

UNDERSTANDING
WORLD OF
HYATT

YOUR COMPLETE GUIDE TO PREMIUM STAYS,
WELLNESS & ELITE BENEFITS



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WELCOME MESSAGE

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WELCOME TO YOUR WORLD OF HYATT GUIDE

Welcome to your World of Hyatt Guide, curated by Le Travelogist!

World of Hyatt is widely regarded as the highest-value hotel loyalty program in the industry — punching far above its weight despite having fewer properties than Marriott or Hilton. Its points are worth more per redemption, its elite benefits are richer, and its partnership with Chase Ultimate Rewards makes it one of the most accessible programs for credit card point earners.

This guide will help you:

- Understand Hyatt's category-based award system and where the sweet spots are
- Navigate the Discoverist → Globalist status ladder
- Leverage the Chase Ultimate Rewards 1:1 transfer partnership
- Identify the highest-value free night certificate redemptions
- Build a Hyatt strategy even if you rarely stay at Hyatt properties

Le Travelogist Team



INTRODUCTION

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WHAT IS WORLD OF HYATT?

World of Hyatt is the loyalty program of Hyatt Hotels Corporation — a premium hospitality brand with 1,000+ properties across 68 countries. Hyatt focuses on the upper-midscale to luxury segment, with a particularly strong wellness and lifestyle identity through brands like Miraval and Alila.

Key World of Hyatt fundamentals:

- Join free — earn from your first eligible stay
- Category-based award system (1–8) — not dynamic pricing
- 1:1 transfer partnership with Chase Ultimate Rewards
- Waived resort fees on award stays for Globalist members
- Guest of Honor benefit — gift a free night to a friend or family member
- Points expire after 24 months of account inactivity

Why Hyatt points are worth more: The category-based (not dynamic) pricing means a Park Hyatt in Paris or a Miraval resort always costs the same points regardless of cash rate. This creates extraordinary value — a \$900/night room for 25,000–35,000 points.



CHAPTER 1

THE HYATT BRAND PORTFOLIO

Hyatt's 30+ brands span from all-inclusive resorts to urban boutique hotels to wellness retreats. The premium positioning means fewer budget options — but extraordinary value at the top end.

TIER	KEY BRANDS	AWARD CATEGORY
Ultra Luxury	Park Hyatt, Alila, Miraval	Cat 5–8
Luxury	Grand Hyatt, Andaz, Hyatt Regency	Cat 3–7
Lifestyle	Thompson Hotels, Joie de Vivre, Hyatt Centric	Cat 2–6
Select Service	Hyatt Place, Hyatt House	Cat 1–4
All-Inclusive	Hyatt Ziva, Hyatt Zilara, Secrets (via partnership)	Cat 1–5

The Wellness Brands — Miraval & Alila

Miraval resorts (Arizona, Austin, Berkshires) are among the world's premier wellness destinations — normally \$500–\$1,200+ per night. Bookable with Hyatt points at category rates, these represent some of the highest per-night cash values achievable in hotel loyalty redemptions.

SWEET SPOT: ALILA PROPERTIES IN BALI AND SOUTHEAST ASIA OFFER EXTRAORDINARY VALUE — 5-STAR VILLAS, OFTEN AT CATEGORY 4–5 RATES (15,000–25,000 POINTS/NIGHT) AGAINST CASH RATES OF \$400–\$800+.



Stays — The Core

Earn **5 base points per \$1** on eligible room rates at all Hyatt brands. Elite members earn bonus multipliers. Always book directly through Hyatt — third-party bookings don't qualify.

Chase Ultimate Rewards Transfer — The Game Changer

Chase Ultimate Rewards transfers to World of Hyatt at a **1:1 ratio** — the single most valuable hotel transfer in the Chase ecosystem. This means everyday spending on Chase Sapphire cards can fund Hyatt redemptions without ever sleeping in a Hyatt property.

The World of Hyatt Credit Card

The co-branded World of Hyatt Visa earns 4x at Hyatt properties and contributes qualifying nights toward elite status — 5 qualifying nights per \$10,000 spent on the card (up to \$50k/year).

Other Earning Channels

- **Dining at Hyatt restaurants** — earn points at hotel F&B outlets
- **Small Luxury Hotels of the World** — earn Hyatt points at 500+ independent luxury properties worldwide
- **MGM Resorts** — earn and redeem Hyatt points at MGM Las Vegas properties
- **Lindblad Expeditions** — earn on expedition cruises

Chase transfer strategy: Build Chase Ultimate Rewards through the Sapphire Preferred or Reserve. Transfer to Hyatt only when you have a confirmed high-value award booking — the 1:1 ratio makes this the best use of Chase points for premium hotel stays.



CHAPTER 3

ELITE STATUS TIERS & BENEFITS

World of Hyatt has four status tiers. Globalist — the top tier — is regarded as the most valuable elite hotel status in the industry for the benefits it delivers relative to the nights required.

STATUS	NIGHTS REQUIRED	STANDOUT BENEFITS
Member	0	Base earning, member rates, free Wi-Fi
Discoverist	10 nights	10% bonus points, preferred room, premium internet
Explorist	30 nights	20% bonus points, room upgrades, club lounge access
Globalist	60 nights	30% bonus, confirmed suite upgrades, complimentary breakfast, waived resort fees, 4pm late check-out, Guest of Honor

Globalist's Standout Benefits in Detail

Waived resort fees on award stays — at properties charging \$50–\$100+/night in resort fees, this benefit alone can save \$350–\$700 on a week-long award stay.

