Configuring the OpenWeather API in Postman

This article describes how to obtain an API key for the free version of the OpenWeather API, create a collection for the API in Postman™, and make requests to the API using Postman.

Before You Start

Complete the following actions before proceeding with the steps outlined in this article:

- [Sign up for a free OpenWeather account](#)
- [Sign up for a free Postman account](#)

Step 1: Obtain an OpenWeather API Key

1. Navigate to [openweathermap.org](#) and click **Sign in** to sign into your OpenWeather account.
2. Click the **API keys** tab of your OpenWeather account screen to view your API key (Figure 1). Make note of this key, as you will use it in the procedure described in the next section.
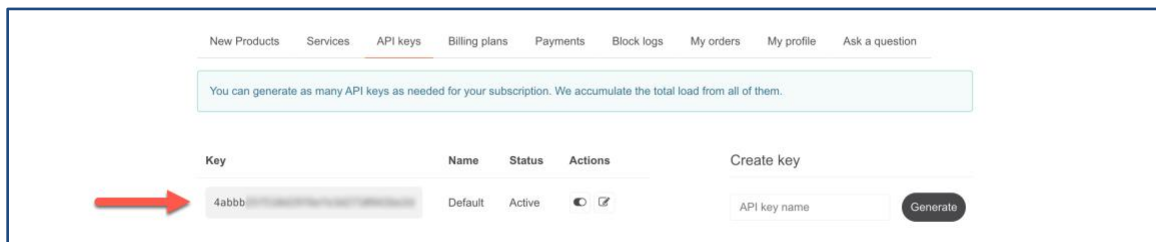

Figure 1

Step 2: Configure the OpenWeather API in Postman as a Collection

1. Navigate to [postman.com](#) and click **Sign In** to sign into your Postman account.
2. Click **Workspaces** at the upper-left corner of the screen and select the Postman workspace in which you want to configure the OpenWeather API.

   > **Note**: If no workspaces exist in your Postman account, or if you want to create a new workspace for the OpenWeather API, click **Create Workspace** to [create a new workspace](#).

3. Click **New** at the upper-right corner on the **Collections** tab of the sidebar (Figure 2). The **Create New** window will be displayed.
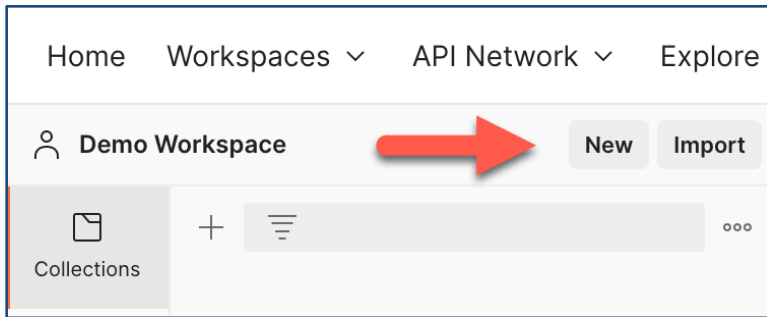
Figure 2

4. On the **Create New** window, select **Collection**. A tab labeled **New Collection** will open in the workbench section of the screen with the **Authentication** subtab selected (Figure 3).
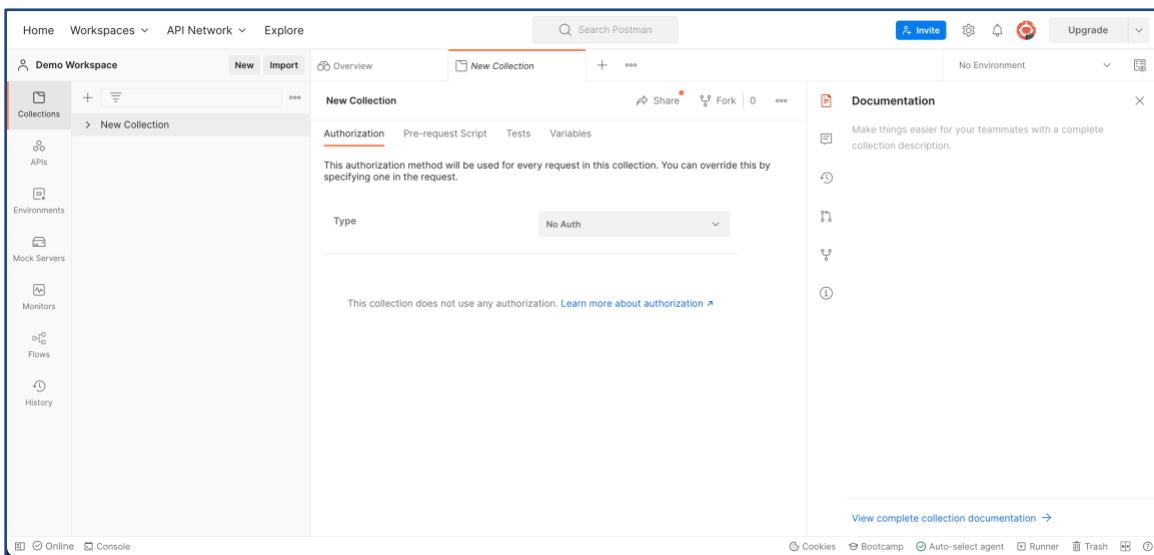

