

***Task 8 — Working with VPNs***

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## Objective

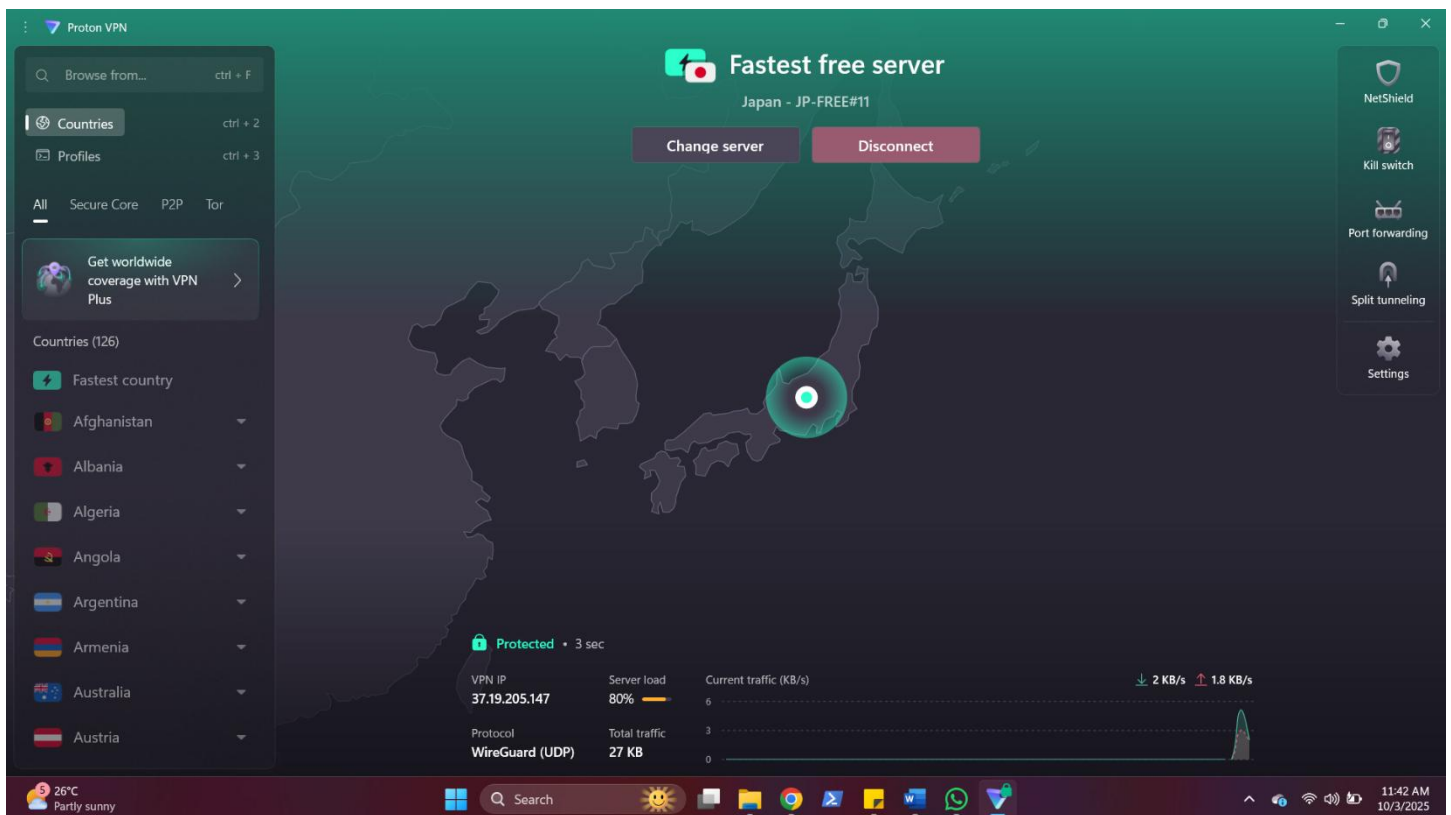
The objective of this task was to gain hands-on experience with a free VPN, understand its role in protecting privacy, encrypting communication, and compare browsing experience with and without a VPN.

