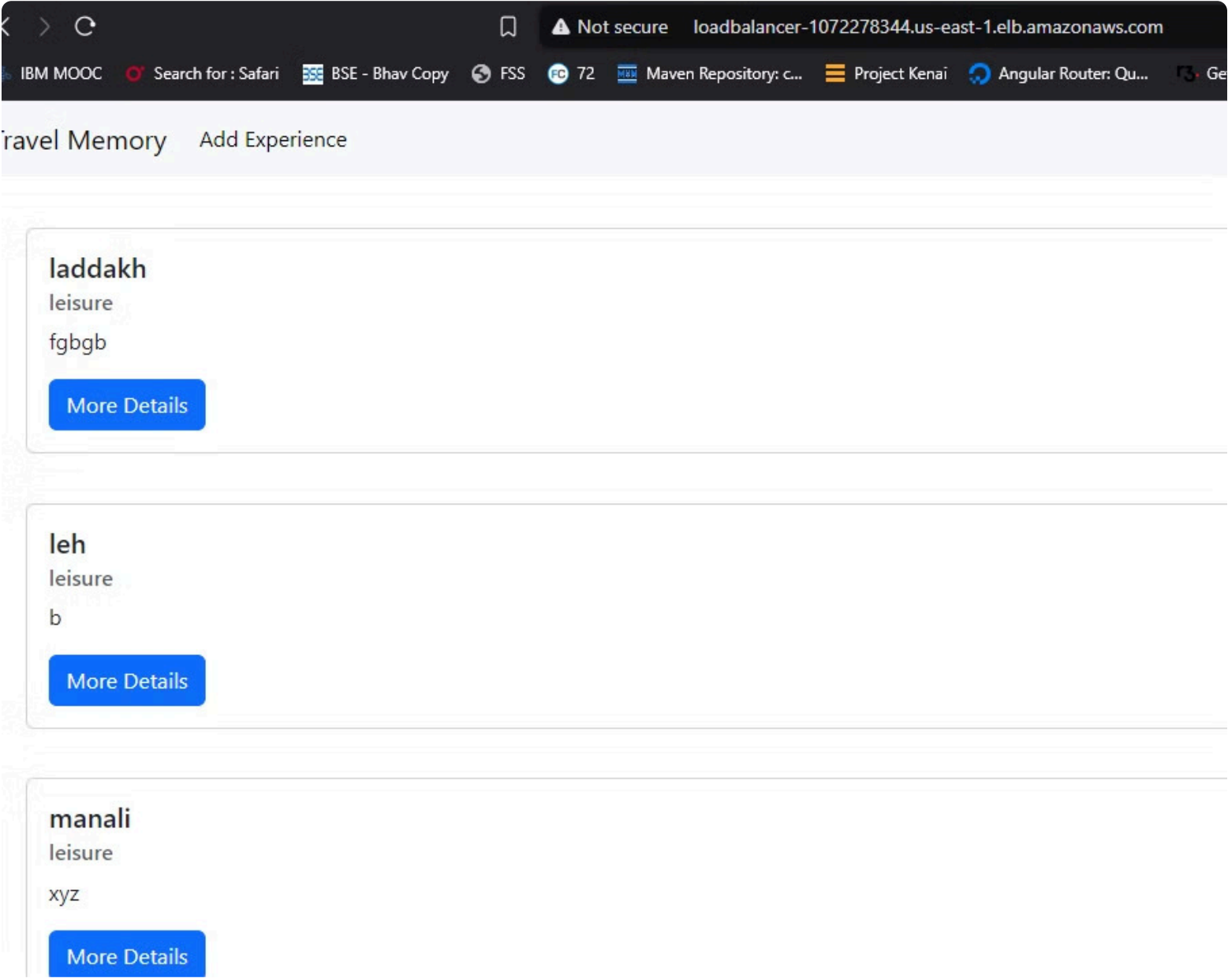


<input type="checkbox"/>	Instance ID	Name	Port	Zone	Health status	Health status details	Admini...	Overri...
<input type="checkbox"/>	i-0036a03c2eb1e7d1e	frontend_serv...	80	us-east-1d (us...	⌚ Unused	Target group is not co...	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/>	i-07a70e7d65217d706	frontend_serv...	80	us-east-1d (us...	⌚ Unused	Target group is not co...	-	-


select both the frontend instances as include pending below on port 80

created a load balancer

DNS — [loadbalancer-1072278344.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com](#)

A screenshot of a web browser window. The address bar shows 'loadbalancer-1072278344.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com' with a 'Not secure' warning. The browser tabs include 'IBM MOOC', 'Search for : Safari', 'BSE - Bhav Copy', 'FSS', '72', 'Maven Repository: c...', 'Project Kenai', and 'Angular Router: Qu...'. The main content area shows a travel website with a header 'Travel Memory' and a button 'Add Experience'. Below this, there are three travel cards. The first card is for 'laddakh' with subtext 'leisure' and 'fgbgb', and a blue 'More Details' button. The second card is for 'leh' with subtext 'leisure' and 'b', and a blue 'More Details' button. The third card is for 'manali' with subtext 'leisure' and 'xyz', and a blue 'More Details' button.

loadbalencer DNS in browser.

