

# Ali Zandieh

**DevOps Engineer | Platform Engineer | Site Reliability Engineer**

Location: London, United Kingdom

Work eligibility: British citizen

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## Contact Information

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## Professional Summary

**15+ years of experience** as a Lead/Senior **DevOps** and a former Senior developer, CKA/CKS certified. Expert in AWS/GCP, Terraform, and DevSecOps. With track record of scaling engineering culture, optimizing cloud spend, and automating complex delivery pipelines.

Actively seek out emerging technologies and integrate them into the work as they mature. with a strong focus on security, scalability, and cost optimisation when implementing new tools and platforms.

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## Skills

- **Cloud Computing** - AWS, GCP
  - **Kubernetes (CKA and CKS certified) - Docker**
    - **HELM**
    - **Kustomize**
    - **GitOps:** FluxCD - ArgoCD
    - **IaC:** Terraform, Crossplane
    - **Security tools:** Stackrox, Falco, OPA Gatekeeper
    - **Artifact Registries:** Harbor - Nexus - ECR – Jfrog
    - **CNI:** Calico – AWS vpc-cni
    - **Service Mesh** - Istio
  - **Git and CI/CD** : Gitlab - Github, Bitbucket, Jenkins
  - **Secrets Management:** Hashicorp Vault – AWS secret manager with SOPS/Kubeseal
  - **Logging Tools:** ELK (Elasticsearch/Opensearch – Logstash – Kibana) – FluentBit/Fluentd – Loki - Alloy
  - **Monitoring Tools:** Prometheus/Grafana – Datadog - Sentry
  - **Coding/Scripting:** Python – Bash - JavaScript - Solidity
  - **CDN:** Cloudflare, CloudFront
  - **OS:** Linux (Centos/Ubuntu) – Windows
  - **Web Servers:** Nginx - Apache
  - **Databases:** MySQL - AWS RDS/DynamoDB - MongoDB - Redis PostgreSQL
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## Work Experience

### Lead DevOps

**SimplifyVMS** | Remote, UK | **March 2025 - present**

- Orchestrated the construction of a new project on AWS, automating infrastructure and networking with Terraform, resulting in 30% faster deployment speeds.
- Provisioned and managed **EKS clusters** across 5 environments and multiple regions, configuring essential tooling to enhance developer productivity and streamline operations.
- Designed and implemented CI/CD pipelines for Bitbucket repositories using **ArgoCD** and **Argo Image Updater**, achieving continuous deployment and 90% reduction in deployment errors.
- **Leading** the DevOps team and a product development team, introducing modern tools and best practices, offering guidance and **mentorship**, and fostering an engaging and collaborative work environment for all team members.

### Senior SRE

**Ticketmaster** | London, UK | **May 2024 – Jan 2025**

- Operated **30+ Kubernetes clusters**, ensuring high availability and performance.
- Executed innovative **Canary deployment** strategies with **Argo Rollouts**, resulting in a 15% decrease in rollback incidents during releases; ensured consistent performance monitoring that boosted team confidence in deployment practices.
- Created a **centralized CI template** for **300+ GitLab repositories**, streamlining development workflows.
- Built **multi-architecture base images** using **Kaniko** to support diverse deployment environments. This help 5% in cost efficiency enabling the use of AWS **Graviton nodes**.

### Senior Platform Engineer

**Underwriteme (UME)** | London, UK | **Mar 2023 – Mar 2024**

- Led cost optimization for product teams, reviewing AWS billing and cutting costly services, **saving £2K monthly costs**.
- Extensive experience with Terraform, including optimizing complex multi-layered module architectures with deeply chained module dependencies (up to 5 levels).
- Constructed resilient **ECS infrastructure**, enabling support for over 15 concurrent **Jenkins** instances and drastically cutting deployment cycle times
- Migrated **FluxCD from V1 to V2**, improving GitOps workflows.
- Established **shared-platform EKS clusters** with cross-account access to databases and SSM parameters. improving infrastructure utilization and contributing to an overall 7% cost reduction across multiple teams.

### Lead DevOps

**Qredo** | Remote, UK | **Sep 2022 – Feb 2023**

- Led a team of **5 DevOps engineers** in migrating infrastructure from **Equinix to AWS**, achieving a **25-30% increase in operational efficiency**.
- Deployed **blockchain nodes** using **MPC technology**, contributing to a **15% increase in transaction throughput**.
- Enhanced **Kubernetes security** by implementing Security best practices and **AWS Nitro Enclave EC2** machines.

## Senior DevOps

**Consensys** | Remote, UK | **May 2021 – Aug 2022**

- Prepared and maintained the infrastructure for Blockchain applications on Ethereum ecosystem (all on **AWS** and **EKS** clusters).
- Created a **central control repository** for managing multiple Kubernetes clusters using **GitOps** patterns and FluxCD.
- Migrated secrets management to **Hashicorp Vault**, replacing legacy **SOPS-encrypted secrets**.
- Integrated **security tools** like **Stackrox** and **Falco** to enhance cluster security.

## Lead SRE

**LexisNexis** | London, UK | **Apr 2019 – Apr 2021**

- Led a team of **7 SRE engineers**, overseeing daily scrum calls and Jira boards.
- Introduced **Docker** and **Kubernetes** to development teams, mentoring developers to containerize microservices.
- Designed an **application lifecycle tool** that accelerated delivery processes by **20%**.

## DevOps Engineer

**Jellyfish** | London, UK | **Sep 2018 – Apr 2019**

- Prepared and mastered **cloud infrastructure** for client websites using **AWS** and **GCP**.
- Built **CI/CD pipelines** using **Git**, **JFrog**, **Jenkins**, and **GCP Cloud Builder**.

## Senior Web developer (Backend)

**Jellyfish** | London, UK | **Feb 2012 – Sep 2018**

- Developed **data engineering projects** in **Python** and **Flask framework** for analytics clients.
- Maintained and enhanced the UK's largest magazine subscription e-commerce platform (**magazine.co.uk**).

## Web developer

**Matches Fashion** | London, UK | **Feb 2011 – Feb 2012**

- Supported and developed websites for the company, ensuring high performance and scalability.

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## Education

- **Master of Science (MSc), Computer Science – Web Technologies**  
Oxford Brookes University | Oxford | **2009 – 2010**
- **Bachelor of Science (BSc), Computer Engineering – Software**  
Azad University | South Tehran | **2002 – 2006**

## Certifications

- **Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA)**  
Linux Foundation (<https://tinyurl.com/y8r3uwwx>)
- **Certified Kubernetes Security Specialist (CKS)**  
Linux Foundation (<https://tinyurl.com/y4ljdwpz>)

- **AWS Certified Developer Associate**  
AWS (<https://tinyurl.com/y4bmae95>)
  - **Certified Calico Operator**  
Tigera (<https://tinyurl.com/mr3nmx8>)
  - **IBM Blockchain Essentials**  
IBM (<https://tinyurl.com/mwv943pw>)
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## Additional Information

- Founder of "**SAHA DevOps Talks**": A Persian-speaking DevOps community on YouTube ([YouTube Channel](#)).
- **Languages**: Fluent in English and Persian (Native).