Complimentary breakfast for two — at all Hyatt full-service properties worldwide. At Park Hyatt and Grand Hyatt properties, this typically represents \$40–\$80 per day in value.

Guest of Honor — Globalists can grant a friend or family member the ability to book award nights and receive Globalist benefits on your behalf. One of the most unique perks in hotel loyalty.



CHAPTER 4

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AWARD CATEGORIES & REDEMPTIONS

World of Hyatt uses a **fixed category system** — not dynamic pricing. This is its defining advantage. A Park Hyatt in Milan always costs the same number of points regardless of whether the cash rate is \$400 or \$900.

CATEGORY	STANDARD AWARD	PEAK	OFF-PEAK
Category 1	5,000 pts/night	6,500	3,500
Category 2	8,000 pts/night	10,000	6,500
Category 3	12,000 pts/night	15,000	9,000
Category 4	15,000 pts/night	19,000	12,000
Category 5	20,000 pts/night	25,000	16,000
Category 6	25,000 pts/night	30,000	20,000
Category 7	30,000 pts/night	38,000	24,000
Category 8	40,000 pts/night	50,000	30,000

Top Sweet Spots

- **Park Hyatt Paris** — Cat 7 (30,000 pts off-peak) vs. \$900+/night cash
- **Alila Villas Uluwatu, Bali** — Cat 5 (16,000 pts off-peak) vs. \$600+/night cash
- **Miraval Arizona** — Cat 7 (30,000 pts) vs. \$1,200+/night cash
- **Hyatt Ziva/Zilara all-inclusives** — all food & drink included in points cost

ALL-INCLUSIVE SWEET SPOT: HYATT ZIVA AND ZILARA PROPERTIES INCLUDE ALL MEALS, DRINKS, AND ACTIVITIES IN THE AWARD RATE. A 30,000-POINT CAT 5 NIGHT AT A HYATT ZIVA EFFECTIVELY REPLACES A \$400–\$500 ALL-INCLUSIVE CASH RATE.



Chase Ultimate Rewards — 1:1 Transfer

Chase Ultimate Rewards is the most important external earning tool for World of Hyatt. The 1:1 transfer ratio means every Chase point becomes a Hyatt point — and Hyatt points are worth 1.7–2.5¢+ per point when redeemed for premium stays.

Best Chase cards for Hyatt earning:

- **Chase Sapphire Reserve** — 3x travel & dining, 10x hotels via portal, lounge access
- **Chase Sapphire Preferred** — 3x dining, 2x travel, strong welcome bonus
- **Chase Freedom Unlimited** — 1.5x all purchases, pairs well with Sapphire Reserve

Small Luxury Hotels of the World

Hyatt's partnership with SLH allows members to earn and redeem Hyatt points at 500+ independent luxury properties worldwide — many in destinations where Hyatt has no branded hotels. This dramatically expands the program's geographic usefulness.

MGM Rewards Connection

Hyatt and MGM Resorts have a reciprocal status and earning partnership. Hyatt Globalists receive MGM Pearl status; MGM Gold status holders receive Hyatt Discoverist. Points can be earned at MGM Las Vegas properties and transferred to World of Hyatt.



CHAPTER 6

WORLD OF HYATT CREDIT CARD

The co-branded World of Hyatt Card (issued by Chase) is the cornerstone credit card for building Hyatt points without staying at Hyatt properties.

FEATURE	DETAIL
Annual Fee	~\$95
Welcome Bonus	Up to 60,000 Hyatt points (split between spend milestones)
Earning on Hyatt	4x points per \$1 at Hyatt properties
Everyday Earning	2x on dining, airlines, local transit; 1x all else
Annual Free Night	1 Category 1–4 free night each card anniversary year
Bonus Free Night	Additional Cat 1–4 free night after \$15k spend per year
Status Nights	5 qualifying nights per \$10,000 spend (up to \$50k)
Status Included	Discoverist (10 nights toward status automatically)

The Free Night Certificate Value

A Category 1–4 free night certificate covers properties worth 5,000–15,000 points per night. At a Category 4 Hyatt Regency with a cash rate of \$250–\$350, the certificate delivers 3–4x the value of the ~\$95 annual fee. One redemption typically justifies the card for the year.

BEST STRATEGY: HOLD BOTH THE WORLD OF HYATT CARD (FREE NIGHTS + STATUS NIGHTS) AND CHASE SAPPHIRE RESERVE (3X TRAVEL/DINING, 1:1 HYATT TRANSFERS). TOGETHER THEY FORM THE MOST POWERFUL HYATT-FOCUSED EARNING SETUP AVAILABLE.



CHAPTER 7

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TIPS TO MAXIMIZE WORLD OF HYATT

- Always book direct — third-party bookings do not earn Hyatt points or status credit
- Transfer Chase points to Hyatt only when a confirmed redemption is ready
- Target off-peak pricing — saves 20–30% versus standard rates on the same night
- Use annual free night certificates at Category 4 properties for maximum cash value
- At Globalist status, always claim the resort fee waiver on award nights
- Use the Guest of Honor benefit to give a companion the Globalist experience
- Check SLH properties for unique destinations where Hyatt has no branded hotels

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- **Transferring Chase points without a booking** — transfers are irreversible; always confirm availability first
- **Booking through Expedia or Hotels.com** — no points, no status, no upgrades
- **Ignoring peak/off-peak pricing** — the same night can cost 50% more points in peak season
- **Not using free night certs at premium properties** — always push them to the highest-category property available
- **Letting points expire** — any account activity resets the 24-month window

Ready to Build Your Hyatt Strategy?

Book a free discovery call with Le Travelogist for a personalized World of Hyatt roadmap.

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