

INTRODUCTION TO APIS IN N8N

What this lesson is about:

This lesson introduces APIs – what they are, how they work, and why they're essential for building automations and agents in n8n.

What is an API?

- API = Application Programming Interface
- It allows different apps and systems to talk to each other
- Think of it as a contract – one app requests data, another responds

How does it work?

1. Client sends a request (e.g. your automation asks for data)
2. Server receives the request, processes it
3. Server sends back a response (data or result)

Real-world examples:

- Checking flight prices → the app calls airline APIs
- Ordering food → the app requests menu data and sends order info via API
- Tracking delivery → APIs return updates in real-time

APIs in n8n:

- Used all the time to automate tasks
- Help agents and workflows connect to other services
- Enable sending, receiving, and processing external data

Why are APIs important?

- They unlock automation potential
- Allow you to connect to almost any app or tool with API access
- Knowing how to use them makes you unstoppable in automation building