## Tools Used

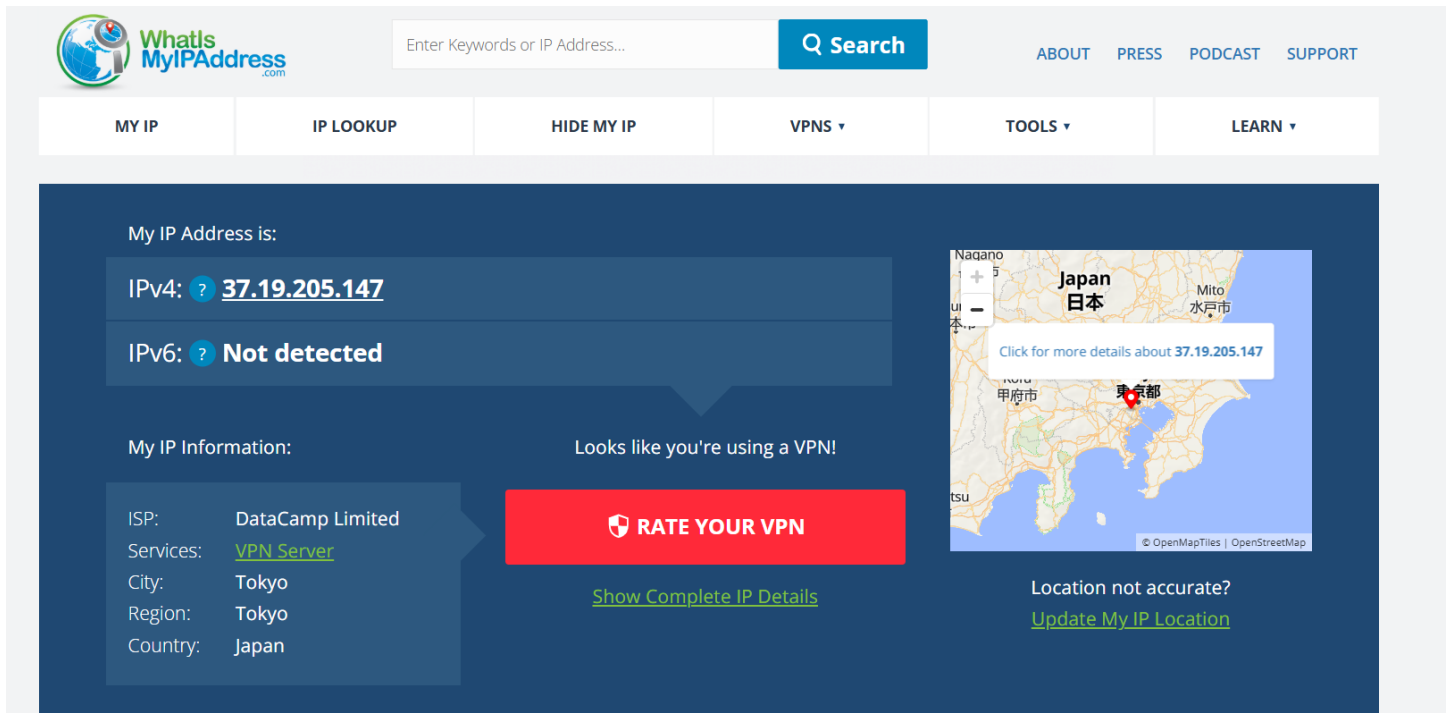
- ProtonVPN (Free Tier) client
- Web browser (Chrome)
- Website for IP verification: <https://whatismyipaddress.com>
- Optional: speed test website (fast.com or speedtest.net)

## VPN Setup Steps

1. Created a free ProtonVPN account.
2. Installed ProtonVPN client on my system.
3. Launched the app and connected to a FREE server (server: Japan).



4. Verified that my public IP changed using whatismyipaddress.com.



The screenshot shows the homepage of whatismyipaddress.com. The header includes the logo, a search bar, and navigation links: ABOUT, PRESS, PODCAST, SUPPORT. Below the header is a menu with links: MY IP, IP LOOKUP, HIDE MY IP, VPNs, TOOLS, and LEARN. The main content area displays the user's IP address as 37.19.205.147 (IPv4) and 'Not detected' (IPv6). It also shows IP information: ISP: DataCamp Limited, Services: VPN Server, City: Tokyo, Region: Tokyo, Country: Japan. A red button labeled 'RATE YOUR VPN' is prominent. A map of Japan shows the location near Tokyo. A message states 'Looks like you're using a VPN!'. A link 'Show Complete IP Details' is visible. A location accuracy notice suggests updating the IP location.

