Alpaquita Linux
Getting started with Azure image

Alpaquita Linux
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bellsoft

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Contents

1. Overview 4

2. Finding the image in the Marketplace 5

3. Creating a VM form 8

Basic tab 8

- Name and size 8
- Resource group 9
- Account and SSH key 9

Disks tab 10

Networking tab 12

Advanced tab 12

Review and create 13

4. Reviewing your new VM 15

Reviewing the console log (optional) 15

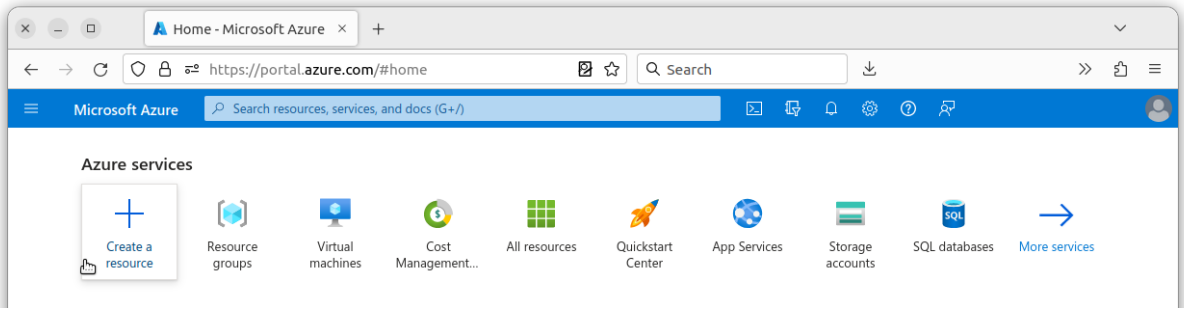
Importing SSH key into your new VM 17

1. Overview

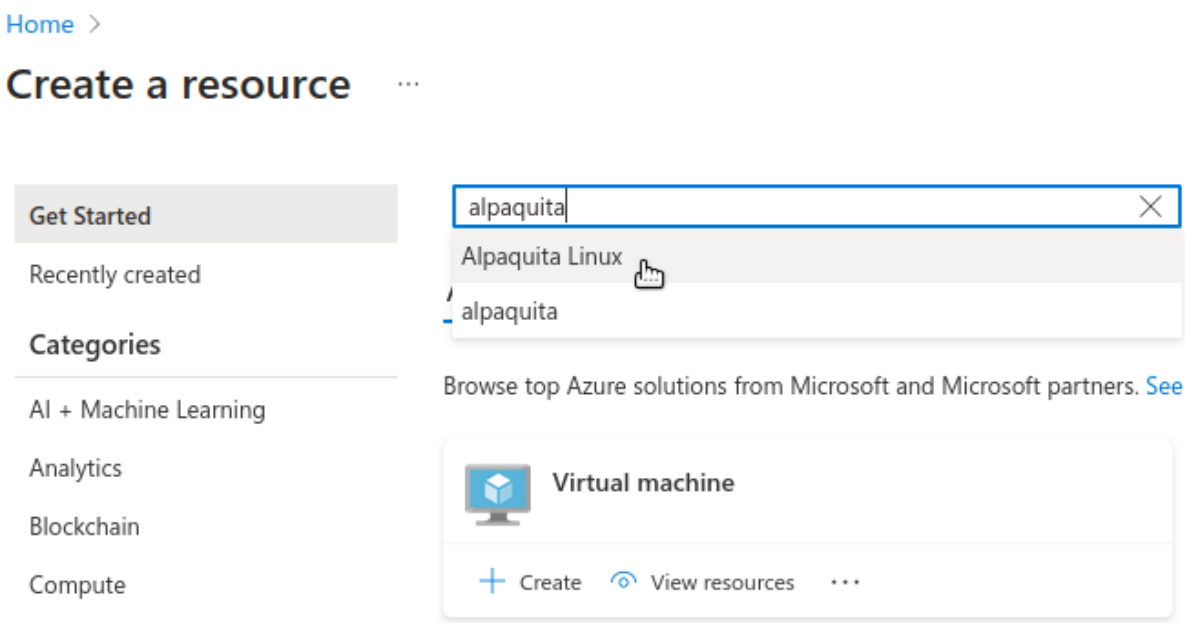
Microsoft Azure now offers instances with Alpaquita Linux, an Alpine-based Linux distribution with numerous optimizations for enterprise development. You can use Alpaquita Stream for free and pay for Azure VMs only, or you can subscribe to commercial support with LTS releases and 24/7 service.

2. Finding the image in the Marketplace

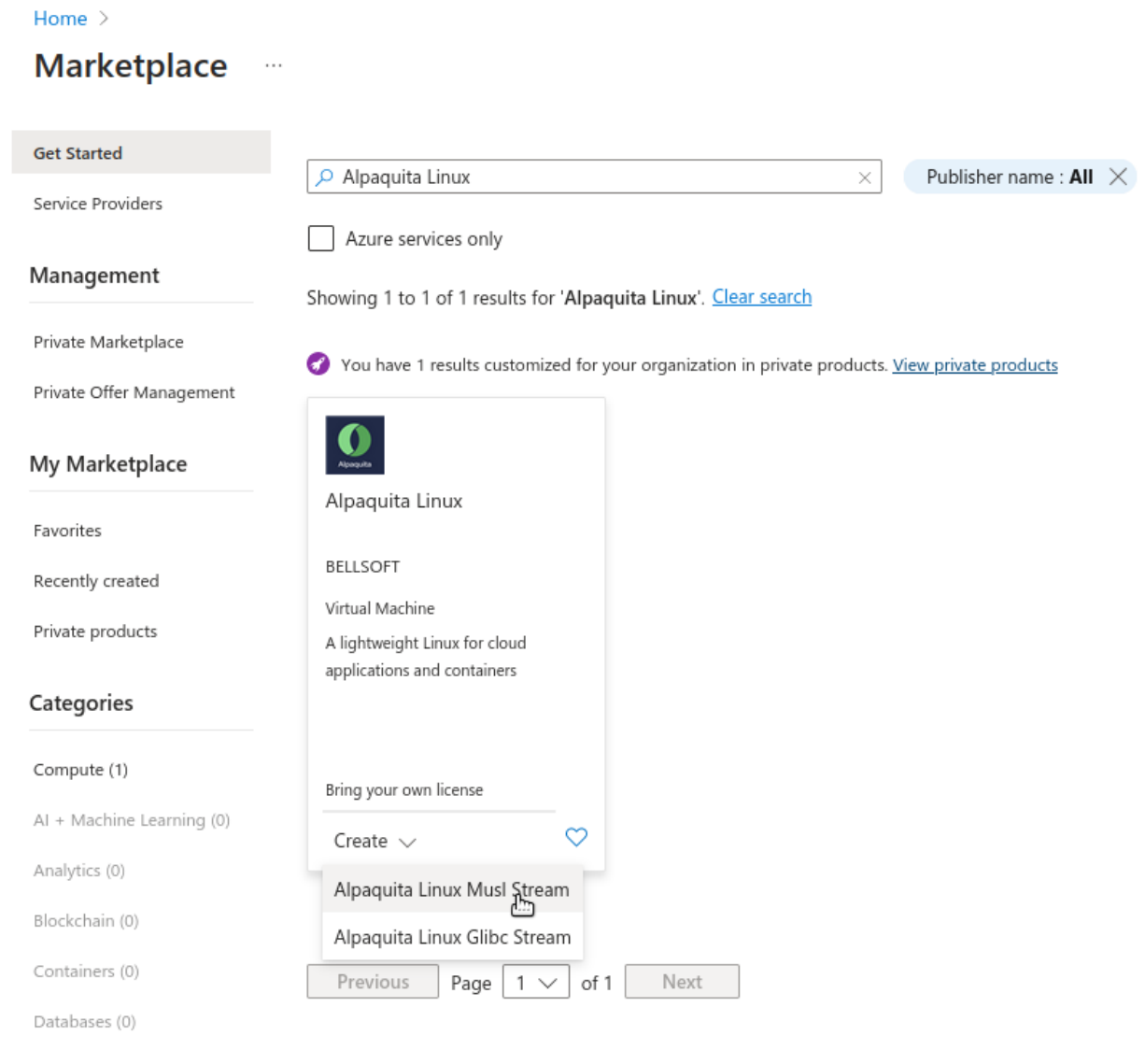
1. Go to the Azure portal and click the **Create a resource** button under **Azure services**.



