



Unlock Free Travel – Reward Points Masterclass

Presented by Jorge Elizondo

“Turn Your Everyday Spending into Free Flights & Hotel Nights!”

Section 1: Understanding Reward Points



What Are Reward Points and Why They Matter

- Overview of loyalty programs (Airline Miles, Hotel Points, Credit Card Points)
- How points are earned — flights, hotels, dining, and credit card spending
- Importance of linking your credit card and loyalty accounts



Not All Points Are Equal

- Point value differences between programs (e.g., 1 AA mile $\neq$ 1 Hyatt point)
- Airline miles typically worth more on international travel
- Hotel points fluctuate based on category and peak/off-peak nights
- Airlines sell miles at a rate of \$30 to \$40 per 1000 miles.



Elite Status Benefits

- Explain “Loyalty Points” vs “Reward Points”
 - Why earning Elite Status multiplies your rewards
 - Examples:
 - American Airlines Gold / Platinum – free bags, priority boarding, upgrades
 - Marriott / Hyatt – free breakfast, late checkout, room upgrades
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Section 2: How to Earn Reward Points

December Example – Earning American Airlines Miles During Christmas Time

Using:

Citi® AAdvantage® Platinum Select® Credit Card

- **2X Miles** – Gas, Groceries & Restaurants
- **1X Mile** – All Other Purchases
- **1 Loyalty Point** per dollar spent

Holiday Spending Breakdown

Category	Amount Spent	Miles Earned	Loyalty Points Earned
Gifts	\$300	300 miles	300 pts
Monthly Bills (Phone, Internet, Cable, Gas, Water, Power, Insurance)	\$600	600 miles	600 pts
Dining Out (2x)	\$100	200 miles	100 pts
Groceries (2x)	\$500	1,000 miles	500 pts
Gas (2x)	\$100	200 miles	100 pts

Totals

- **Total Miles Earned:** 2,300 miles
- **Total Loyalty Points:** 1,600 points
- **Total Spent:** \$1,500

Takeaway:

With everyday spending during the holidays, you can easily earn **2,300 miles and 1,600 Loyalty Points** — just by using your **Citi AAdvantage Platinum Card** strategically on groceries, gas, and dining.

Example: Booking Travel Using AAdvantage Partners

How to Earn AAdvantage® Miles & Loyalty Points with Travel Purchases

(Using the Citi® AAdvantage® Executive Card + AAdvantage Travel Websites)

Credit Card Earning Rates:

- 10X Miles – AAdvantage Hotels bookings
 - 10X Miles – AAdvantage Car Rentals
 - 4X Miles – American Airlines Flights on AA.com
 - 1X Mile – All Other Purchases
 - 1 Loyalty Point per dollar spent
- 2 Loyalty Point Bonus at 40K & 90K – Earn 10k Loyalty Point

Category	Amount Spent	Earning Rate	Miles Earned	Bonus Miles & Loyalty Points
 AA.com Flights Purchase	\$900	4X per \$1	3,600 Miles	900 Loyalty Points
 Hotel (booked via aadvantagehotels.com)	\$600	10X per \$1	6,000 Miles	+9,520 Bonus Miles (website promo)
 Car Rental (booked via aadvantagecars.com)	\$200	10X per \$1	2,000 Miles	+200 Bonus Miles (website promo)

Total Earned

Airline Miles Earned: 22,120

Loyalty Points Earned:

- Credit Card Spend: 1,700 Points
- Hotel Bonus: 9,520 Points
- Car Rental Bonus: 200 Points

Total = 11,420 Loyalty Points

+30% Elite Status Bonus:

$9,720 \times 0.30 = +2,916$ Bonus Loyalty Points

Final Total Loyalty Points:

$11,420 + 2,916 = 14,336$ Points

Status Progress: You're almost halfway to Gold Status!

(40,000 Loyalty Points required for Gold)

■ Maximize Your United MileagePlus Points

Example: \$100 JCPenney Purchase

Step 1 – Buy Gift Card on MileagePlus X App

- \$100 purchase → **100 miles** (credit card)
- MileagePlus X bonus → **300 miles**

Step 2 – Shop Through United Shopping Portal

- Click into JCPenney.com via portal
- Use \$100 gift card to checkout → **300 miles**

Step 3 – Total Points Earned

Source	Miles Earned
Credit Card	100
MileagePlus X App	300
Shopping Portal	300
■ Total	700 Miles

■ **7x More Miles Without Spending Extra!**

AAdvantage Shopping Portal Example

- Shop via **AAdvantageShopping.com**
 - Earn 3X–10X Miles at stores like **Apple, Samsung, Macy's, Nike**
 - Example: New iPhone \$1,000 → 5X Miles = 5,000 Miles
 - Add AAdvantage Button to your browser to never miss bonus points
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Section 3: How to Redeem Reward Points