My IP Address is:

IPv4: **37.19.205.147**

IPv6: **Not detected**

My IP Information:

ISP: DataCamp Limited

Services: [VPN Server](#)

City: Tokyo

Region: Tokyo

Country: Japan

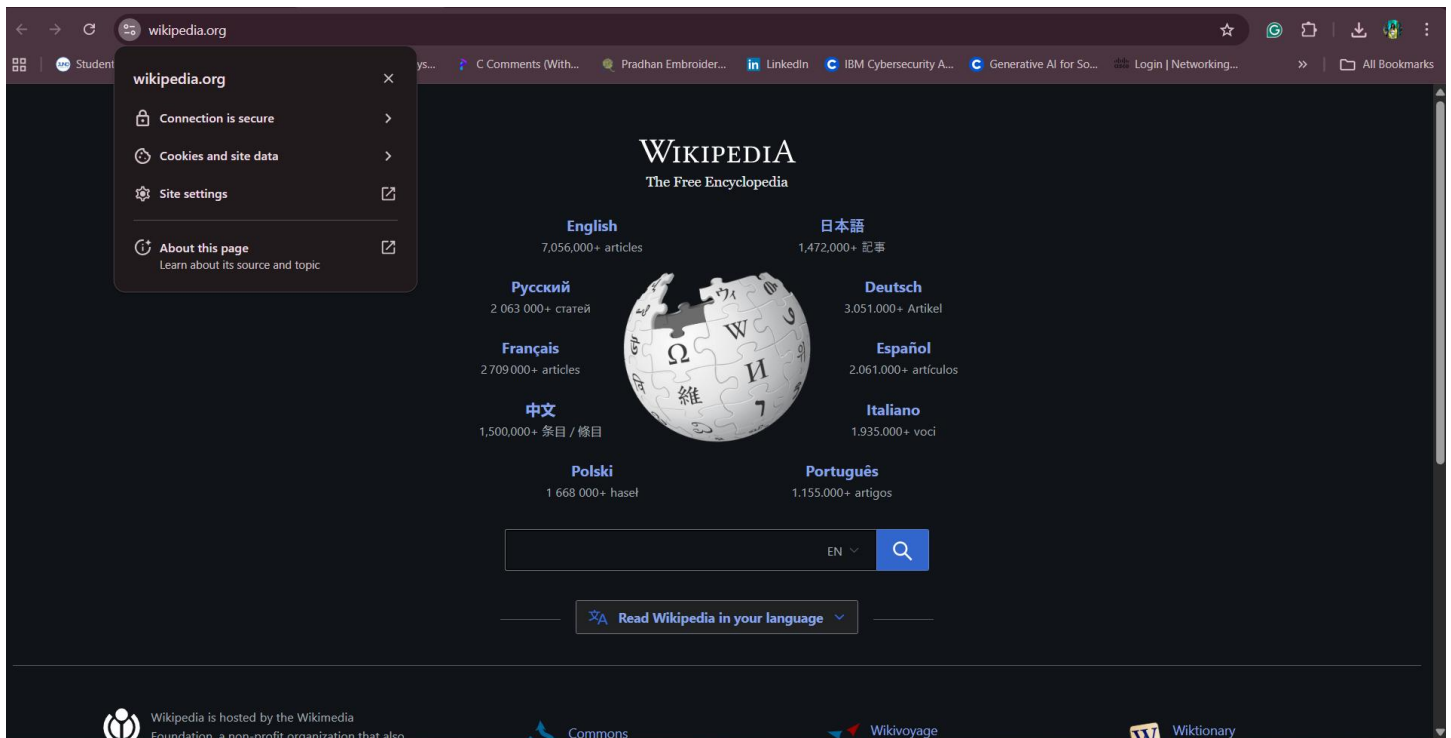
Looks like you're using a VPN!

