

UNDERSTANDING

RBC AVION

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO CANADA'S
LEADING FLEXIBLE TRAVEL REWARDS PROGRAM



— 100%

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INTRODUCTION

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WHAT IS RBC AVION?

RBC Avion is Royal Bank of Canada's premium travel rewards program and one of Canada's most flexible points currencies. Unlike airline co-branded cards that lock you into a single program, **Avion points can be transferred to 15+ airline and hotel partners** — spanning Star Alliance, oneworld, and beyond.

Most Canadian loyalty programs tie you to one airline alliance. RBC Avion connects you to **both Star Alliance and oneworld** — and a handful of hotel programs — from a single wallet of points.

Key fundamentals:

- Earn points through RBC Avion credit cards on everyday spending
- Transfer to 15+ airline and hotel partners at competitive ratios
- Redeem through the RBC Rewards travel portal for any travel purchase
- No blackout dates when booking through the portal
- Points don't expire as long as your card remains active

"RBC Avion gives Canadian travelers rare multi-alliance access — Star Alliance via Aeroplan AND oneworld via British Airways Avios — from one credit card."



CHAPTER 1

THE RBC AVION ECOSYSTEM

STRATEGIC ADVANTAGES	BEST USE CASES
Star Alliance access via Aeroplan transfer	Canadian domestic flights via WestJet
oneworld access via Avios and Asia Miles	Short-haul US/Caribbean via British Airways Avios
WestJet Rewards for domestic Canadian travel	Long-haul premium cabins via Cathay or American
British Airways Avios for short-haul sweet spots	Economy bookings — no blackout dates via portal
Cathay Pacific Asia Miles for premium Asian routes	Complex itineraries where partner availability varies

Why Multi-Alliance Access Matters

Having access to both Star Alliance (Air Canada, Lufthansa, Singapore, United, ANA) and oneworld (British Airways, American, Cathay, Qantas) means you can almost always find the best award availability and pricing for any route — regardless of which alliance operates it best.

This is a significant advantage over single-alliance Canadian programs, which can be blocked when one alliance has poor availability on a specific route.



CHAPTER 2

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HOW TO EARN RBC AVION POINTS

1. RBC Avion Credit Cards — the core engine

Earn 1–1.25 points per dollar on all purchases depending on card tier. Bonus categories on travel and dining. Welcome bonuses of up to 55,000+ points on the premium tier.

2. RBC Banking Relationship

Bonus points for holding multiple RBC products. Mortgage and investment bonuses are occasionally offered, adding to your travel balance from your broader banking relationship.

3. RBC Offers & Promotions

Watch for targeted spending offers, seasonal bonus categories, and partner promotions that accelerate earning on specific categories like dining, gas, or travel.

4. Partner Spending

- Earn bonus points at select retail and dining partners
- Hotel partners: earn points on qualifying stays
- Travel portal: additional rewards on bookings through RBC Travel

YOUR CREDIT CARD IS YOUR PRIMARY EARNING ENGINE WITH RBC AVION. CHOOSE THE RIGHT TIER AND YOUR EVERYDAY SPENDING QUIETLY BUILDS TOWARD YOUR NEXT JOURNEY.



CHAPTER 3

RBC AVION CREDIT CARDS

CARD	EARNING RATE	KEY PERKS	BEST FOR
RBC Avion Visa Infinite	1.25x all purchases; 1.75x travel	Travel insurance, Priority Pass (select), transfer partners	Most travelers – strong everyday card
RBC Avion Visa Infinite Privilege	1.25x all; 2x travel & dining	Priority Pass unlimited, travel credits, premium insurance	Frequent travelers wanting lounge access
RBC Avion Visa Business Infinite	1.25x all business spending	Business-specific benefits, employee cards	Small business owners

Key Benefits of RBC Avion Cards

- Comprehensive travel insurance including emergency medical, trip cancellation, and flight delay
- No foreign transaction fees on premium tiers
- Priority Pass airport lounge access (Visa Infinite Privilege)
- Flexible point transfers to 15+ airline and hotel partners
- No blackout dates when redeeming through the RBC Rewards portal

Welcome bonuses: RBC Avion cards regularly offer 35,000–55,000+ point welcome bonuses. For new cardholders, this can be enough for a Business Class redemption on many routes.



CHAPTER 4

TRANSFER PARTNERS

RBC Avion's transfer network is what sets it apart from most Canadian rewards programs — access to **both Star Alliance and oneworld** partners.

Airline Transfer Partners

AIRLINE PROGRAM	ALLIANCE	BEST USE
Air Canada Aeroplan	Star Alliance	Canada, US, Europe, Asia via Star Alliance
British Airways Avios	oneworld	Europe short-haul, transatlantic via BA/AA
Cathay Pacific Asia Miles	oneworld	Asia, Australia, premium cabins on Cathay
American Airlines AAdvantage	oneworld	US domestic, transatlantic, Latin America
WestJet Rewards	Standalone	Canadian domestic and sun destinations
Singapore KrisFlyer	Star Alliance	Asia, Australia, premium Suites Class

Hotel Transfer Partners

- **Marriott Bonvoy** — valuable for hotel stays and airline mile transfers

THE VALUE OF RBC AVION ISN'T IN ANY ONE PARTNER. IT'S IN HAVING THE RIGHT PARTNER AVAILABLE FOR EVERY TYPE OF TRIP YOU WANT TO TAKE.



How to Redeem RBC Avion Points

Option 1 — Transfer to a partner airline. Best for premium cabin redemptions. Transfer points to Aeroplan, Avios, Asia Miles, or AAdvantage and book award flights through that program.

Option 2 — Book through the RBC Rewards Travel Portal. No blackout dates, flexible redemption on any flight. Points applied at 1¢–1.5¢ per point value depending on flight type.

Best Redemption Scenarios

TRIP TYPE	BEST REDEMPTION PATH	WHY
Canadian domestic flights	WestJet Rewards transfer	Good value, wide availability
Transatlantic Business Class	Aeroplan or Avios transfer	Fixed award pricing = huge value
Asia Business Class	Cathay Asia Miles transfer	Cathay QSuites are world-renowned
Any flight, no restrictions	RBC Rewards Portal	Maximum flexibility, no blackouts

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Redeeming for merchandise or cash — always worse value than flights
- Not checking transfer ratios before moving points — some are better than others
- Missing welcome bonus spending requirements — a costly oversight



YOUR ACTION PLAN

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RBC AVION ACTION PLAN

- ✓ Apply for the RBC Avion Visa Infinite or Privilege card
- ✓ Meet the welcome bonus spending requirement in the first 3 months
- ✓ Use the card for all everyday spending — groceries, gas, dining, bills
- ✓ Set a redemption goal — pick a dream route and decide which transfer partner fits best
- ✓ Build accounts in Aeroplan, BA Avios, and Asia Miles — free to join
- ✓ Transfer only when you have a confirmed award booking ready
- ✓ Book a free strategy call with Le Travelogist for a personalized Avion roadmap

Summary

RBC Avion is the most versatile travel card for Canadian travelers. Its multi-alliance transfer access — rare among Canadian bank cards — gives you the flexibility to always find the best redemption for any destination. Combine it with a focused transfer strategy and a clear redemption goal, and it becomes one of the most powerful tools in your travel loyalty toolkit.

Ready to Build Your RBC Avion Strategy?

Visit letravelogist.com or book a discovery call — let's build a loyalty strategy tailored to your travel life.

Book a Free Discovery Call → letravelogist.com

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