

MERN deployment on AWS Cloud

Project Description:

The project is to deploy a Travel Memory application using the MERN stack (MongoDB, Express.js, React and Node.js) on AWS EC2 instances using different Application Load Balancers for frontend and backend services, and storing the data in the Mongo Database ensuring scalable architecture

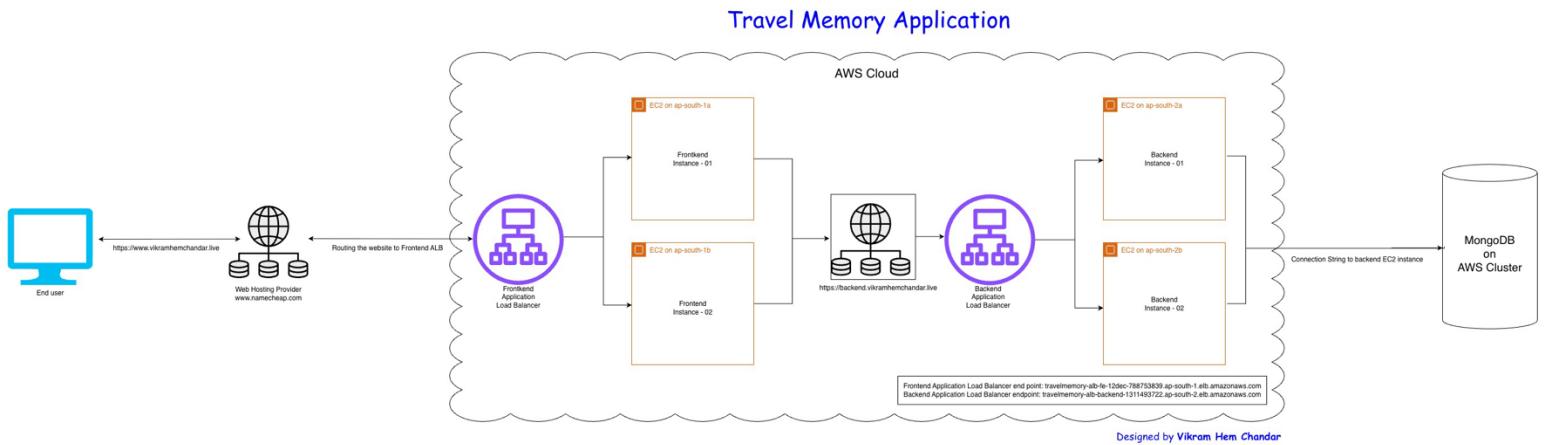
Requirements:

1. Mongo DB Connection String
2. VPC with 2 public and 2 private subnets
3. AMI instance with prerequisites applications installed
4. Two EC2 instances for backend and two EC2 instances for frontend
5. Target Group and Application Load Balancer for Backend and Frontend
6. A domain name to host the website on internet

Steps:

1. Backend configuration
 - Configure backend with two EC2 instances
 - Create a .env file to incorporate database connection details and port information
 - Deploy the backend service and test with individual EC2 instances
 - Create a certificate for backend using AWS Certificate Manager
 - Create an Application Load balancer with backend EC2 instances
 - Configure the CNAME record to link backend load balancer endpoint [DNS]
2. Configure frontend with two EC2 instances
 - Update url.js to ensure the front end communicates effectively with the backend
 - Deploy the frontend and test with individual EC2 instances
 - Create a certificate for frontend using AWS Certificate Manager
 - Create an Application Load Balancer for frontend EC2 instances
 - Configure the CNAME record to link frontend load balancer end point [DNS]
3. Domain Configuration
4. Application Testing

Architecture of Travel Memory Application



Go to <https://github.com/vikramhemchandar/draw.io> to reuse the diagram

Backend Configuration:

1. Create a separate VPC dedicated for this deployment (not mandatory)
2. Create an EC2 instance
 - OS: Ubuntu
 - t3.micro
 - network: select created VPC
 - subnet: public subnet
 - auto-assign public IP: Enable
 - Security group: SSH, HTTP, HTTPS, Port 3000 and 3001 enabled

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 'Launch an instance' wizard. The steps are as follows:

- Name and tags:** Instance name is 'TravelMemory_Backend_01'. Tags include 'Name: TravelMemory_Backend_01'.
- Application and OS Images (Amazon Machine Image):** Selected AMI is 'Ubuntu Server 24.04 LTS (HVM), SSD Volume Type' (ami-02b269d5e85954ef).
- Instance type:** Selected 't3.micro'.
- Key pair (login):** Key pair 'vikramhemchandar_ubuntu' is selected.
- Network settings:** VPC selected is 'vpc-02a03585a3c42f999 (TravelMemory-vpc)'. Subnet selected is 'subnet-02a03585a3c42f999'. Firewall security group allows traffic on ports 3000 and 3001.
- Configure storage:** Root volume is 8 GiB gp3, encrypted.
- Advanced details:** 'Click here to view backup information' and 'File systems' sections.

The right side of the screen shows the 'Summary' section with 1 instance selected, and detailed configurations for the instance, including its security group allowing SSH, HTTP, and HTTPS traffic on ports 3000 and 3001.