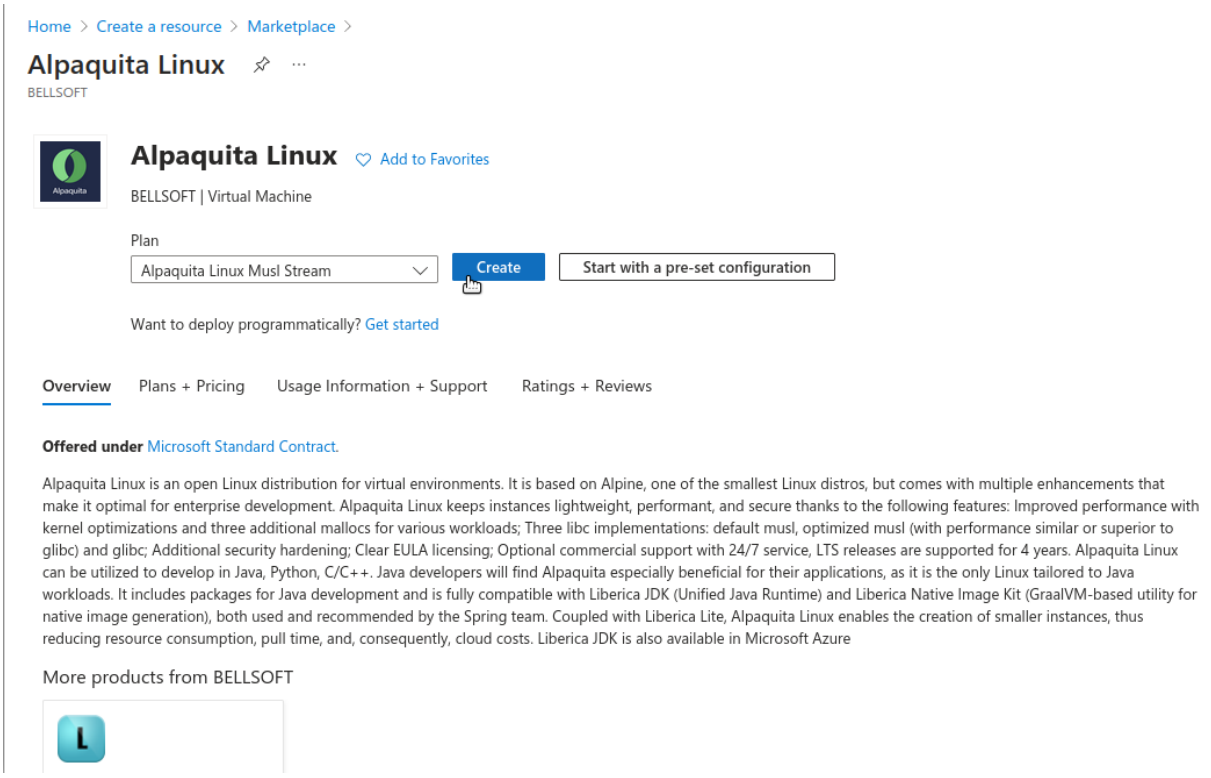
2. Type Alpaquita in the search field in the Azure Marketplace and click **Alpaquita Linux** in the drop-down menu with the search results.



3. Choose the image type in the **Create** menu at the bottom of the card.



Or you can click the card to view the description and select the image type on the **Alpaquita Linux** page.


Home > Create a resource > Marketplace >
Alpaquita Linux
BELLSOFT
Alpaquita Linux
Add to Favorites
BELLSOFT | Virtual Machine
Plan
Alpaquita Linux Musl Stream
Create
Start with a pre-set configuration
Want to deploy programmatically? Get started
Overview
Plans + Pricing
Usage Information + Support
Ratings + Reviews
Offered under Microsoft Standard Contract.
Alpaquita Linux is an open Linux distribution for virtual environments. It is based on Alpine, one of the smallest Linux distros, but comes with multiple enhancements that make it optimal for enterprise development. Alpaquita Linux keeps instances lightweight, performant, and secure thanks to the following features: Improved performance with kernel optimizations and three additional mallocs for various workloads; Three libc implementations: default musl, optimized musl (with performance similar or superior to glibc) and glibc; Additional security hardening; Clear EULA licensing; Optional commercial support with 24/7 service, LTS releases are supported for 4 years. Alpaquita Linux can be utilized to develop in Java, Python, C/C++. Java developers will find Alpaquita especially beneficial for their applications, as it is the only Linux tailored to Java workloads. It includes packages for Java development and is fully compatible with Liberica JDK (Unified Java Runtime) and Liberica Native Image Kit (GraalVM-based utility for native image generation), both used and recommended by the Spring team. Coupled with Liberica Lite, Alpaquita Linux enables the creation of smaller instances, thus reducing resource consumption, pull time, and, consequently, cloud costs. Liberica JDK is also available in Microsoft Azure
More products from BELLSOFT