[RATE YOUR VPN](#)

[Show Complete IP Details](#)

Location not accurate?  
[Update My IP Location](#)

5. Browsed HTTPS websites to confirm secure traffic.



The screenshot shows the Wikipedia.org homepage. The browser's address bar displays 'wikipedia.org'. A security overlay on the left indicates 'Connection is secure', 'Cookies and site data', 'Site settings', and 'About this page'. The main content area features the Wikipedia logo and 'The Free Encyclopedia'. It lists various language editions with article counts: English (7,056,000+ articles), 日本語 (1,472,000+ 記事), Русский (2,063,000+ статей), Deutsch (3,051,000+ Artikel), Français (2,709,000+ articles), Español (2,061,000+ artículos), 中文 (1,500,000+ 条目 / 條目), Italiano (1,935,000+ voci), Polski (1,668,000+ hasel), and Português (1,155,000+ artigos). A search bar is visible. At the bottom, there are links to Commons, Wikivoyage, and Wiktionary.

wikipedia.org

Connection is secure

Cookies and site data

Site settings

About this page

Learn about its source and topic

WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

English  
7,056,000+ articles

日本語  
1,472,000+ 記事

Русский  
2,063,000+ статей

Deutsch  
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EN

Read Wikipedia in your language

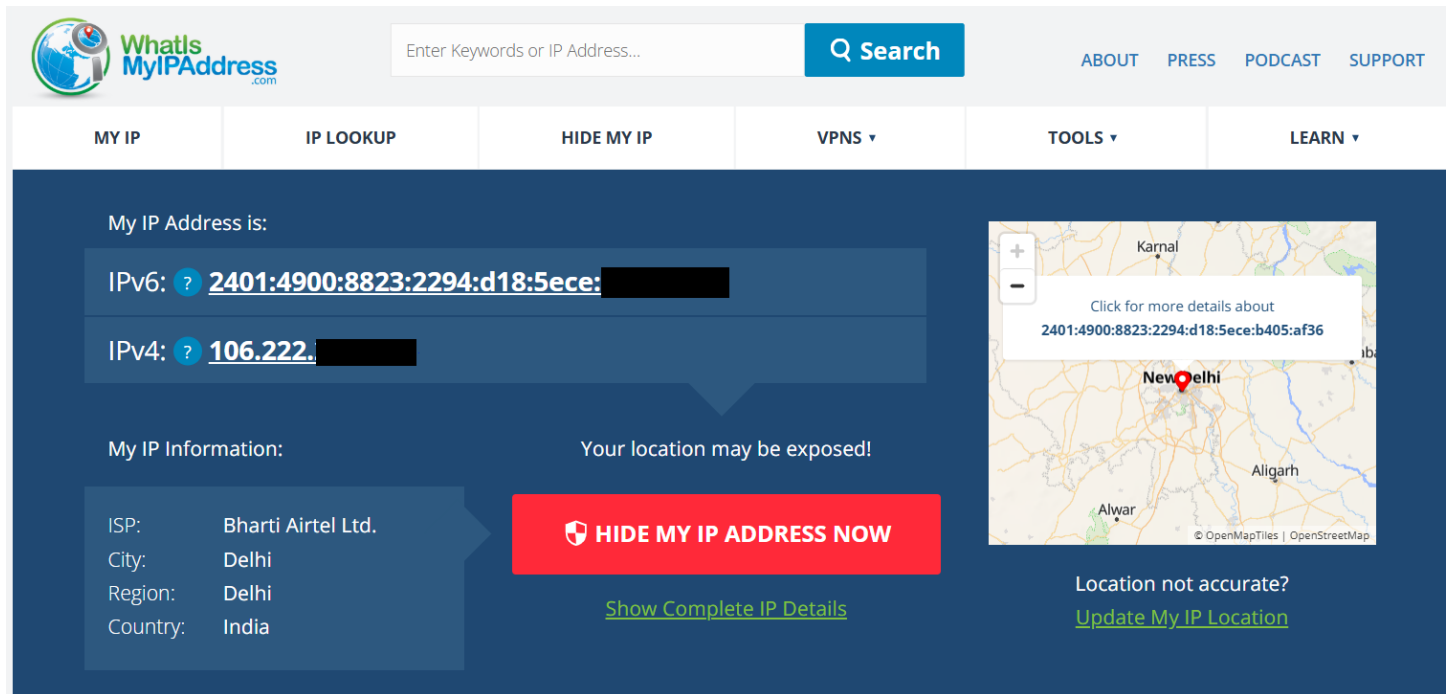
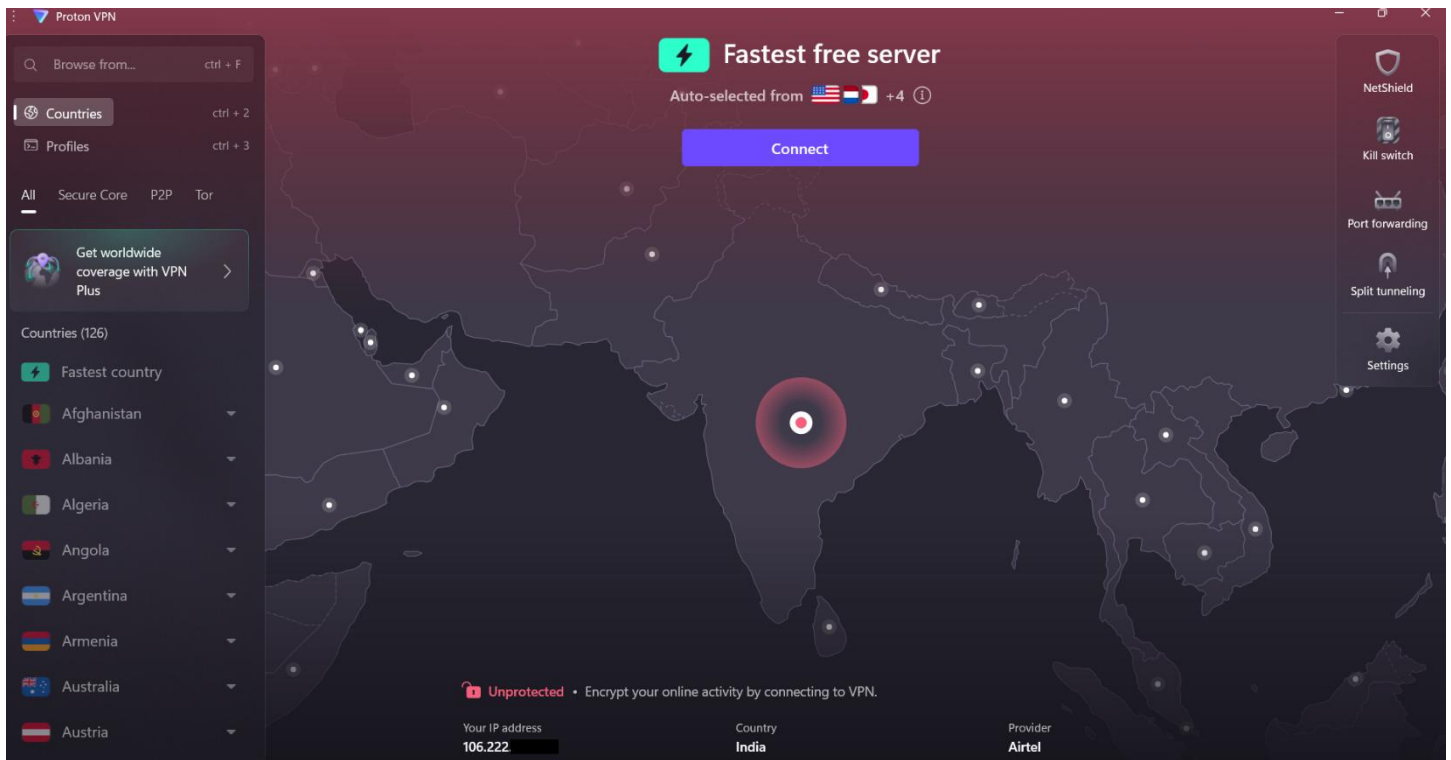
Wikipedia is hosted by the Wikimedia Foundation, a non-profit organization that also

Commons

Wikivoyage

Wiktionary

## 6. Disconnected VPN and verified original IP returned.



## Observations

- VPN successfully masked my real IP while connected.
- Browsing worked normally — secure HTTPS sites loaded fine.
- Disconnecting VPN instantly restored my original IP.
- Slight slowdown in browsing observed when VPN was active.

## Benefits of VPN

- Encrypts internet traffic, protecting from ISPs and hackers.
- Masks IP, improving privacy.
- Useful on public WiFi for secure connections.
- Can bypass geo-blocks or censorship.

## Limitations of VPN

- Slightly slower speeds due to encryption and routing.
- Free VPNs may have limited server options.
- VPN does not guarantee complete anonymity.
- Dependence on trust in VPN provider.