3. Installing applications / packages and setting up reverse proxy using nginx EC2 instance before

Run the below unix commands:

To update and upgrade the OS packages

```
➤ sudo apt update && apt upgrade -y
```

Install nginx

```
➤ sudo apt install nginx -y
➤ sudo systemctl start nginx
➤ sudo systemctl enable nginx
```

Set reverse proxy for individual instance and update the script for filename - default and path - /etc/nginx/sites-available

```
➤ cd /etc/nginx/sites-available
➤ sudo nano default
➤ cat default
```

```
server {
    listen 80;
    server_name vikramhemchandar.live www.vikramhemchandar.live;
```

```
location / {
    proxy_pass http://127.0.0.1:3001;
    proxy_http_version 1.1;

    # Preserve client + original host info
    proxy_set_header Host      $host;
    proxy_set_header X-Real-IP  $remote_addr;
    proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-For $proxy_add_x_forwarded_for;
    proxy_set_header X-Forwarded-Proto $scheme;

    # Good defaults
    proxy_connect_timeout 10s;
    proxy_send_timeout   60s;
    proxy_read_timeout   60s;
}
```

Install NodeJS

- curl -fsSL https://deb.nodesource.com/setup_22.x | sudo -E bash -
- sudo apt install -y nodejs

Note: npm should be installed but it is path specific, hence, we will install for every EC2 instance respectively

Cloning the code from GitHub repository

- git clone <https://github.com/UnpredictablePrashant/TravelMemory>

Create a .env file to incorporate database connection details and port information

- nano .env
- sudo nginx -t
- sudo systemctl reload nginx
- cat .env

MONGO_URI='mongodb+srv://vikram_DB:xxxxxxxxxx@vikramhemchandar.rtgw4
pn.mongodb.net/travelmemory'

PORT=3001

4. Create an AMI image

Create an AMI image by navigating on EC2 Instance -> Actions -> Image and templates -> Create image

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 'Create image' configuration page. On the left, a navigation sidebar lists various EC2 services like Instances, Images, and Network & Security. The main form is titled 'Create image' and includes the following fields:

- Instance ID:** i-000c465d820571542 (TravelMemory-Backend-ALB-11Dec-03)
- Image name:** TravelMemory
- Image description - optional:** Image for Travel Memory which will be used for both FRONTEND and BACKEND services
- Reboot instance:** A checked checkbox with a note: "When selected, Amazon EC2 reboots the instance so that data is at rest when snapshots of the attached volumes are taken. This ensures data consistency."
- Instance volumes:** A table showing one volume configuration:

Storage type	Device	Snapshot	Size	Volume type	IOPS	Throughput	Delete on termination	Encrypted
EBS	/dev...	Create new snapshot f...	8	EBS General Purpose S...	3000		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enable	<input type="checkbox"/> Enable
- Tags - optional:** Two radio button options:
 - Tag image and snapshots together: "Tag the image and the snapshots with the same tag."
 - Tag image and snapshots separately: "Tag the image and the snapshots with different tags."
- Add new tag:** A button to add more tags.

At the bottom right are 'Cancel' and 'Create image' buttons.

5. Create 3 EC2 instances from the AMI image (in total 4 - 2 for BE and 2 for FE)

NOTE: For now, create only EC2 instance for another backend server, so, total 2 EC2 instances

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 'Launch an instance' wizard. The top navigation bar includes 'Console Home', 'EC2', 'SS', 'IAM', 'VPC', and 'Lambda'. The account ID is 4476-5762-3308, and the region is Asia Pacific (Hyderabad). The main page has a message: 'It seems like you may be new to launching Instances in EC2. Take a walkthrough to learn about EC2, how to launch instances and about best practices'. Buttons for 'Take a walkthrough' and 'Do not show me this message again.' are present.

Launch an instance

Amazon EC2 allows you to create virtual machines, or instances, that run on the AWS Cloud. Quickly get started by following the simple steps below.

Name and tags

Name: TravelMemory_Backend_02 [Add additional tags](#)

Application and OS Images (Amazon Machine Image)

An AMI contains the operating system, application server, and applications for your instance. If you don't see a suitable AMI below, use the search field or choose [Browse more AMIs](#).

Search: Search our full catalog including 1000s of application and OS images

Recent AMIs: My AMIs (selected), Shared with me, Quick Start

Owned by me (radio button selected) Shared with me [Browse more AMIs](#)

Amazon Machine Image (AMI)

TravelMemory_Backend_04
ami-0d57fa17a473873de
2025-12-08T10:57:10.000Z Virtualization: hvm ENA enabled: true Root device type: ebs Boot mode: uefi-preferred

Description

AMI Images for backend server 04

Architecture x86_64 **AMI ID** ami-0d57fa17a473873de

Instance type

t3.micro
Family: t3 2 vCPU 1 GiB Memory Current generation: true On-Demand RHEL base pricing: 0.04 USD per Hour
On-Demand Windows base pricing: 0.0204 USD per Hour On-Demand Ubuntu Pro base pricing: 0.0147 USD per Hour
On-Demand Linux base pricing: 0.0112 USD per Hour On-Demand SUSE base pricing: 0.0112 USD per Hour

All generations Compare instance types

Key pair (login)

You can use a key pair to securely connect to your instance. Ensure that you have access to the selected key pair before you launch the instance.

Key pair name - required: hyd_ubuntu_vikramhemchandar [Create new key pair](#)

Network settings

VPC - required

vpc-07b826132f2e34ee6 (TravelMemory_Backend_VPC) 10.0.0.0/16

Subnet

subnet-0cb492a29bc52780 project-subnet-public1-ap-south-2a
VPC: vpc-07b826132f2e34ee6 Owner: 447657623308 Availability Zone: ap-south-2a (aps2-az1)
Zone type: Availability Zone IP addresses available: 4088 CIDR: 10.0.0.0/20

Auto-assign public IP [Info](#)

Enable

Firewall (security groups) [Info](#)

A security group is a set of firewall rules that control the traffic for your instance. Add rules to allow specific traffic to reach your instance.