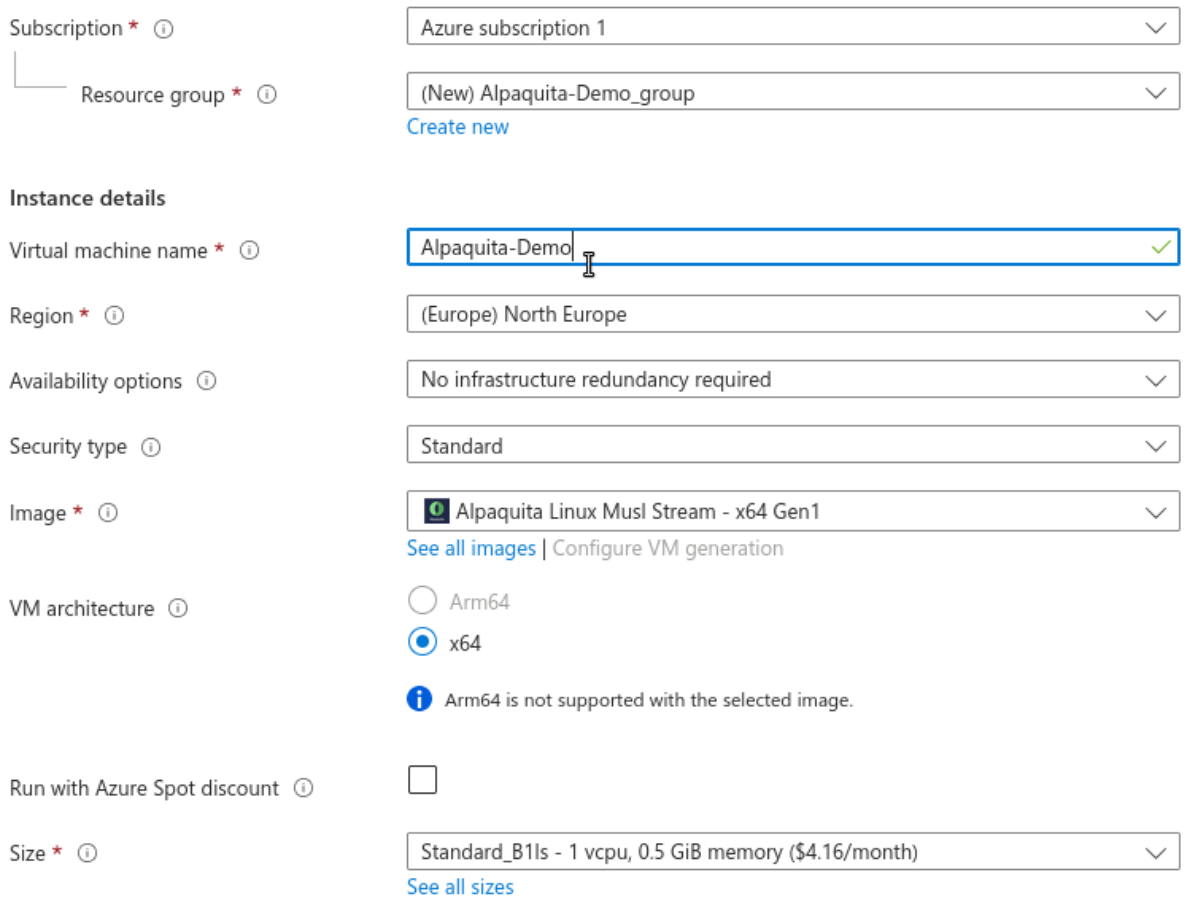
3. Creating a VM form

Once you choose the image, Azure VM creation form appears. You need to fill some data though default values are suitable for the most cases. The following parts describe some key settings that you might want to change.

Basic tab

Name and size

Provide a name for your new VM and select the **Size** of your VM, that determines the number of CPUs and the amount of RAM.

