

Free Scalyr Alternatives – API & LangGraph Integration Review

This document reviews three free alternatives to Scalyr — Splunk Free, Graylog, and Papertrail — with a focus on their APIs and ease of integration with a LangGraph agent for log search functionality.

1. Splunk Free

Splunk Free provides up to 500MB/day ingestion. It offers a comprehensive REST API and SDKs for Python, Java, and JavaScript. This makes it easy to integrate with LangGraph for sending SPL queries and parsing JSON responses. **Pros:** Excellent API, SDK support, strong ecosystem.

Cons: 500MB/day cap; no alerts, clustering, or role-based access.

LangGraph Fit: Very good for prototyping small-scale agents; not scalable for production.

2. Graylog (Community Edition)

Graylog is an open-source log management system that stores data in Elasticsearch and exposes a REST API. Its community edition has no ingestion caps and supports Elasticsearch-style queries.

Pros: No ingestion cap, flexible queries, JSON output.

Cons: Requires self-hosting and setup effort.

LangGraph Fit: Excellent long-term choice for agent integration; best for teams comfortable managing infra.

3. Papertrail

Papertrail provides a REST API for log searching and filtering. Its free plan allows 50MB/month ingestion with 7-day retention. **Pros:** Very easy API; cloud-hosted, simple setup.

Cons: 50MB/month and 7-day retention severely limit scale.

LangGraph Fit: Good for small demos and prototypes; unsuitable for production-scale logging.

Comparison Summary

Tool	API Quality	Ease of Agent Integration	Free Tier Limits	Hosting
Splunk Free	Excellent (REST + SDKs)	Easy (SPL queries)	500MB/day	Cloud/Self
Graylog	Very good (REST + ES)	Easy (JSON queries)	Unlimited (Community)	Self-ho
Papertrail	Good (REST)	Very Easy	50MB/month, 7-day retention	Cloud

Recommendation:

- For ease of setup and demos: Papertrail.
- For open-source, no ingestion cap: Graylog Community.
- For enterprise-grade APIs and SDKs: Splunk Free (limited by ingestion).