

Travel Hacking (part 1)

jholt.me/travel-hacking

Opening Comments

I do not recommend engaging in travel hacking if you are currently trying to pay off credit card debt.

Please note that all prices, point values, and bonuses mentioned in this document are accurate as of August 24, 2024. These values may change over time.

Steps to Travel Hacking - Part 1

1. **Open a Chase Sapphire Preferred Card (link at the bottom of this document).**

Meet the requirements to earn the introductory bonus. As of August 24, 2024, the Chase Sapphire Credit Card offers a 60,000-point bonus. You can earn this bonus after spending \$4,000 within three months.

2. **Join World of Hyatt (for free).**

After three months, open a free World of Hyatt account. When booking hotels, Chase points are often most valuable when transferred to your Hyatt account.

Example:

You could stay at a [Hyatt in Niagara Falls, NY](#) (Category 3) for approximately 9,000-12,000 points per night. With the 60,000 bonus points, you could stay there for about six nights—for free!

Keep in mind that while hotel prices can fluctuate, the point value for a night's stay might remain the same. For instance, a night at the Hyatt Place Niagara Falls might be valued at around \$120 in points (9,000 points), while the same 9,000 points could also cover a night at the [Hyatt Place Aruba Airport](#) (Category 3), where the cash price is around \$230 per night.

3. **Do Your Research.**

It's crucial to research price points before booking. Prices and point values can increase on weekends and holidays. Booking months in advance can often secure better deals.

Hyatt Hotel Categories:

- Categories 1-4: Introductory hotels
- Categories 5-8: Luxury hotels

4. The higher the category, the higher the points required per night. For example, I have stayed in Category 2 hotels for as low as 3,000 points per night and in Category 6 luxury hotels for 25,000 points per night. You can use your 60,000 bonus points for an extended stay at a lower-category hotel or a shorter, luxurious getaway at a higher-category Hyatt.

5. **Earn More Points by Referring Others.**

You can earn an additional 10,000 points per referral when a friend or family member signs up using your Chase Sapphire referral link.

If you found this information helpful, please consider [signing up with my referral link](#)! It helps my family enjoy more free vacations throughout the year. Thanks!