Create new security group Select existing security group

Common security groups

Cancel [Launch instance](#) [Preview code](#)

6. Install npm for 2 backend instances and start the backend server

- cd TravelMemory/backend
- sudo npm install

Verify NodeJS and npm versions

- node -v
- npm -v

start the backend server

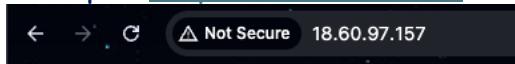
- node index.js

The expected message - Server started at <http://localhost:3001>

7. Verify backend server

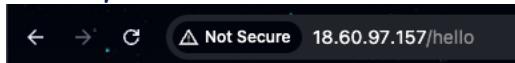
To verify the back server, copy the public IP of two instances and paste it in any browser. And note, port number is not required as we have configured reverse proxy

Example: <http://18.60.97.157/> and you should see below message -



Cannot GET /

When you enter `/hello` to the above IP address, you should see Hello World

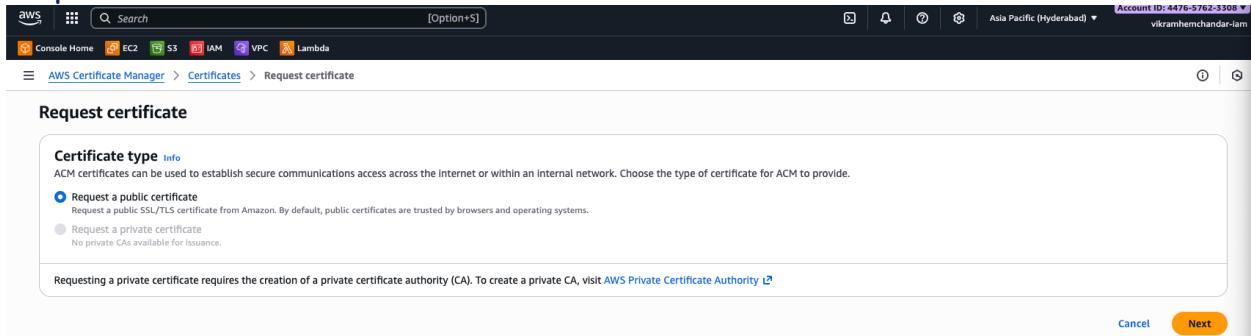


Hello World! - 02

8. Create a certificate on ACM (AWS Certificate Manager) with your domain name

Note - there should a domain registered in any web hosting provider

On AWS, search ACM → go to certificate manager → Request and follow the below steps



In Request public certificate page,

- Enter the below details:
 - Domain names: full qualified domain name
 - Once filled click on Request

Example as shown below screenshot

The screenshot shows the 'Request public certificate' page in the AWS Certificate Manager. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for AWS Home, EC2, S3, IAM, VPC, and Lambda. The main title is 'Request public certificate'. Below it, there are several sections:

- Domain names**: A section for entering domain names. It includes a note: "Provide one or more domain names for your certificate." A "Fully qualified domain name" input field contains "backend.vikramhemchandar.live". A link "Add another name to this certificate" is available.
- Allow export**: A section with two options: "Disable export" (selected) and "Enable export". The "Disable export" option notes: "Use this certificate only with integrated AWS services. The private key for this certificate will be disallowed for exporting from AWS." The "Enable export" option notes: "Export this certificate and private key for use with any TLS workflow. ACM will charge your account based on the requested domains when the certificate is issued for the first time and for each renewal."
- Validation method**: A section with two options: "DNS validation - recommended" (selected) and "Email validation". The "DNS validation" note says: "Choose this option if you are authorized to modify the DNS configuration for the domains in your certificate request." The "Email validation" note says: "Choose this option if you do not have permission or cannot obtain permission to modify the DNS configuration for the domains in your certificate request."
- Key algorithm**: A section with three options: "RSA 2048" (selected), "ECDSA P 256", and "ECDSA P 384". The "RSA 2048" note says: "RSA is the most widely used key type." The "ECDSA P 256" note says: "Equivalent in cryptographic strength to RSA 3072." The "ECDSA P 384" note says: "Equivalent in cryptographic strength to RSA 7680."
- Tags**: A section with a note: "No tags associated with the resource." A "Add new tag" button is available.

At the bottom right, there are three buttons: "Cancel", "Previous", and "Request".

It will navigate to a page where it will have CNAME name and CNAME value as shown below

Certificate status

Identifier: b921127b-61d0-4df4-b3e8-40ea62904569

ARN: arn:aws:acm:ap-south-2:447657623308:certificate/b921127b-61d0-4df4-b3e8-40ea62904569

Type: Amazon Issued

Status: Pending validation

Domains (1)

Domain	Status	Renewal status	Type	CNAME name	CNAME value
backend.vikramhemchandar.live	Pending validation	-	CNAME	_751d28eeb7fdc65c3692abf184a53884.backend.vikramhemchandar.live	_cbf299e03ab324b1fab706b60f767485.jkddztszm.validations.aws.

Details

In use	No	Serial number	N/A	Requested at	December 14, 2025, 00:41:41 (UTC+05:30)	Renewal eligibility	Ineligible
Domain name	backend.vikramhemchandar.live	Public key info	RSA 2048	Issued at	N/A	Export option	Disabled
Number of additional names	0	Signature algorithm	SHA-256 with RSA	Not before	N/A		
Can be used with CloudFront, Elastic Load Balancing, API Gateway and other integrated services.				Not after	N/A		

Tags (0)

Add CNAME name and CNAME value in your web hosting provider as CNAME record

vikramhemchandar.live

Advanced DNS

DNS TEMPLATES

HOST RECORDS

Type	Host	Value	TTL
CNAME Record	@	TravelMemory-ALB-FE-12Dec-788753839.ap-south-1.e...	Automatic
CNAME Record	_751d28eeb7fdc...	_cbf299e03ab324b1fab706b60f767485.jkddztszm.ac...	Automatic
CNAME Record	_9a1daed03a04...	_e5cba88bb7f9a788a99861c1716aef53.jkddztszm.ac...	Automatic
CNAME Record	backend	TravelMemory-ALB-Backend-1311493722.ap-south-2.el...	Automatic
CNAME Record	www	vikramhemchandar.live.	Automatic
CNAME Record	_751d28eeb7fdc65c:	_e03ab324b1fab706b60f767485.jkddztszm.acm-validations.aws.	Automatic