Airline Redemption Examples – American Airlines

Route	One-Way Miles	Notes
MFE → BCN (Barcelona)	22.5K	Off-Peak Saver
MFE → CDG (Paris)	22.5K	Off-Peak Saver
MFE → SYD (Sydney)	40K	Long-Haul Saver
MFE → HON (Hawaii)	22K	Domestic Award
MFE → HND (Tokyo)	35K	Asia Saver

United Airlines MileagePlus Redemptions

Route	Miles (avg)	Notes
MFE → MAD (Madrid)	30K	Saver Award
MAD → HON (Hawaii)	22K	Saver Award
MAD → HND (Tokyo)	40K	Long-Haul Saver

Hotel Redemption Examples

Marriott Bonvoy:

- Courtyard Paris Saint-Denis – Feb 11–16, 2026 → ~25K pts/night
- Marriott DFW Airport → ~18K pts/night

World of Hyatt:

- Hyatt Regency Tokyo Bay → 12K pts/night
- Hyatt Regency Waikiki (Honolulu) → 20K pts/night
- Park Hyatt Paris-Vendôme → 40K pts/night

 *Tip:* Hyatt points often stretch further, offering luxury stays for fewer points.

 **Final Message** "Reward travel isn't about spending more — it's about being strategic with how you spend.

Turn your daily expenses into dream vacations — one swipe at a time!"



Introduction to American Airlines AAdvantage Program

American Airlines elite status offers perks like priority boarding, upgrades, and lounge access to loyal AAdvantage members, earned by accumulating Loyalty Points through flying, credit card spending, and partner purchases. There are four main tiers: Gold, Platinum, Platinum Pro, and Executive Platinum, with the top tier granting the most benefits.

How to Earn Elite Status

- **Loyalty Points:** The single metric for earning status is Loyalty Points, earned through the following:
 - **Flying:** Earning points on American Airlines and [Oneworld](#) partner flights.
 - **Credit Cards:** Spending with AAdvantage co-branded credit cards.
 - **Shopping & Dining:** Making purchases with partners like AAdvantage eShopping, Dining, Hotels & Car Rentals.

The Elite Status Tiers

- **[AAdvantage Gold](#)**: Requires 40,000 Loyalty Points.
- **[AAdvantage Platinum](#)**: Requires 75,000 Loyalty Points.
- **[AAdvantage Platinum Pro](#)**: Requires 125,000 Loyalty Points.
- **[AAdvantage Executive Platinum](#)**: The top tier, requiring 200,000 Loyalty Points.

Key Benefits

- **Upgrades**: Complimentary upgrades to premium cabins on flights. The timing of these upgrades (e.g., 24 hours before departure) depends on your status tier.
 - **Free Checked Bags**: The number of free checked bags provided increases with status.
 - **Priority Services**: Includes priority check-in, security, and boarding.
 - **Bonus Miles**: A mileage bonus is applied to paid flights, which increases with each tier.
- **Oneworld Benefits**: Higher tiers provide access to Oneworld Ruby, Sapphire, and Emerald benefits for travel on other alliance airlines, such as lounge access when you travel Int'l.
- **Other Perks**: Some tiers offer benefits like waived same-day flight change fees, complimentary Main Cabin Extra seating, and access to [Flagship First Dining](#).

Qualification Period

- **Annual Cycle**: The qualification period runs from **March 1st to February 28th** each year. The status earned is valid through the end of March of the following year.
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American Airlines Redemption Opportunities ✈️

Redeem your AAdvantage miles for incredible travel experiences!

Keep in mind that these rates are typically available during **off-peak travel periods** (September–mid-November and after New Year’s–early May). Availability is limited during major holidays and peak summer months.

Sample One-Way Flight Redemptions:

- **Domestic Flights (U.S.)** – 6K to 15K miles each way
- **Hawaii** – 22K miles each way
- **Europe** (London, Paris, Amsterdam, Madrid, Rome, Athens) – 22.5K miles each way
- **Japan / Korea** – 35K miles each way
- **Australia** – 40K miles each way

💡 *Pro Tip:* Flexibility in dates can save you thousands of miles. Avoid peak season for the best deals.