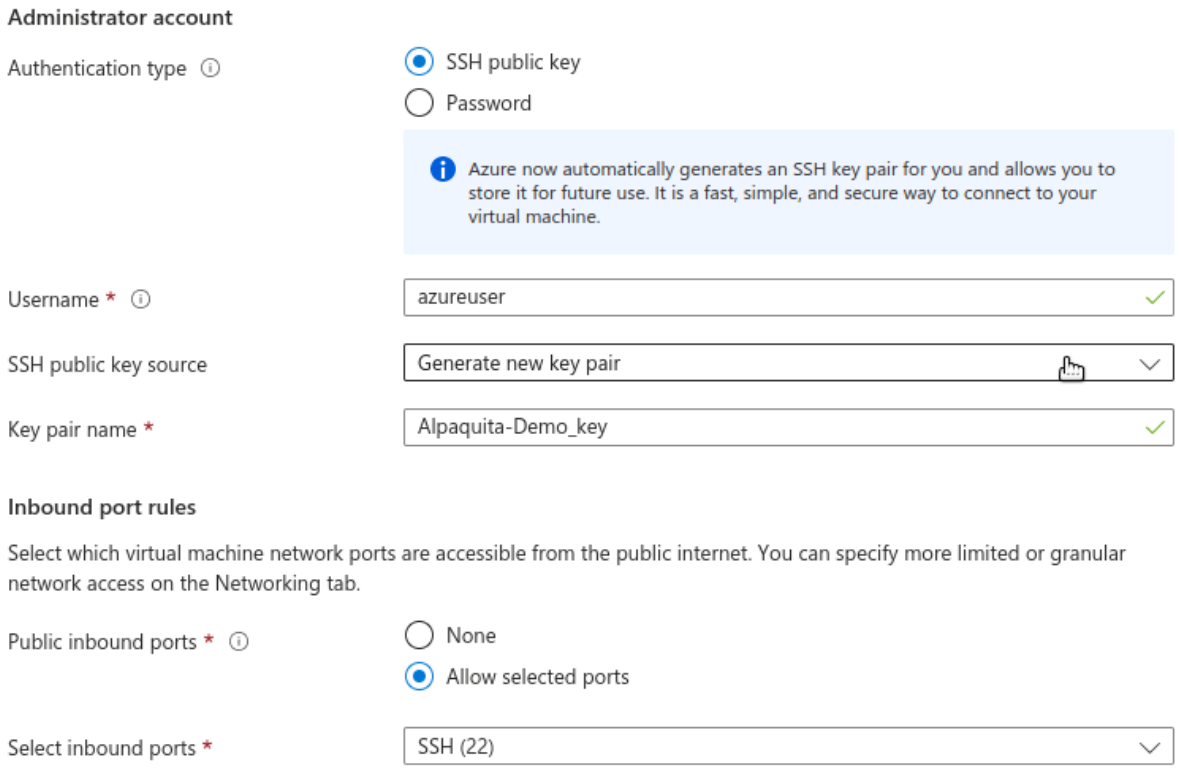


Resource group

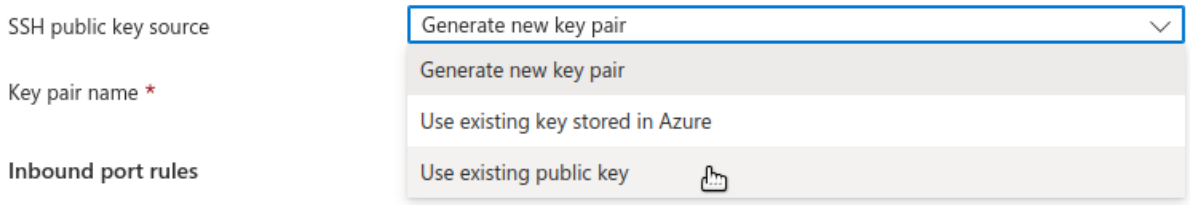
An Azure VM comprises several resources, like disks, public IP addresses, network firewall rules, etc. Azure groups these resources into *resource groups* for easier overview and management. Azure form automatically suggests to create a new resource group named after the newly created VM. You can change the suggested name of the new group or use an existing group instead.

Account and SSH key

A user is created automatically. The default name is `azureuser`. You can change the name in the **Username** field.



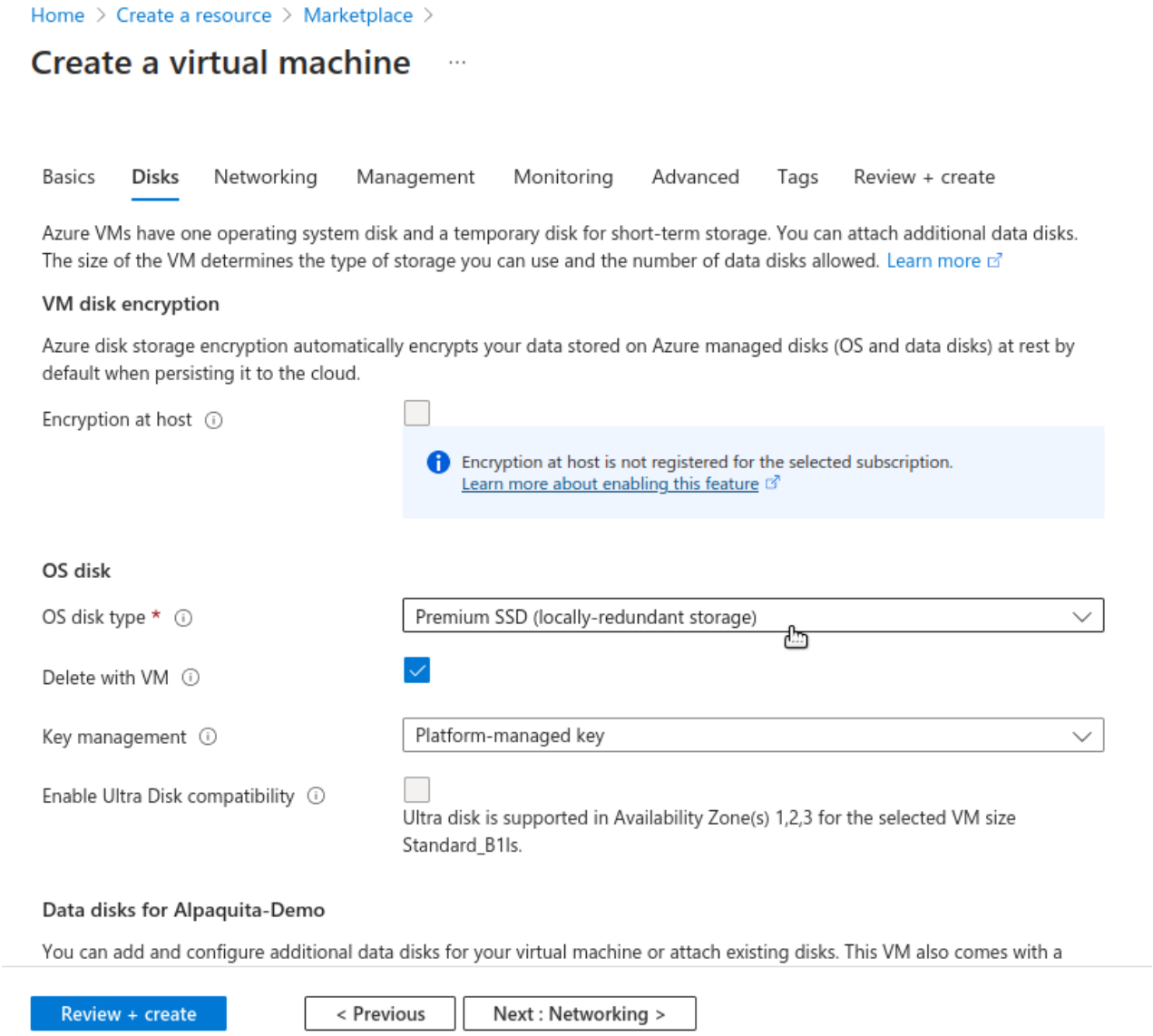
The created user does not have a conventional password. To access the VM as that user you must identify yourself with an SSH key. You can choose to generate a new key, or you can use your existing key in the **SSH public key source**.



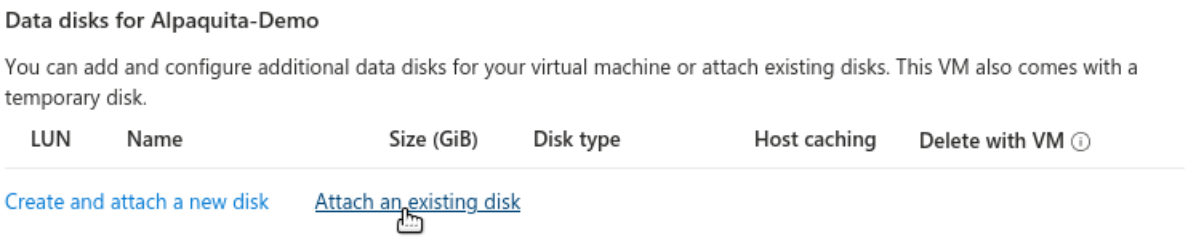
Now click **Next** to proceed to the Disks tab.

Disks tab

Select the storage type as a primary OS disk in **OS disk type**.