ADD NEW RECORD **SAVE ALL CHANGES**

Wait for some time, ACM should show a message as issued for the certificate

The screenshot shows the AWS Certificate Manager (ACM) console. A message at the top says "Certificate successfully issued". Below it, a table lists the certificate details:

Identifier	Status
b921127b-61d0-4df4-b3e8-40ea62904569	Issued

Below the table, there's a section for "Domains (1)" with a table:

Domain	Status	Renewal status	Type	CNAME name	CNAME value
backend.vikramhemchandar.live	Success	-	CNAME	_751d28eeb7fdc65c3692abf184a53884.backend.vikramhemchandar.live	_cbf299e03ab324b1fab706b60f767485.jkddztsz validations.aws

Under "Details", there are several sections with specific values:

- In use: No
- Serial number: 09:2c:7b:18:8f:e2:dd:3d:5d:35:0d:63:de:73:96:ef
- Requested at: December 14, 2025, 00:41:41 (UTC+05:30)
- Renewal eligibility: Ineligible
- Domain name: backend.vikramhemchandar.live
- Public key info: RSA 2048
- Issued at: December 14, 2025, 00:42:00 (UTC+05:30)
- Export option: Disabled
- Number of additional names: 0
- Signature algorithm: SHA-256 with RSA
- Not before: December 13, 2025, 05:30:00 (UTC+05:30)
- Not after: January 12, 2027, 05:29:59 (UTC+05:30)
- Can be used with: CloudFront, Elastic Load Balancing, API Gateway and other integrated services.

Under "Tags (0)", it says "No tags associated with this resource."

9. Create Target Group (with HTTP) and Application Load Balancer (with HTTPS) protocol and test the Load balancer

Create Target Groups, Navigate to EC2 -> Load Balancing -> Target Groups

Under Create target group page, select:

- Target Type: instances
- Target group name: TravelMemory-TG-Backend
- Protocol: HTTP
- Port: 80
- IP Address: IPv4
- VPC: <Select appropriate VPC>
- Protocol version: HTTP1
- Health checks: HTTP
- Click Next
- Under register targets page, select:
 - Available instance: <select the two backend instances created>
 - Click *Include as pending below*
 - Make sure the ports should be 80
 - Click on Next

In Review and create (final) page, click *Create target group*

aws Search [Option+S]

Console Home EC2 S3 IAM VPC Lambda

Step 1 **Create target group**
 Step 2 - recommended
 Register targets
 Step 3
 Review and create

Create target group

A target group can be made up of one or more targets. Your load balancer routes requests to the targets in a target group and performs health checks on the targets.

Settings - immutable

Choose a target type and the load balancer and listener will route traffic to your target. These settings can't be modified after target group creation.

Target type
 Indicate what resource type you want to target. Only the selected resource type can be registered to this target group.

Instances
 Supports load balancing instances in a VPC. Integrate with Auto Scaling Groups or ECS services for automatic management.
 Suitable for: **ALB NLB GWLB**

IP addresses
 Supports load balancing to VPC and on-premises resources. Facilitates routing to IP addresses and network interfaces on the same instance. Supports IPv6 targets.
 Suitable for: **ALB NLB GWLB**

Lambda function
 Supports load balancing to a single Lambda function. ALB required as traffic source.
 Suitable for: **ALB**

Application Load Balancer
 Allows use of static IP addresses and PrivateLink with an Application Load Balancer. NLB required as traffic source.
 Suitable for: **NLB**

Target group name
 Name must be unique per Region per AWS account.
TravelMemory-TargetGroup-Backend
 Accepts: a-z, A-Z, 0-9, and hyphen (-). Can't begin or end with hyphen. 1-32 total characters; Count: 32/32

Protocol
 Protocol for communication between the load balancer and targets.
HTTP Port number where targets receive traffic. Can be overridden for individual targets during registration.
80 1-65535

IP address type
 Only targets with the indicated IP address type can be registered to this target group.

IPv4
 Each instance has a default network interface (eth0) that is assigned the primary private IPv4 address. The instance's primary private IPv4 address is the one that will be applied to the target.

IPv6
 Each instance you register must have an assigned primary IPv6 address. This is configured on the instance's default network interface (eth0). [Learn more](#)

VPC
 Select the VPC with the instances that you want to include in the target group. Only VPCs that support the IP address type selected above are available in this list.
vpc-07b826132f2e34ee6 (TravelMemory_Backend_VPC) 10.0.0.0/16 [Create VPC](#)

Protocol version
 HTTP1
 Send requests to targets using HTTP/1.1. Supported when the request protocol is HTTP/1.1 or HTTP/2.

HTTP2
 Send requests to targets using HTTP/2. Supported when the request protocol is HTTP/2 or gRPC, but gRPC-specific features are not available.

gRPC
 Send requests to targets using gRPC. Supported when the request protocol is gRPC.

Health checks

The associated load balancer periodically sends requests, per the settings below, to the registered targets to test their status.

Health check protocol **HTTP**

Health check path
 Use the default path of "/" to perform health checks on the root, or specify a custom path if preferred.
/ Up to 1024 characters allowed.

Advanced health check settings

Target optimizer - optional

Use a target control port when the target has a strict concurrency limit.

Target control port
 The port on which the target communicates its capacity. This value can't be modified after target group creation.
Enter target control port
 Valid range: 1-65535

Attributes

Attributes
 Certain default attributes will be applied to your target group. You can view and edit them after creating the target group.

