interweb

Generated on 15/11/2026 01:44

KNOWLEDGE BASE · PUBLIC DOCUMENT

# Where console.log and print output goes, and how to read your app logs

Deploy, Logs & Access

| CODE | VERSION | COUNTRY · LANGUAGE |
| --- | --- | --- |
| RLX-MZ-KB-1096 | v2026.10.10 | Mozambique · English |

**Interweb Mozambique**
RLX Holdings, S.A. · Group RLX Holdings
Tax ID (NUIT) 401 191 607 · Legal entity no. (NUEL) 105 045 974 · Economic activity code (CAE) 62022

https://www.meu.interweb.co.mz/knowledgebase/1096

# Where console.log and print output goes, and how to read your app logs

Deploy, Logs & Access Created on **October 10, 2026** 3 min read



On your computer, `console.log` (Node.js) and `print` (Python) show up on screen. A server has no screen, and the question is where they went. **The short answer:** on shared hosting, what the application writes goes to the **Passenger log**, the file you name in the *Passenger log file* field on the application screen; on a VPS it depends on what starts the application (PM2, systemd or Docker). Without that log, debugging an application is guesswork.

## Where the log is, in each case

| Where it runs | Where to look | Command or place |
|---|---|---|
| **Node.js or Python in cPanel** | In the file named in the *Passenger log file* field (on the "Setup Node.js App" or "Setup Python App" screen). | Name a file inside the application folder, save, restart and repeat the request. Open it in File Manager, or in Terminal with `tail -n 100 file.log` . |
| **VPS with PM2** | In PM2's logs. | `pm2 logs name` or `pm2 logs --lines 100` |
| **VPS with systemd** | In the system journal. | `journalctl -u name -n 100` , and `-f` to follow live |
| **Docker** | In the container's logs. | `docker logs name` or `docker compose logs -f service` |

The site's general error log is something else: it catches web server errors, not what your application writes. For that one, see **errors 500, 403, 404 and 508**.

## Making it write logs you can read

1. **Set the log file** on the application screen (in cPanel), or use PM2's, systemd's or Docker's (on a VPS).

2 **Write with meaning.** Instead of `console.log("here")`, say what and with which value: the request's method and path, the id of the record that was read, the whole error. Never write passwords, keys or personal data.

3 **In Python, avoid the delay.** When output goes to a file, `print` may be held in memory and only appear later. Use `print("text", flush=True)`, or the `logging` module, which writes at once. The environment variable `PYTHONUNBUFFERED=1` has the same effect for the whole application.

4 **Restart and repeat.** Make the request that fails and read the last lines: the cause is usually there. If the application will not even start, see **the causes of the 503 error**.

**A log with no limit ends up filling the disk.**
On a shared account, a file that grows every day uses space, and space is limited. Delete or archive now and then, or cap the size (in Python, the `logging` module's `RotatingFileHandler` does that). On a VPS, the system journal and Docker's logs grow too: see **Docker filling the disk**.

**Live, in Terminal.**
If the account has a terminal (**the cPanel Terminal**), `tail -f file.log` shows lines as they arrive: open the site in another tab and watch what appears. To leave, Ctrl+C.

NEED A HAND?

Have the log in front of you and cannot make sense of the last line? Send us the domain, the time of the error and that line.

Open a support ticket →

SEE ALSO

- **Node.js app in cPanel returns 503: the usual causes** →
- **Website errors explained: 500, 403, 404, 508 and what to do** →
- **The cPanel Terminal: a command line with nothing to install** →

interweb

## Interweb Mozambique

**RLX Holdings, S.A. · Group RLX Holdings**

| | |
|---|---|
| TAX ID (NUIT) | 401 191 607 |
| LEGAL ENTITY NO. (NUEL) | 105 045 974 |
| ECONOMIC ACTIVITY CODE (CAE) | 62022 |
| REGISTERED OFFICE | Bairro 7 de Setembro<br>Vilankulo 1304 · CEP 0411-02, Inhambane, Mozambique |
| CONTACT | info@interweb.co.mz · +258 84 635 1111 · +258 86 635 1111 · www.interweb.co.mz |
| OPENING HOURS | Monday to Friday - 08 AM to 04 PM<br>Saturday & Sunday - Closed |

Online version of this document

RLX-MZ-KB-1096 · v2026.10.10 · Generated on 15/11/2026 01:44