If you have data disks that you want to attach, you can do it in this step. You can also create a new unformatted data disks to attach to the new VM.

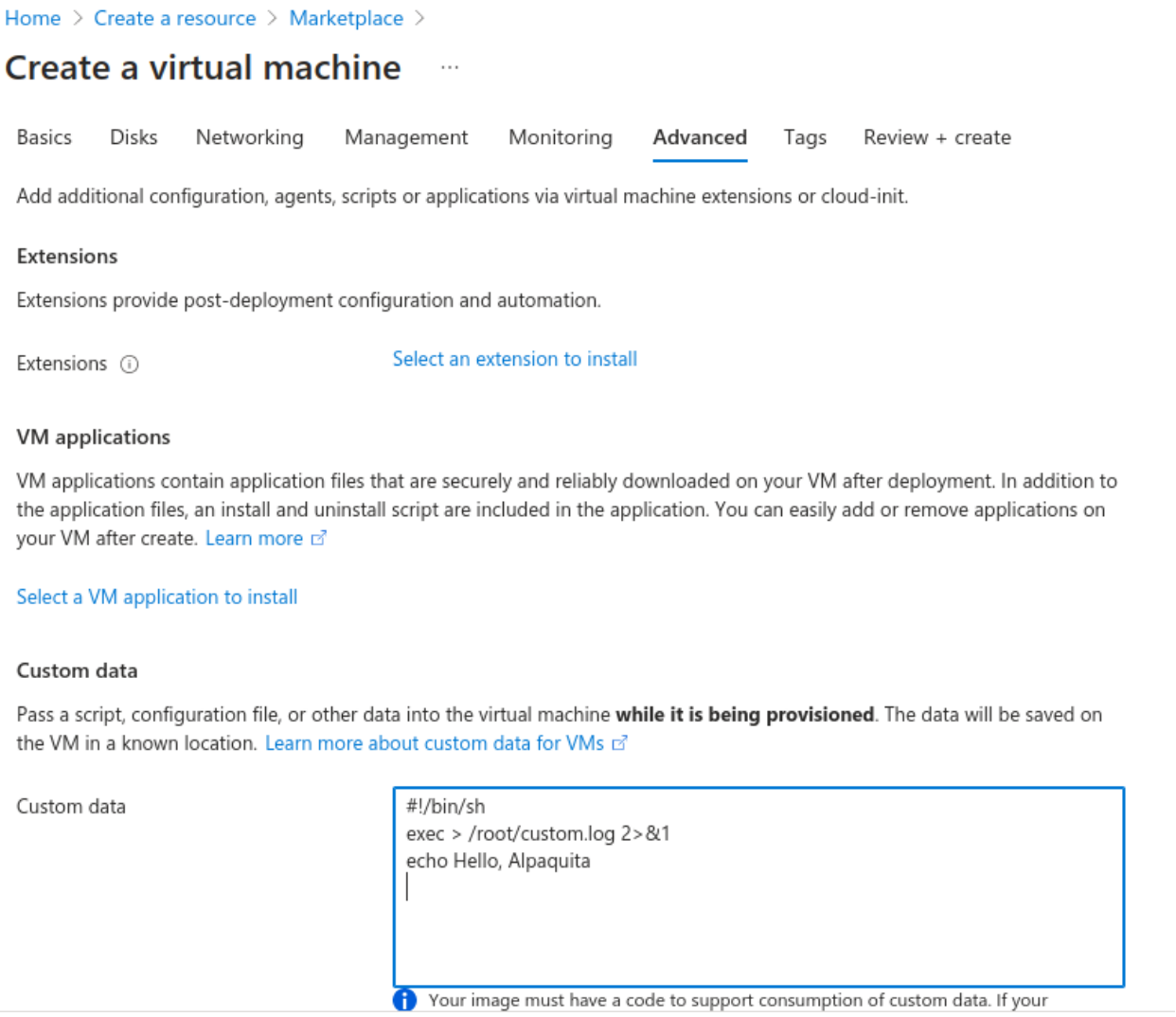


Networking tab

You might want to check the networking tab next. For a simple demo, use the default values. You can open the advanced settings for the NIC security group and edit the firewall rules, or use the existing ones. You can also select the **Delete NIC when VM is deleted** option for this demo.