Tags - optional

Consider adding tags to your target group. Tags enable you to categorize your AWS resources so you can more easily manage them.

[Cancel](#) **Next**

Step 1
 Create target group
 Step 2 - recommended
 Register targets
 Step 3
 Review and create

Register targets - recommended

This is an optional step to create a target group. However, to ensure that your load balancer routes traffic to this target group you must register your targets.

Available instances (2/2)

Instance ID	Name	State	Security groups	Zone
I-000c465d820571542	TravelMemory-Backend-ALB-1...	Running	SSH, HTTP, HTTPS	ap-south-2a
I-046cdab2fc2b3f4af	TravelMemory-Backend-ALB-1...	Running	SSH, HTTP, HTTPS	ap-south-2b

Ports for the selected Instances
Ports for routing traffic to the selected instances.

1-65535 (separate multiple ports with commas)

Review targets

Targets (0)

Instance ID	Name	Port	State	Security groups	Zone	Private IPv4 address	Subnet ID	Launch time
-------------	------	------	-------	-----------------	------	----------------------	-----------	-------------

No instances added yet
Specify instances above, or leave the group empty if you prefer to add targets later.

0 pending

Cancel Previous Next

Step 1
 Create target group
 Step 2 - recommended
 Register targets
 Step 3
 Review and create

Review and create

Review your target group configuration before creating

Step 1: Target group details

Target group details

Name TravelMemory-TargetGroup-Backend	Target type Instance	Protocol : Port HTTP: 80	Protocol version HTTP1
VPC vpc-07b26132f2e34ee6	IP address type IPv4		

Health check details

Health check protocol HTTP	Health check path /	Health check port traffic-port	Interval 30 seconds
Timeout 5 seconds	Healthy threshold 5	Unhealthy threshold 2	Success codes 200

Step 2: Register targets

Targets (2)

Instance ID	Name	Port	Zone
I-000c465d820571542	TravelMemory-Backend-ALB-11Dec-03	80	ap-south-2a
I-046cdab2fc2b3f4af	TravelMemory-Backend-ALB-11Dec-04	80	ap-south-2b

Cancel Previous Create target group

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 Target Groups console. On the left, there's a navigation sidebar with links like 'Console Home', 'EC2', 'S3', 'IAM', 'VPC', and 'Lambda'. The main area is titled 'TravelMemory-TargetGroup-Backend' and displays the following details:

- Details:** Target type: Instance; Protocol: Port; Port: HTTP: 80; Protocol version: HTTP1; VPC: vpc-07b826132f2e34ee6.
- Targets:** Total targets: 2. Status distribution: 0 Healthy, 0 Unhealthy, 2 Unused, 0 Initial, 0 Draining.
- Registered targets (2):**

Instance ID	Name	Port	Zone	Health status	Health status details
I-000c465d820571542	TravelMemory-Backend-ALB-11Dec-03	80	ap-south-2a (a...)	Unused	Target group is not co...
I-046cdab2fc2b3f4af	TravelMemory-Backend-ALB-11Dec-04	80	ap-south-2b (a...)	Unused	Target group is not co...

Create Load Balancer, navigate to EC2 → Load Balancing → Load Balancers

Select Application Load Balancer as type and click on *create*

Under Create Application Load Balancer page, select:

- Load Balancer Name: <Appropriate name>
- Scheme: Internet-facing
- Load Balancer IP address: IPv4
- VPC: <select appropriate VPC>
- Security Groups: <select appropriate security groups>
- Under Listeners and routing:
 - Protocol: HTTPS
 - Port: 443
- Under Default action:
 - Routing action: Forward to target groups
 - Target group: <select recently created target group>
- Under Default SSL/TLS server certificate:
 - Certificate source: From ACM
 - Certificate (from ACM): <select the certificate which is created>
- Click on Create load balancer

Note: wait for at least 2-3 minutes to get the status from provisioning to Active

Testing Load Balancer:

- Once the ALB is active, copy the dns and paste it any browser. Prefix with <https://> and suffix with /hello to the dns url and you should see Hello World
- Add CNAME to web hosting provider: Add the dns (backend endpoint) in your name as –

- Type: CNAME
- Host: backend
- Value: dns (without prefix and suffix)

Type	Host	Value	TTL
CNAME Record	@	TravelMemory-ALB-FE-12Dec-788753839.ap-south-1.e...	Automatic
CNAME Record	_751d28eef7dc...	_cbf299e03ab324b1fab706b60f767485.jkddzztszm.ac...	Automatic
CNAME Record	_9a1daed03a04...	_e5cba88bb7f9a788a99861c1716aef53.jkddzztszm.ac...	Automatic
CNAME Record	backend	nory-ALB-Backend-1311493722.ap-south-2.elb.amazonaws.com	Automatic
CNAME Record	www	vikramhemchandar.live.	Automatic

Now, backend should be accessible at <https://backend.vikramhemchandar.live>

Frontend Configuration:

1. Configure 2 frontend EC2 instances (from the above AMI)

- OS: Ubuntu
- My AMIs: <select appropriate AMI>
- network: select created VPC
- subnet: public subnet
- auto-assign public IP: Enable
- Security group: SSH, HTTP, HTTPS, Port 3000 and 3001 enabled

Note: Wait for 3-4 minutes for AMI to install the applications and configure the EC2: nginx, reverse proxy, node, GitHub clone repository

The screenshot shows the AWS EC2 'Launch an instance' wizard. The process is at step 1 of 5, titled 'Configure Instance Details'. The configuration is set for two instances.

Name and tags: The name is 'TravelMemory-Frontend-Instance02'. There is a field for 'Add additional tags'.