Figure 3

- **Type**: Keep the selection of **No Auth**.

- Click **View more actions** ⚬⚬⚬ at the upper-right corner of the tab and select **Save**.

> **Note**: To edit the collection's name, hover over it at the upper-left corner of the tab and click the **pencil** ✎ icon.

5. Select the **Variables** subtab and configure the following variables (Figure 4). Note that you must specify each variable's value in the **Initial Value** and **Current Value** columns.

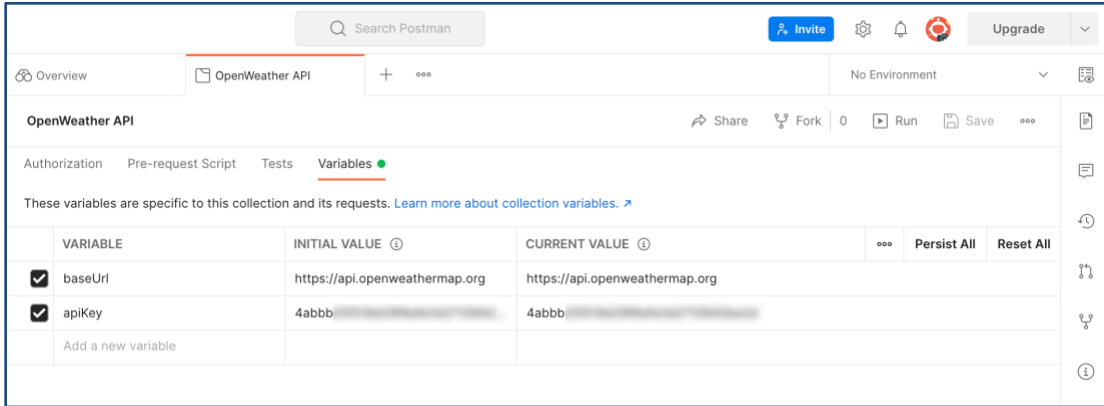| Variable	Value
baseUrl	Enter `https://api.openweathermap.org`.
apiKey	Enter the API key associated with your OpenWeather account.

Figure 4

6. Click **Save** at the upper-right corner of the tab corresponding to the collection you created for the OpenWeather API.

Step 3: Make API Requests in Postman

The example in this section demonstrates how to make two separate API requests in Postman. The first uses the OpenWeather Geocoding API to retrieve the latitude and longitude coordinates for Pittsburgh, PA, and the second uses the OpenWeather Current Weather Data API to retrieve the current weather for Pittsburgh.