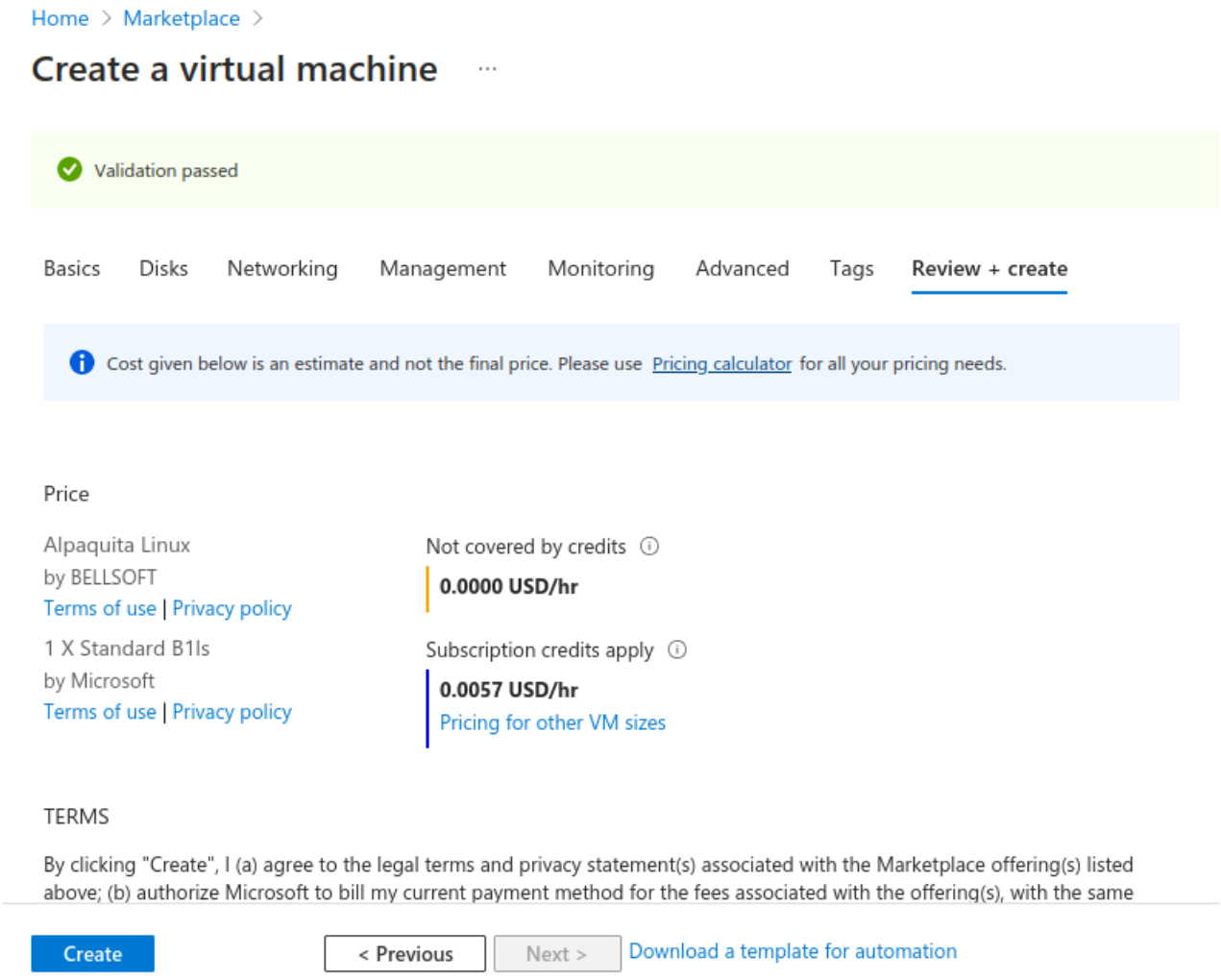
Advanced tab

Alpaquita supports Microsoft Azure Linux Agent and you can specify custom data for the newly created VM on the Advanced tab. The custom data are applied once when VM is provisioned. For example, you can provide a shell script to run once.

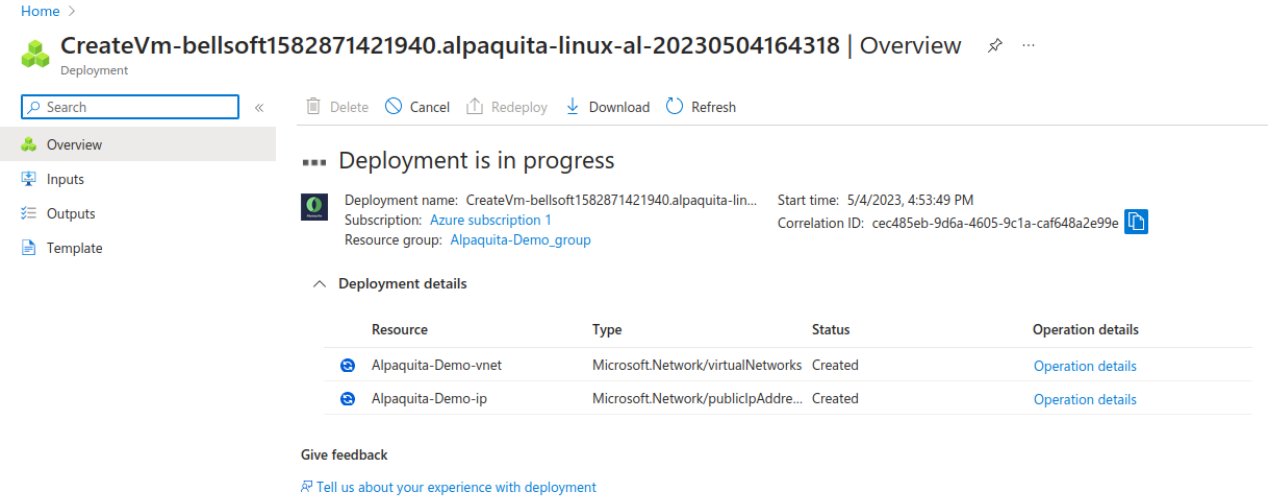


Review and create

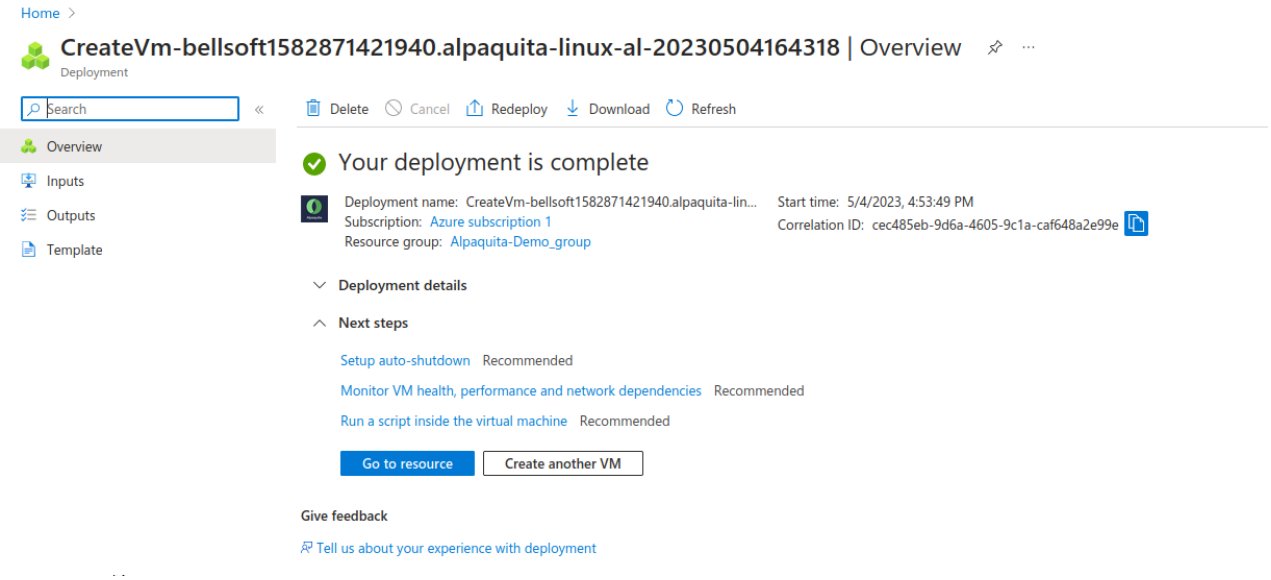
You are ready to create the VM. Go to the **Review+Create** tab and click **Create**.



It takes some time for your new VM to be deployed.

