

# Ethereum

Ethereum is a decentralized, open-source blockchain network with [Turing-complete](#) smart contract functionality. Ether (ETH) is the native cryptocurrency.

Use Ethereum to build apps and organizations, hold assets, transact, and communicate without being controlled by a central authority. Ethereum uses the [Proof of Stake \(PoS\)](#) consensus mechanism.

Infura provides access to the [Ethereum JSON-RPC API](#) method library that interacts with the Ethereum blockchain. Methods include functionality for reading and writing data to the network, and executing smart contracts.

See also The [official Ethereum documentation](#) for more information. [## Quickstart Learn how to quickly connect and make calls to the Ethereum network.](#) [## JSON-RPC APIs View the APIs available for communicating with the Ethereum network.](#) [## Create an API key Learn how to create an API key and secure and share it with your team.](#)

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