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Deploy FastAPI app on Google Cloud Platform

Navule Pavan Kumar Rao (https://tutlinks.com/author/windson/)

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October 11, 2022 | 📛 16 mins read

In this tutorial we will see how to deploy a FastAPI app on GCP *App Engine*. The tutorial will give a detailed walk through on how to create an app on Google Cloud Platform and deploy a FastAPI application implemented in python. By the end of tutorial you will learn how to deploy FastAPI app on Google Cloud Platform.



Deploy a FastAPI app on Google Cloud App Engine – TutLinks

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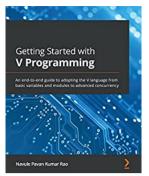
Delete the Project

Video Tutorial

Prerequisites

- Internet
- Google Cloud Platform account with Activated Billing account.

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YAML Configuration to deploy FastAPI on Google App Engine

Google Cloud Platform allows App Engine to perform deployment based on a configuration defined in a yaml file. For us to host the FastAPI on Google App Engine, the yaml configuration needs to have the following configuration.

runtime: python37
entrypoint: gunicorn -w 4 -k uvicorn.workers.UvicornWorker main:app

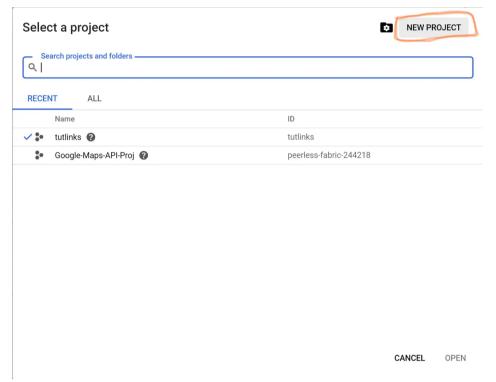
Our repository has a file *app.yaml* at the root of the FastAPI project, that has the above specified yaml configuration to help deploy FastAPI to App Engine.

Project Setup

Login to Google Cloud Platform with the activated billing account.

Create a New Project on Google Cloud Platform

Ensure to create a new project in GCP. For the new project being created, give Project name, Project ID, Billing account and click Create.



Deploy FastAPI on GCP: Click New Project Button on GCP – TutLinks

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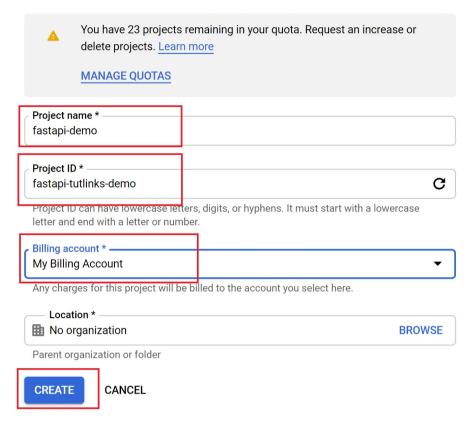
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New Project



Deploy FastAPI on GCP: Create New Project on Google Cloud Platform – TutLinks

Activate Cloud Shell



Locate and click on the Activate Cloud Shell icon (having text >_) that is available in the top right of the logged in Google Cloud Platform home page.

Clone Hello World FastAPI Repository from GitHub

The sample python based hello world FastAPI app is hosted on github repository. Type the following command in the Cloud Shell to clone the FastAPI repository on to GCP.

git clone -b fastapi-deploy-google-cloud-platform https://github.com/windson/fastapi.git

To learn more about the hello world app implemented using FastAPI, you can go through the detailed tutorial here (https://tutlinks.com/create-and-deploy-fastapi-app-to-heroku/).

Set the current working directory to fastapi by typing the following command.



Create the virtual environment

Create the <u>virtual environment (https://tutlinks.com/virtual-environments-in-python-for-beginners)</u> named *env* by typing the following command in cloud shell.

virtualenv env

Activate the virtual environment

Activate the virtual environment by typing the following command in cloud shell.

source env/bin/activate

Install Requirements for FastAPI

The project related libraries are located in *requirements.txt*. To install all the modules in one go, run the following command.

pip install -r requirements.txt

Preview FastAPI app on GCP App Engine

We will first do sanity and check if any issues we have running the app on Google App Engine. For that we will perform preview mode deployment of FastAPI. The preview deployment mode is not the standard and is just to double check and troubleshoot application deployment.