Configure a Geocoding API Request

1. Expand the OpenWeather API collection in the sidebar and click **Add a request**. A new tab labeled **GET New Request** will open in the workbench (Figure 5).
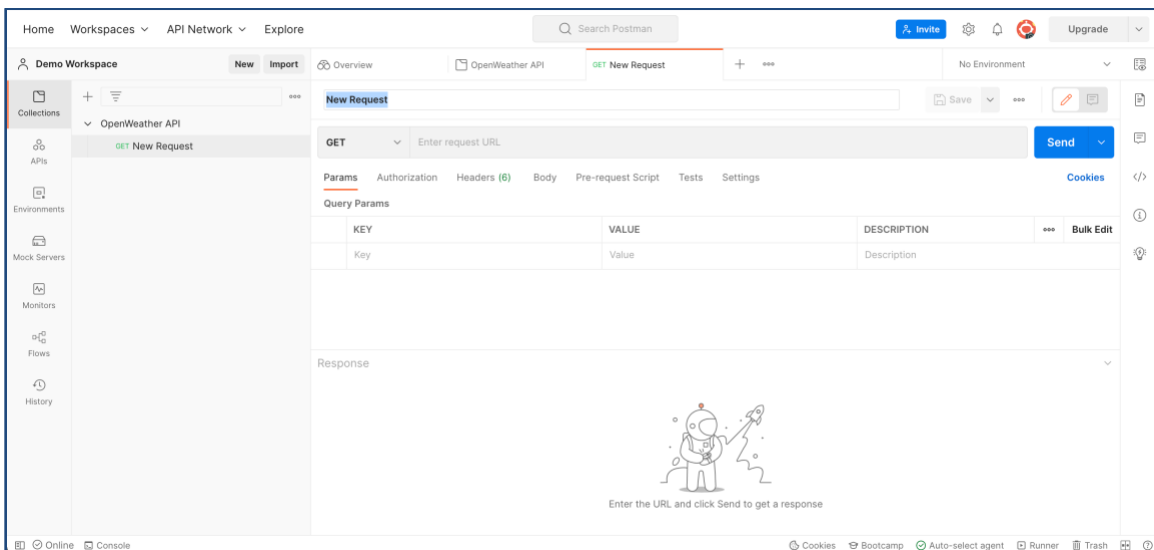

Figure 5

- **New Request**: Edit the request's name to reflect the action the request is performing (e.g., Retrieve Coordinates).

- **HTTP Method**: Keep the selection of **GET**.

- **Enter request URL**: Enter `{{baseUrl}}/geo/1.0/direct`.

- **Query Params**: Configure the following query parameters as key-value pairs:

Key	Value
q	Enter the city name, state code (only for the US), or country code divided by a comma (for country codes, use ISO 3166).
appid	Enter `{{apiKey}}`.

> **Note**: For a list of optional query parameters that you can use with the OpenWeather Geocoding API, see the OpenWeather Geocoding API documentation.

- Click **Save** at the upper-right corner of the **GET** *<Request Name>* tab.

2. Click **Send** to the right of the request URL. If you connected successfully to the OpenWeather Geocoding API, response data will be displayed in the lower pane of the **GET** *<Request Name>* tab (Figure 6). Make note of the latitude and longitude values for the desired location, as you will use them when making an API request to retrieve the current weather for that location. See the "Configure a Current Weather Data API Request" section for more information.
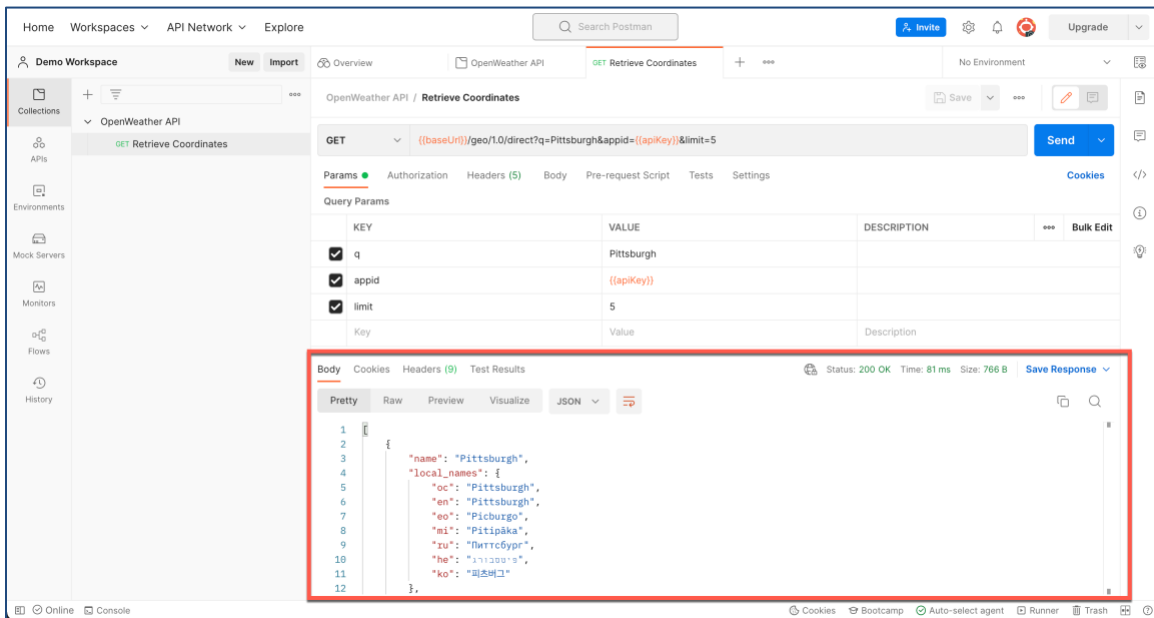