🌐 Websites to Learn More

- [The Points Guy](#)
- [Point.me](#)
- [View From the Wing](#)
- [One Mile at a Time](#)

💳 Credit Card Recommendations

Chase

- **Chase Sapphire Preferred** – \$95 annual fee
 - 3x on Food
 - 3x on Travel
- **Chase Ink Business** – \$95 annual fee

Citi (American Airlines Credit Cards)

1. Citi AAdvantage Platinum Select World Elite Mastercard

- 2x Miles on Restaurants & Gas Stations
- \$0 intro Annual Fee (first year)

2. Citi AAdvantage Executive World Elite Mastercard

- \$595 Annual Fee
- 10x Points on Hotels & Car Rentals
- 4x Points on American Airline Flights
- Free AA Lounge Access (1 year)
- +20K Loyalty Points

3. Citi Strata Elite Card – *Brand New*

- \$595 Annual Fee
- Earn ThankYou Points – Transfer to AA & other partners
- 80K Bonus
- 1.5x on all purchases
- 3x on Restaurants

American Airlines Resources

- Create AAdvantage Account → aa.com/loyalty/enrollment/enroll
 - Register for AAdvantage Dining → aadvantagedining.com
 - Hotels → aadvantagehotels.com
 - Car Rentals → aadvantagecars.com
 - Online Shopping → aadvantageeshopping.com
 - Install Shopping Button → aadvantageeshopping.com/button
 - Bask Bank - Saving Account - <https://baskbank.com/products/mileage-savings-account>
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United Airlines Resources

- Register MileagePlus Account → united.com
 - Online Shopping → shopping.mileageplus.com
 - Install Shopping Button → shopping.mileageplus.com/button
 - MileagePlus X App (Gift Cards & Miles) → [MileagePlus X App](#)
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Southwest Airlines Resources

- Create Account → southwest.com/loyalty/enroll
 - Online Shopping → rapidrewardsshopping.southwest.com
 - Install Shopping Button → rapidrewardsshopping.southwest.com/button
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World of Hyatt Loyalty Program

Overview

The World of Hyatt program is free to join and rewards members for hotel stays, dining, and spa services. Points can be redeemed for free nights, upgrades, and experiences. Elite status is achieved by qualifying nights or base points, unlocking valuable perks like room upgrades, lounge access, and late checkout.

How to Earn Points & Benefits

- **Hotel Stays:** Earn base points for every eligible U.S. dollar spent.
- **Credit Cards:** The World of Hyatt Credit Card offers accelerated points, free night awards, and elite status benefits.
- **Loyalty Partners:** Earn with American Airlines AAdvantage®, Small Luxury Hotels of the World™, and Lindblad Expeditions.
- **Brand Explorer:** Stay at five different Hyatt brands to earn a free night award.

Elite Status & Perks

- **Discoverist, Explorist, Globalist:** Earn status via nights or base points.
- **Perks:** Member discounts, room upgrades, premium Wi-Fi, late checkout, lounge access, and confirmed suite upgrades for Globalists.

Redeeming Points

- **Free Nights:** Hyatt offers some of the best-value redemptions among major hotel chains.
- **Sample Award Nights:**
 - Hyatt Regency Sydney – 15K pts/night
 - Hyatt Regency Waikiki (Honolulu) – 20K pts/night
 - Hyatt Regency Tokyo Bay – 12K pts/night
 - Park Hyatt Paris-Vendôme – 40K pts/night
 - Hyatt Regency Times Square NYC – 29K pts/night
 - Hyatt Centric Fisherman's Wharf SF – 15K pts/night

Highlights

Hyatt's redemption rates (12K–40K) let you stay at prime locations worldwide for fewer points than most competitors. The main limitation is Hyatt's smaller global footprint compared to Marriott or Hilton.

Join Free: [hyatt.com](https://www.hyatt.com)



Marriott Bonvoy Rewards Program

Overview

Marriott Bonvoy is the largest hotel loyalty program worldwide, offering points on stays, elite status benefits, and flexible redemptions across thousands of properties.

How to Earn Points

- **Hotel Stays:** Earn ~10 points per \$1 spent on eligible stays and incidentals.
- **Elite Status Bonus:** Higher tiers earn additional percentage bonuses.
- **Co-Branded Credit Cards:** Chase and American Express Marriott cards boost earnings.

Elite Status Tiers

- **Member (0–9 nights):** Free Wi-Fi & member rates.
- **Silver Elite (10 nights):** +10% bonus points, late checkout.
- **Gold Elite (25 nights):** +25% bonus points, welcome gift, upgrades.
- **Platinum Elite (50 nights):** +50% bonus points, 4 PM late checkout, lounge access, Annual Choice Benefit.
- **Titanium Elite (75 nights):** +75% bonus points, guaranteed availability, upgrades.
- **Ambassador Elite (100+ nights + spend):** Top-tier perks & dedicated ambassador.

Redeeming Points

- **Free Nights:** Redeem points at Marriott properties worldwide.
- **5th Night Free:** Book 4 nights with points, get the 5th free (one of the best perks).
- **Upgrades & Experiences:** Use points for room upgrades, dining, and partner activities.

Highlights

Marriott offers **global reach** and great flexibility. While redemptions often cost more than Hyatt, the “**5th Night Free**” benefit makes it very valuable for longer stays.

Join Free: marriott.com

✓ **Tip:** Always stack rewards by using:

- Credit Card Points
- Shopping Portals
- Dining Rewards
- Special Promotions

This strategy lets you **multiply your miles** for everyday purchases!



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