Run the FastAPI app via Google Cloud Shell

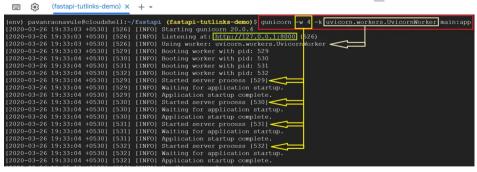
In the Google Cloud Shell, execute the following command to run the hello world Flask app

gunicorn -w 4 -k uvicorn.workers.UvicornWorker main:app

- gunicorn is the WSGI server to which we are configuring our application to run on, with the following configuration.
- -w 4 indicates that we need our application to run on gunicorn with four worker processes.
- -k uvicorn.workers.UvicornWorker tells the gunicorn to run the application using uvicorn.workers.UvicornWorker worker class.
- main:app is our module main where our FastAPI() app is initialized.

You can also specify the host and port. But GCP will automatically figure them out and no extra configuration is needed for this demo.

Understanding the output emitted by gunicorn command execution



 ${\tt Deploy}\ {\tt FastAPI}\ {\tt on}\ {\tt GCP:}\ {\tt Understanding}\ {\tt the}\ {\tt output}\ {\tt emitted}\ {\tt by}\ {\tt gunicorn}\ {\tt command}\ {\tt execution}\ -\ {\tt TutLinks}$

We will understand output emitted by the execution of the aforementioned Gunicorn command.

Notice that the Gunicorn version 20.0.4 server is started as a first step of execution. This version of Gunicorn is same as the available version mentioned in requirements.txt of our repository.

In the second line that says *Listening at: http://127.0.0.1:8000* indicates that our FastAPI app is running on localhost on port 8000 of the app engine.

Also we can notice that our FastAPI app has been spun up on the four worker processes having PIDs 529, 530, 531, 532. You may notice different PIDs based on the availability.

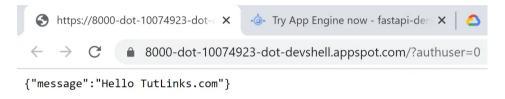
Preview the running app in GCP

To see everything works fine, lets preview our hello world FastAPI app and see if it is running properly.



Deploy FastAPI on GCP: Preview the running app in GCP - TutLinks

For preview, click on Preview button at the top right of the cloud shell as shown. Select change port and choose 8000 as our port on which our app can be previewed. We are choosing 8000 because our app is listening at http://127.0.0.1:8000/.



Deploy FastAPI on GCP: Preview the running app output in GCP – TutLinks

Now you will be taken to a new window where the page shows {"message":"Hello TutLinks.com"}

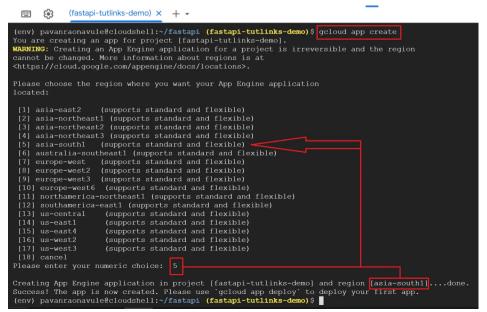
Deploying FastAPI application on App Engine

To deploy the FastAPI app on App Engine and access it via a custom domain or default your-projid.appspot.com, we need to create gcloud app and deploy our app.

Create App on GCP

In the cloud shell, type the following command to create the app.

gcloud app create



You will be prompted to select the region. It is always a best practice to choose the region nearest to the geographical location where the consumers access this application. Doing so is expected increase the response times from our application.