Application and OS Images (Amazon Machine Image): The selected AMI is 'TravelMemory_AMI_Frontend_04' (ami-0c285ef5869eb25). A search bar and tabs for 'Recent', 'My AMIs' (selected), and 'Quick Start' are shown. A link to 'Browse more AMIs' is available.

Amazon Machine Image (AMI) details: The AMI is 'TravelMemory_AMI_Frontend_04' (ami-0c285ef5869eb25), released on 2025-12-08T11:27:04Z, with various details like Virtualization type, ENA support, and Boot mode.

Instance type: The instance type is 't3.micro'. A dropdown shows 'All generations' and a link to 'Compare instance types'. Additional costs apply for AMIs with pre-installed software.

Key pair (login): The key pair is 'vikramhemchandar_ubuntu'.

Network settings: The VPC is 'vpc-02403585a585a4242999 (TravelMemory-vpc)' (id: vpc-02403585a585a4242999). Subnet is 'subnet-024054d0b13532d066 (TravelMemory-subnet-public-1-ap-south-1a)' (id: subnet-024054d0b13532d066). Auto-assign public IP is 'Enable'. Firewall security groups include 'Create security group' and 'Select existing security group' (selected).

Advanced network configuration: Common security groups are selected, and a note states that security groups can be added or removed.

Configure storage: Root volume is 8 GB gp3, encrypted. A note says no instance store volumes are allowed. An 'Add new volume' button is present.

Advanced details: A note about backup information and file systems is shown.

Summary: Shows 1 instance. Summary table includes Software Image (AMI), Virtual server type (t3.micro), Firewall (SSH, HTTP, HTTPS Port 3000 3001), Storage (1 volume(s) - 8 GB), and Network (Subnet, VPC, Security Groups).

Buttons: 'Cancel', 'Launch instance' (highlighted in orange), and 'Preview code'.

2. Configure URL.js for frontend to connect to the backend service

Copy the backend URL and navigate to /TravelMemory/frontend/src and edit the file url.js and paste the URL

- nano url.js
- cat url.js

```
export const baseUrl = process.env.REACT_APP_BACKEND_URL ||  
"https://backend.vikramhemchandar.live";
```

3. Install npm for 2 frontend instances and start the backend server

- cd TravelMemory/frontend
- sudo npm install

Verify NodeJS and npm versions

- node -v
- npm -v

start the frontend server

- npm start

this should start the node webserver

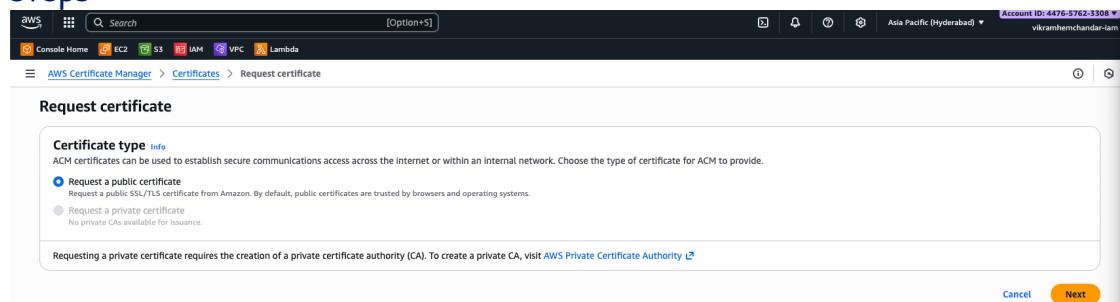
Test the individual frontend servers:

- Copy the public IP servers of each and paste it in any browser and test the application
- Enter a travel memory detail in this page for the all the fields and submit it, it should save in the database

4. Create a certificate on ACM (AWS Certificate Manager) with your domain name

Note - there should a domain registered in any web hosting provider. For screenshots refer Step 8 in backend configuration

On AWS, search ACM → go to certificate manager → Request and follow the below steps



In Request public certificate page,

- Enter the below details:
 - Domain names: full qualified domain name
 - Once filled click on Request
- It will navigate to a page where it will have CNAME name and CNAME value
- Add CNAME name and CNAME value in your web hosting provider as CNAME record
- Wait for some time, ACM should show a message as issued for the certificate

5. Create Target Group (with HTTP) and Application Load Balancer (with HTTPS) protocol and test the Load balancer

Create Target Groups, Navigate to EC2 -> Load Balancing -> Target Groups

Under Create target group page, select:

- Target Type: instances
- Target group name: TravelMemory-TG-Frontend
- Protocol: HTTP
- Port: 80
- IP Address: IPv4
- VPC: <Select appropriate VPC>
- Protocol version: HTTP1
- Health checks: HTTP
- Click Next
- Under register targets page, select:
 - Available instance: <select the two backend instances created>
- Click Include as pending below
- Make sure the ports should be 80
- Click on Next

In Review and create (final) page, click *Create target group*

Create Load Balancer, navigate to EC2 -> Load Balancing -> Load Balancers

Select Application Load Balancer as type and click on *create*

Under Create Application Load Balancer page, select:

- Load Balancer Name: <Appropriate name>
- Scheme: Internet-facing
- Load Balancer IP address: IPv4
- VPC: <select appropriate VPC>
- Security Groups: <select appropriate security groups>

- Under Listeners and routing:
 - Protocol: HTTPS
 - Port: 443
- Under Default action:
 - Routing action: Forward to target groups
 - Target group: <select recently created target group>
- Under Default SSL/TLS server certificate:
 - Certificate source: From ACM
 - Certificate (from ACM): <select the certificate which is created>
- Click on Create load balancer