 Made with Gamma

Step 6: Cloudflare Integration

1. Update Nameservers

- Replace your domain registrar's nameservers with:
 - `audrey.ns.cloudflare.com`
 - `ignat.ns.cloudflare.com`
- Wait for propagation (up to 24-48 hours).

2. Frontend (CNAME Record):

- Name: `vaanilodha.com`
- Content: `loadbalancer-1072278344.us-east-1.elb.amazonaws.com`
- Proxy Status: **Proxied**

3. Enable Proxying and SSL

- **Proxying:** Ensure both DNS records are set to **Proxied**.
- **SSL:**
 - Go to the **SSL/TLS** tab in Cloudflare.
 - Set the SSL mode to:
 - **Flexible:** If backend/frontend servers don't have SSL.
 - **Full (Strict):** If valid SSL certificates are installed on servers.

4. Verify Domain Setup

- Test frontend: `https://vaanilodha.com`

DNS management for **vaanilodha.com**

Review, add, and edit DNS records. Edits will go into effect once saved.

DNS Setup: Full ⓘ Import and Export ▾ ⚙ Dashboard Display Settings

Search DNS Records

⌵ Add filter

Search

+ Add record

<input type="checkbox"/>	Type ⓘ	Name ⓘ	Content ⓘ	Proxy status ⓘ	TTL ⓘ	Actions
<input type="checkbox"/>	⚠ CNAME	vaanilodha.com	loadbalancer-1072278344.us...	Proxied	Auto	Edit ▶

Cloudflare Nameservers

To use Cloudflare, [change your nameservers](#), or authoritative DNS servers. These are your assigned Cloudflare nameservers.

Type	Value
NS	audrey.ns.cloudflare.com
NS	ignat.ns.cloudflare.com

< > ↺

🔖

⚠ Not secure vaanilodha.com

🔍 IBM MOOC

🔍 Search for : Safari

🔍 BSE - Bhav Copy

🔄 FSS

📶 72

📄 Maven Repository: c...

☰ Project Ke

Travel Memory

Add Experience

laddakh

leisure

fgbgb

More Details

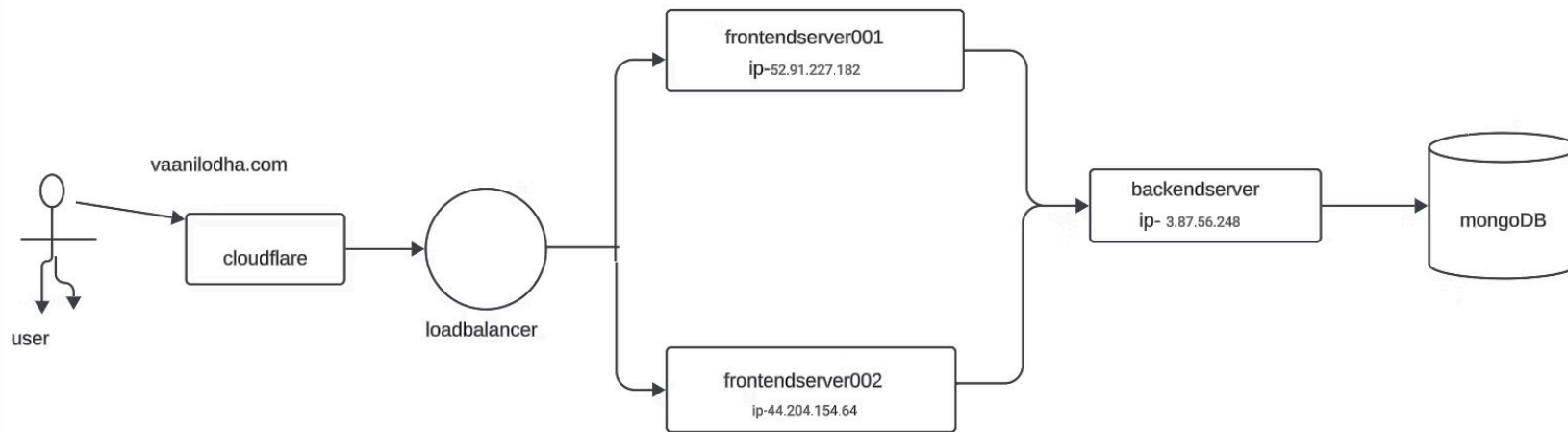
leh

leisure

b

More Details

As you can see my website is working well for frontend.— vaanilodha.com



deployment architecture diagram

Conclusion

This document provides a detailed procedure for deploying the TravelMemory MERN stack application on Amazon EC2 instances. By following these steps, you can successfully configure your backend and frontend servers, implement Nginx reverse proxy, integrate with a load balancer, and secure your application with Cloudflare. With this setup, you can enjoy a robust, scalable, and reliable application architecture for your TravelMemory platform.