Deploy FastAPI app on GCP App Engine

GCP App Engine requires all the deployment configuration to be defined in a yaml file. Our repository has already has a yaml file named app.yaml that has the deployment configuration defined. Run the following command in Google Cloud Shell to deploy the FastAPI app to Google App Engine.

gcloud app deploy app.yaml

You will be prompted to continue. Press Y and hit enter to proceed with the deployment.

Deploy FastAPI on GCP: Deploy FastAPI app on GCP App Engine – TutLinks

Optionally you can also explicitly mention the project argument to the deployment command to be sure to mention the project where the app needs to be deployed using the following command.

gcloud app deploy app.yaml --project fastapi-tutlinks-demo

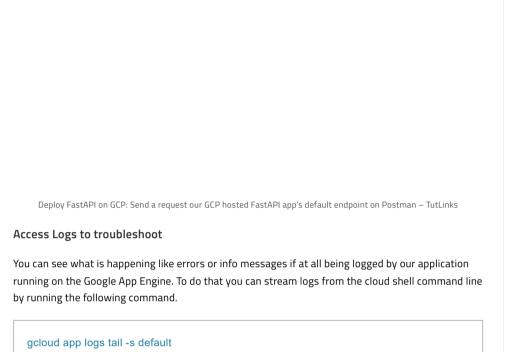
You must replace the fastapi-tutlinks-demo with the respective project id of the project you are working with in the above command.

Browse the FastAPI deployed on GCP App Engine

Generally your app is deployed on the url that has the following format. your-project-id.appspot.com. In case you are not sure what the project id is, then type the following command to view your application in the web browser.

gcloud app browse

For testing we will send a request to the default endpoint via postman.



Delete the Project

Once you are done with the deployment you may want to delete if you no longer need this project. For that navigate to IAM & Admin -> Settings -> SHUT DOWN (tab)

Key in the Project ID and hit SHUT DOWN button. The billing will be stopped effective immediately and the project will be deleted after 30 days.

Deploy FastAPI on GCP: Delete the Project – TutLinks

Congratulations , you have mastered how to deploy a hello world FastAPI app on Google Cloud Platform using App Engine. The full source code of the FastAPI app deployed to Google Cloud is available on GitHub (https://github.com/windson/fastapi/tree/fastapi-deploy-google-cloud-platform).

Video Tutorial

The video tutorial (https://bit.ly/3g0VwFE) covers very basic details like

- · Creating a project in GCP,
- Accessing the Cloud shell,
- Clone the repository on to Cloud Shell VM,
- Do a Sanity hosting of the FastAPI on Cloud Shell VM and explain about worker processes
- Create an App Engine
- Deploy FastAPI on to App Engine
- · Check Logs of App Engine
- Clean up and Shutdown Project once practiced the tutorial.

Deploy FastAPI Python app to Google Cloud Platform on Google App Engine



Deploy FastAPI Python app to Google Cloud Platform on Google App Engine – TutLinks

Bookmark ៧ (Ctrl + D) this page as a quick reference on how to deploy FastAPI app on Google Cloud Platform.

Check these resources to deploy FastAPI on On Premises and other Cloud Platforms

- Deploy FastAPI app to Heroku (https://tutlinks.com/create-and-deploy-fastapi-app-to-heroku/)
- Deploy FastAPI on Ubuntu and Serve using Caddy 2 Web Server (https://tutlinks.com/deployfastapi-on-ubuntu-gunicorn-caddy-2/)
- Deploy FastAPI on Azure App Service (https://tutlinks.com/deploy-fastapi-on-azure/)

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I am a Full Stack Software Engineer with the Product Development experience in Banking, Finance, Corporate Tax and Automobile domains. I use SOLID Programming Principles and Design Patterns and Architect Software Solutions that scale using C#, .NET, Python, PHP and TDD. I am an expert in deployment of the Software Applications to Cloud Platforms such as Azure, GCP and non cloud On-Premise Infrastructures using shell scripts that become a part of CI/CD. I pursued Executive M.Tech in Data Science from IIT, Hyderabad (Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad) and hold B.Tech in Electonics and Communications Engineering from Vaagdevi Institute of Technology & Science.

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