COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS

Akamai AI and API Manager

vs. Kong

HOW AAM COMPARES ON AKAMAI CONNECTED CLOUD

Akamai AI and API Manager (AAM) simplifies API management with fully managed, globally distributed solutions designed for modern businesses. Unlike Kong, AAM prioritizes developer experience, effortless scalability, and edge-native performance, so you can focus on building great APIs without the complexity.

Platform Comparison

Feature	Akamai	Kong
Deployment Options	Fully-managed, auto-scaled, deployed globally across Akamai's data centres.	Requires manual setup for Kubernetes clusters with significant maintenance overhead.
Security	Built-in WireGuard-based secure tunneling for backend connections.	Relies on a service mesh or mTLS for backend security, requiring self-management.
Rate Limiting	One-click setup for API, user, or key-level limits with TypeScript-based dynamic customizations.	Advanced functionality requires additional setup or premium plugins, adding complexity and cost.
GitOps Support	Integrated with Git for version control and CI/CD pipelines, enabling seamless state synchronization.	Requires additional setup or custom integrations for GitOps workflows.
Customization	TypeScript-based custom policies and logic natively deployed on the gateway.	Custom plugins must be written in Lua, which adds complexity.
Multi-cloud Support	Unified API policies for seamless routing across multiple backends and cloud environments.	Multi-cloud deployments require manual configurations and integrations.
High Availability	Built-in redundancy and high availability.	Yes, if you pay extra and handle management yourself.
Real-Time Insights	Built-in analytics and monitoring provide real-time visibility into API performance, error rates, and traffic.	Requires additional tools and manual setup for monitoring and analytics.
Developer Portals	Auto-generated, Stripe-like portals with OpenAPI-based documentation and built-in API key management.	Manual setup is required for documentation and portal creation.