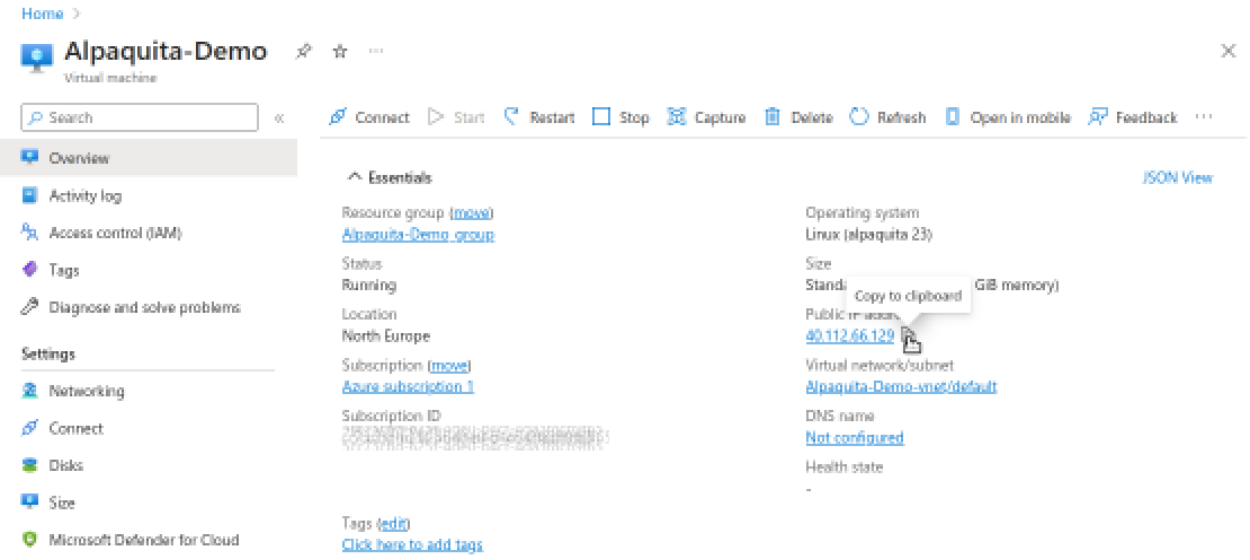


When the deployment process is complete, click **Go to the resource**.



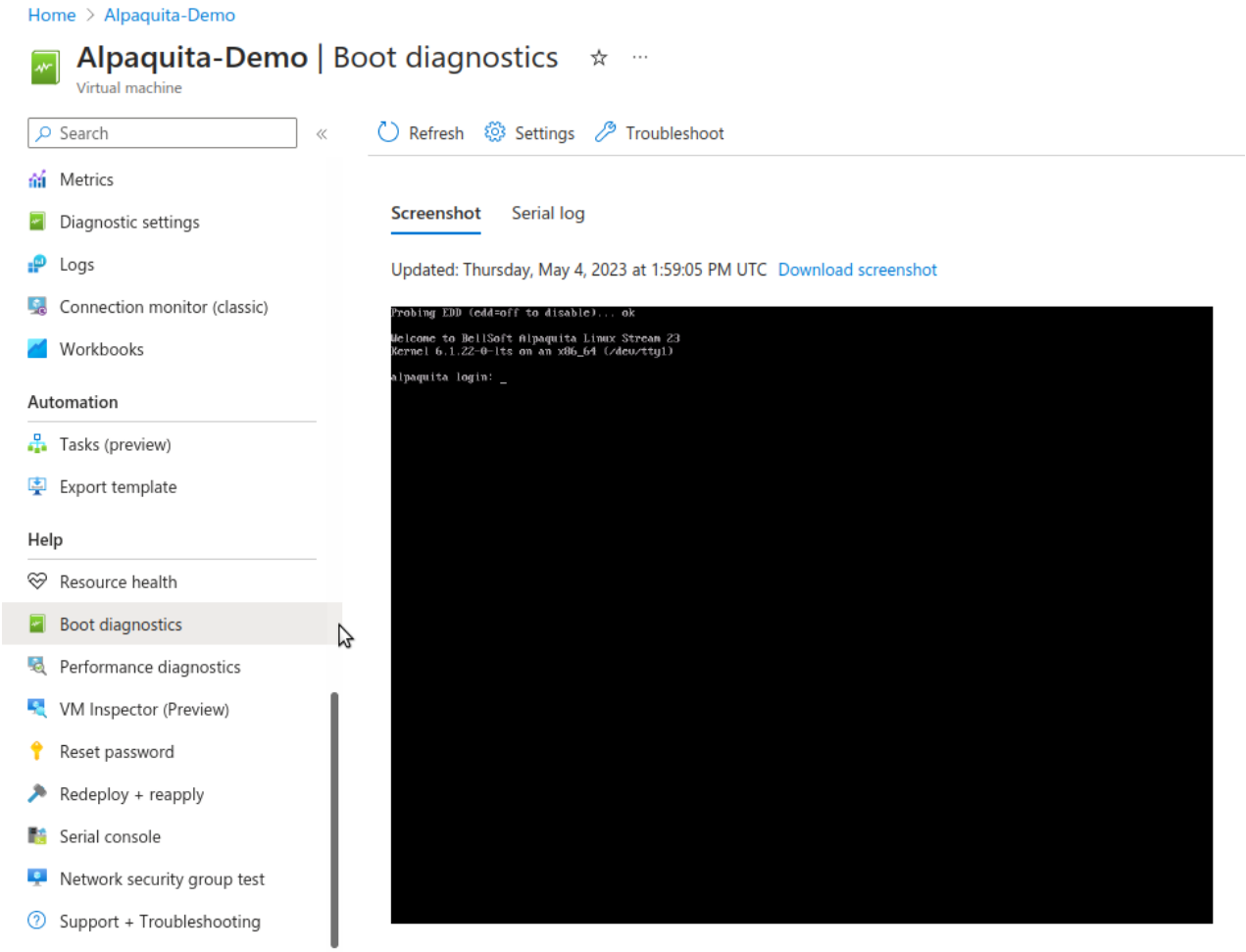
4. Reviewing your new VM

This page provides an overview of your new VM. Note and copy its public IP address.