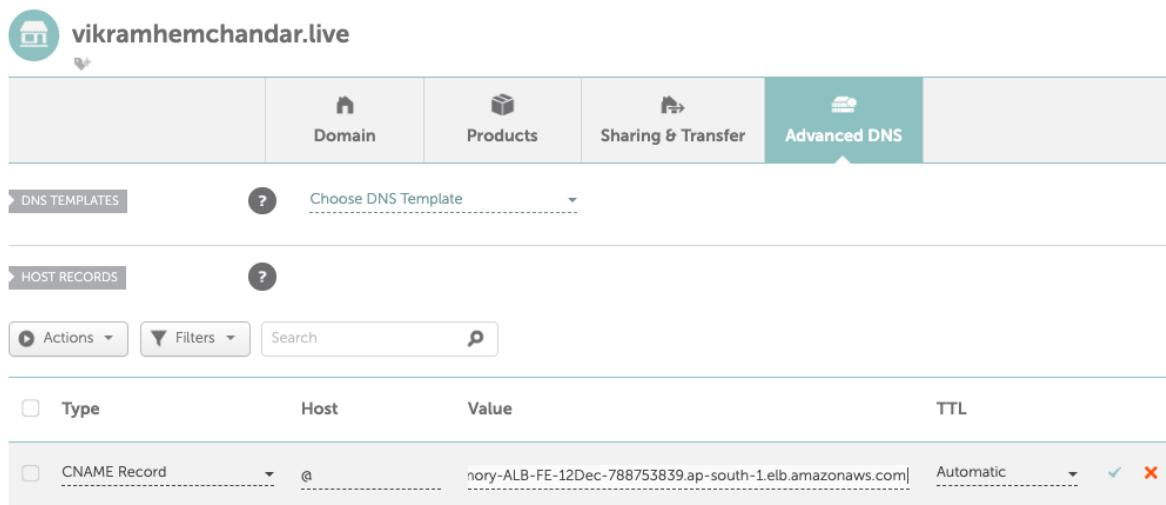
Note: wait for at least 2-3 minutes till it gets provisioning to Active status

Testing Load Balancer:

- Once the ALB is active, copy the dns and paste it any browser. Prefix with https:// to the dns url and you should see Travel Memory application

Add CNAME to web hosting provider: Add the dns (frontend endpoint) in your name as -

- Type: CNAME
- Host: @
- Value: dns (without prefix and suffix)



The screenshot shows a web-based DNS management interface for a domain named "vikramhemchandar.live". The top navigation bar includes links for Domain, Products, Sharing & Transfer, and Advanced DNS (which is highlighted). Below the navigation, there are sections for DNS TEMPLATES and HOST RECORDS. In the HOST RECORDS section, there are buttons for Actions, Filters, and Search. A table lists a single CNAME record with the following details:

Type	Host	Value	TTL
CNAME Record	@	emory-ALB-FE-12Dec-788753839.ap-south-1.elb.amazonaws.com	Automatic

Domain Configuration:

⇒ Add CNAME records for the domain

Add the below records:

- CNAME Record:
 - Type: CNAME
 - Host: www
 - Value: vikramhemchandar.live

In total, there should be 5 CNAME entries for this project:

1. Domain - host: www and value: vikramhemchandar.live
2. Backend certificate: Step 8 in Backend configuration (for backend.vikramhemchandar.live)
3. Frontend certificate: Step 4 in Frontend configuration (for www.vikramhemchandar.live)
4. Backend DNS endpoint entry
5. Frontend DNS endpoint entry

Tip - if you need to configure IP address for a single instance, create A record and provide the IP Address of EC2 in Value column

Type	Host	Value	TTL	Action
CNAME Record	@	TravelMemory-ALB-FE-12Dec-788753839.ap-south-1.e...	Automatic	
CNAME Record	_751d28eef7fdc...	_cbf299e03ab324b1fab706b60f767485.jkddzztszm.ac...	Automatic	
CNAME Record	_9a1daed03a04...	_e5cba88bb7f9a788a99861c1716aef53.jkddzztszm.ac...	Automatic	
CNAME Record	backend	TravelMemory-ALB-Backend-1311493722.ap-south-2.el...	Automatic	
CNAME Record	www	vikramhemchandar.live.	Automatic	

Application Testing:

- Open the application at <https://www.vikramhemchandar.live>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [vikramhemchandar.live](https://www.vikramhemchandar.live). The page title is "Travel Memory Add Experience - 01". A card displays information about a trip to "Malaysia" with a category "leisure" and a note "Very well developed city". A blue "More Details" button is visible.

- Click on Add Experience and add your travel memory and submit it

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL [vikramhemchandar.live](https://www.vikramhemchandar.live). The page title is "Travel Memory Add Experience - 01". The form fields include:

- Trip Name: Bali
- Trip Date: 12/14/2024 - 12/16/2024
- Name of Hotels: Swiss Beleexpress Kuta Legian
- Trip Type: Leisure (selected)
- Total Cost: 150000
- Places Visited: Kuta, Nuda Penida Island, Ubud, Kuta, Nuda Penida Island, Ubud,
- Featured Trip?:
 - True
 - False
- Image Link: https://static.wixstatic.com/media/063168_08ee8bed4cc74ecc9a2bb20266bef334~mv2.png/v1/fill/w_980,h_1307,al_c,q_90,usm_0.66_1.00_0.01,enc_avif,q_90
- Short Description: It is a great place, Food is really good. Very close to Indian tradition.
- Experience: Wonderful experience with lovely people. Almost like India with friendly nature. One will enjoy beautiful mountains, beaches.

A blue "Submit" button is located at the bottom of the form.

- Go to Travel memory on top left, you should see your travel memory entry added in the list. Here, it is Bali.