Figure 6

Configure a Current Weather Data API Request

1. Hover over the OpenWeather API collection in the sidebar, click **View more actions** °°° , and select **Add a request**. A new tab labeled **GET New Request** will open in the workbench (Figure 5).

2. Configure the following options for the request:

   - **New Request**: Edit the request's name to reflect the action the request is performing (e.g., Retrieve Weather for Pittsburgh).

   - **HTTP Method**: Keep the selection of **GET**.

   - **Enter request URL**: Enter `{{baseUrl}}/data/2.5/weather`.

   - **Query Params**: Configure the following query parameters as key-value pairs:

Key	Value
lat	Enter the latitude for Pittsburgh (`40.4416941`).
lon	Enter the longitude for Pittsburgh (`-79.9900861`).
appid	Enter `{{apiKey}}`.

     > **Note**: For a list of optional query parameters that you can use with the OpenWeather Current Weather Data API, see the OpenWeather Current Weather Data API documentation.

   - Click **Save** at the upper-right corner of the **GET** *<Request Name>* tab.

3. Click **Send** to the right of the request URL. If you connected successfully to the OpenWeather Current Weather API, response data will be displayed in the lower pane of the **GET** *<Request Name>* tab (Figure 7).
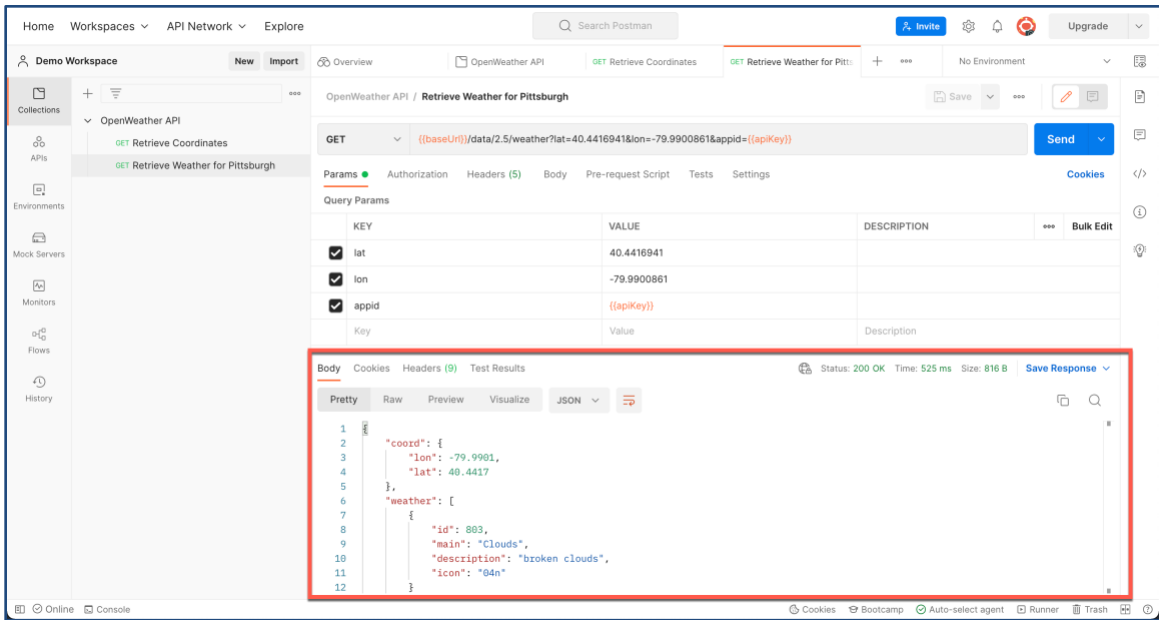
Figure 7

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