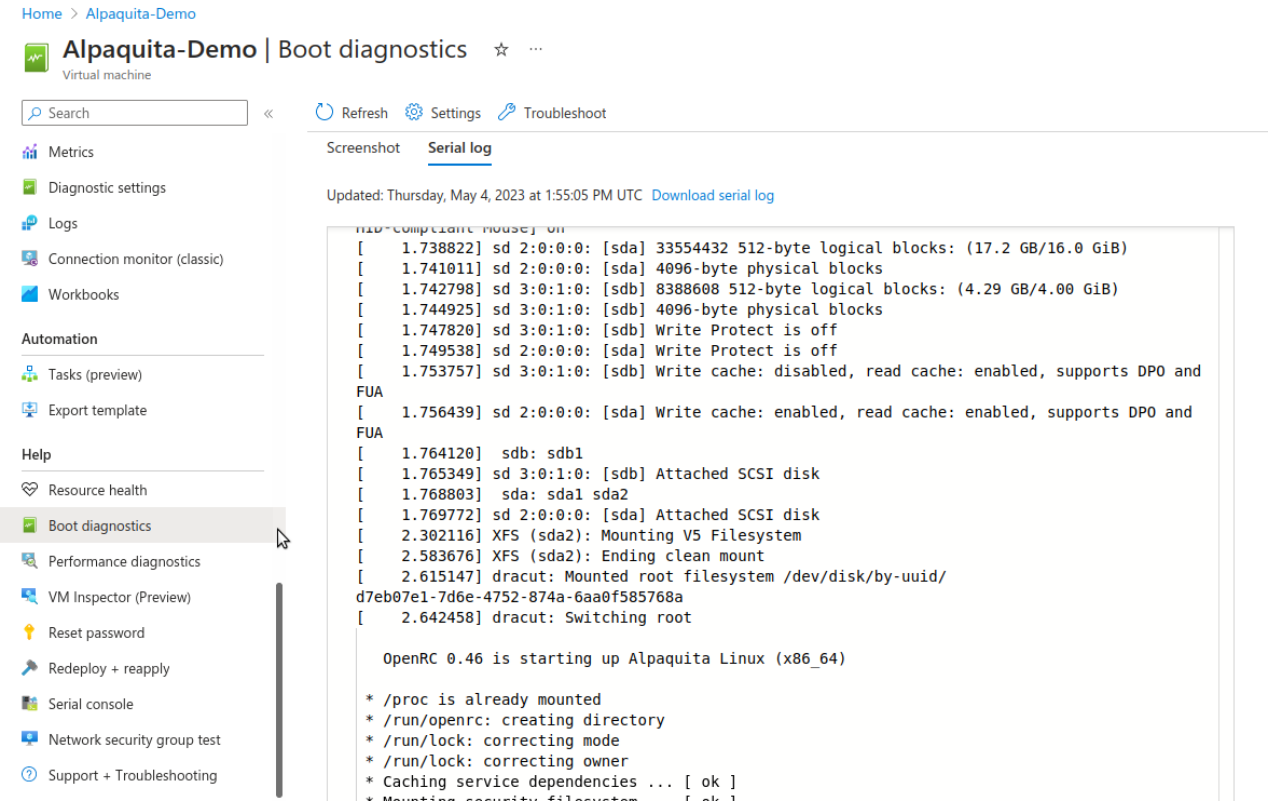


Reviewing the console log (optional)

Click the Boot diagnostics item in the left sidebar (you might need to scroll down the page).



To review and identify any problems, switch to the Serial log tab that shows the complete output from the boot process.



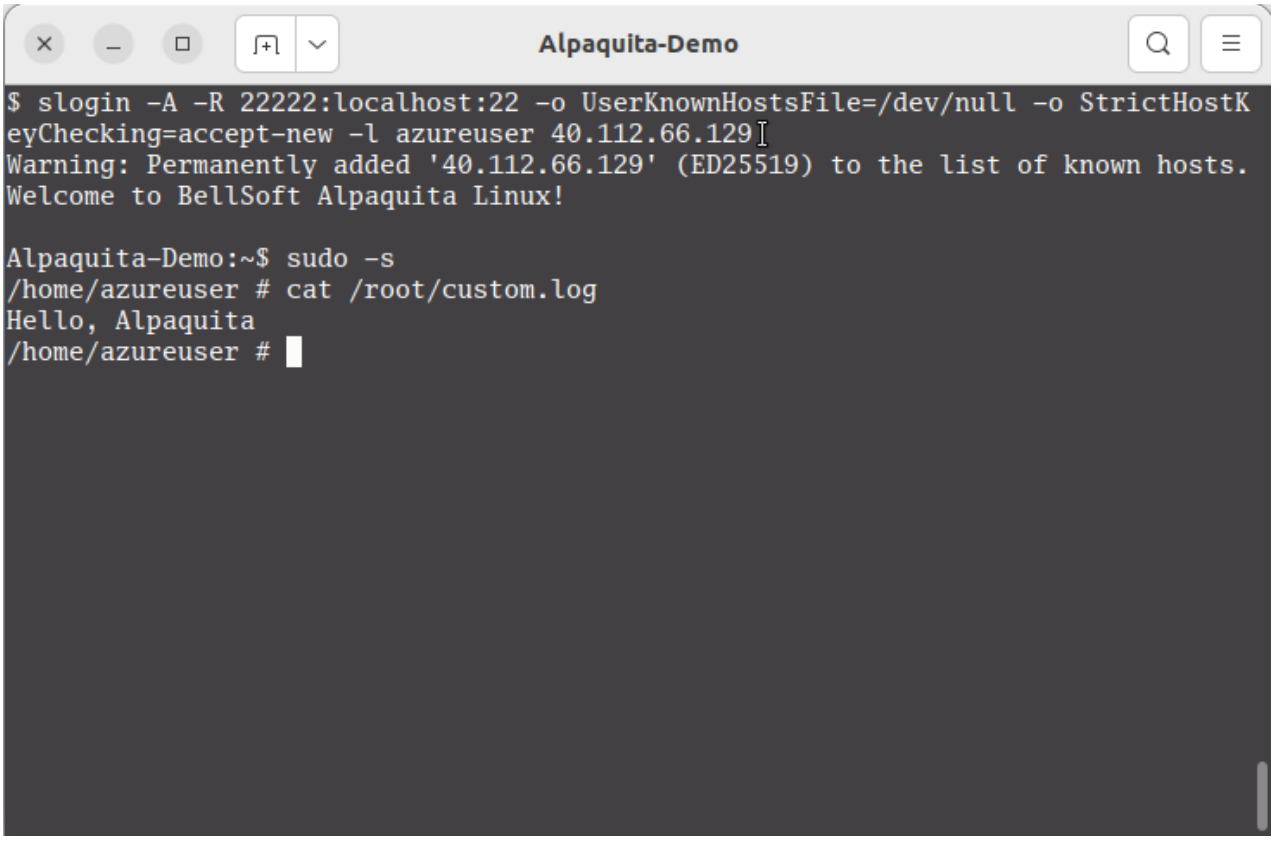
Importing SSH key into your new VM

Start your `ssh` client in your terminal to log into your new VM. If you changed the username adjust the `-l` option argument accordingly.

The command in this example also instructs ssh to accept and ignore the host key, sets up agent forwarding, and creates port-forwarding back to the ssh server on your host so that you can copy files from the cloud VM back to your host even if it is behind a corporate firewall.

You can use `sudo` without a password, because your cloud user does not have one.

You can also see that the custom data shell script was executed.



Now you can connect to the Azure VM running Alpaquita Linux.

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