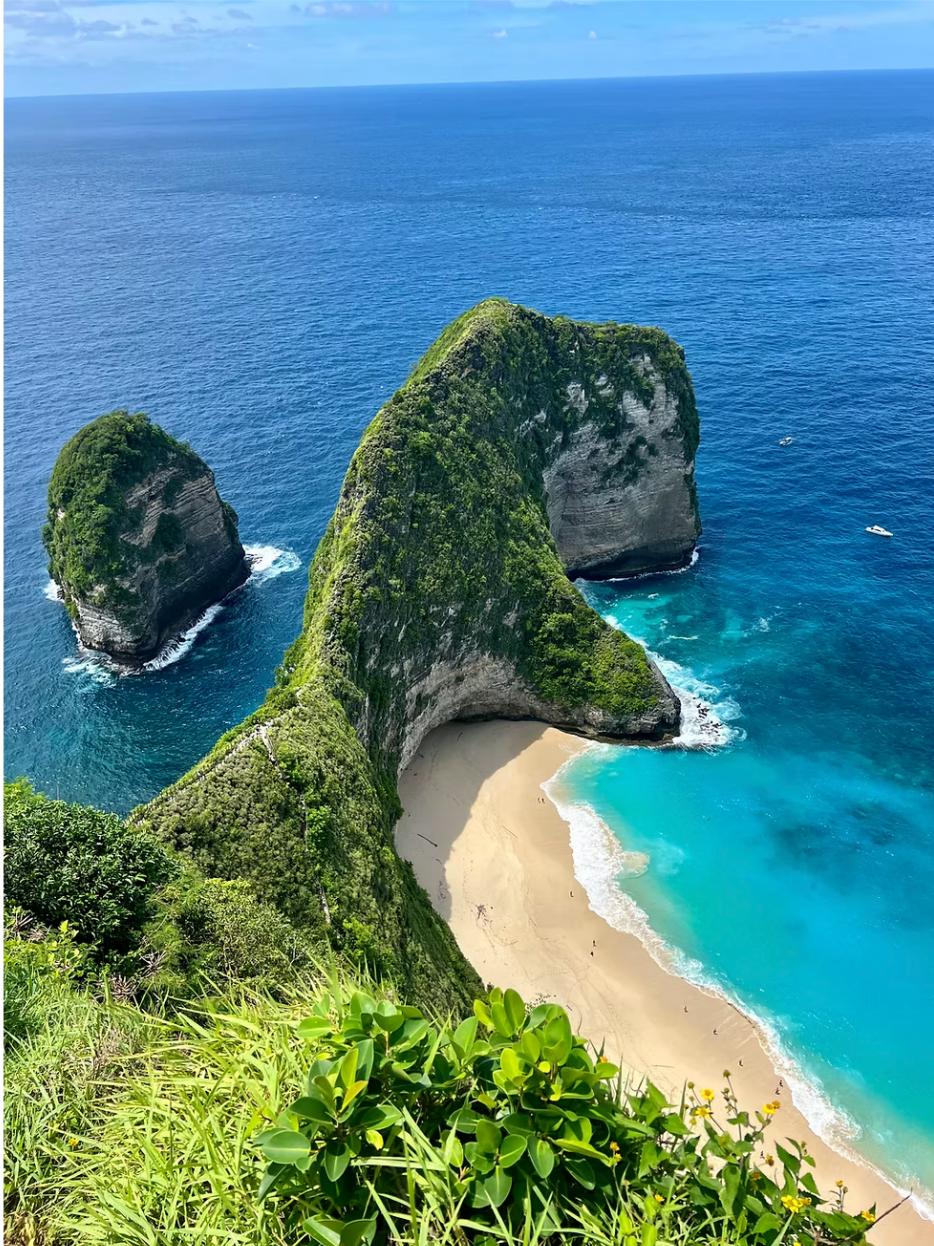
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following details:

- Title Bar:** Vikram Hem Chandar - AWS Mern Deployment - React App
- Page Content:**
 - Malaysia:** leisure
Very well developed city
[More Details](#)
 - Bali:** leisure
It is a great place, Food is really good. Very close to Indian tradition.
[More Details](#)

- Click on more details to see your travel memory details

Travel Memory Add Experience - 01

Bali



Name of Hotel: Swiss Beleexpress Kuta Legian
Start Date: 2024-12-14 End Date: 2024-12-16
Places Visited: Kuta, Nuda Penida Island, Ubud,
Total Cost: 150000
Trip Type: leisure

Wonderful experience with lovely people. Almost like India with friendly nature. One will enjoy beautiful mountains, beaches.

- Database records for travel memory entries

```

_id: ObjectId('693d9481140a7a88ede42c22')
tripName : "Malaysia"
startDateOfJourney : "2024-12-23"
endDateOfJourney : "2024-12-25"
nameOfHotels : "Upper View Regalia Hotel"
placesVisited : "Petronas Towers, KL Tower, Genting Island, Little India"
totalCost : 60000
tripType : "leisure"
experience : "wonderful place, beautiful constructions, genting island is a must vis..."
image : "https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/f/f6/The_Twins_SE..."
shortDescription : "Very well developed city"
featured : false
createdAt : 2025-12-13T16:26:02.537+00:00
__v : 0

```

```

_id: ObjectId('693d9a79140a7a88ede42c3c')
tripName : "Bali"
startDateOfJourney : "2024-12-14"
endDateOfJourney : "2024-12-16"
nameOfHotels : "Swiss Beleexpress Kuta Legian"
placesVisited : "Kuta, Nuda Penida Island, Ubud, "
totalCost : 150000
tripType : "leisure"
experience : "Wonderful experience with lovely people. Almost like India with friend..."
image : "https://static.wixstatic.com/media/063168_08ee8bed4cc74ecc9a2bb20266be..."
shortDescription : "It is a great place, Food is really good. Very close to Indian traditi..."
featured : false
createdAt : 2025-12-13T16:26:02.537+00:00
__v : 0

```

=====End of the Document=====