

# Booking A flight with Points

## International

Point flights are called Award Flights, and they can be tricky to find. Airlines often call their cheapest award fares 'saver deals'. This is the step by step guide to finding them.

### Step 1 - Find your Route

Find out who flies the route you are looking for. This can be done using Google Flights, ITA Matrix, Point.me or Kayak. No destination in mind? Use google flights but put an entire continent as your destination to see popular routes.

### Pick your Search Tools

Which alliance flies your chosen route the most?  
Star Alliance - Use Air Canada as a search tool  
Sky Team - Use Air France as a search tool  
One World - Use British Airways as a search tool

### Pick Your Search Order

- If Booking a year in advance:
  - Europe: Iberia (1-2 People Only), Air France, Air Canada, Virgin Atlantic
  - Asia: ANA, Cathay Pacific, Singapore
  - Africa: Air Canada, Air France
  - South America: Iberia, United
  - Middle East: British Airways, Emirates
- If Booking 6 months or less in advance:
  - If flying East: Air France is your best bet. Air Canada second. British Airways and Virgin Atlantic.
  - If Flying West: Cathay Pacific, Air Canada, Singapore Air

### Perform your searches

#### Search Tips:

- British Airways flights always go through the UK and add big fees. Use BA to search for Iberia or Qatar flights instead.
- Virgin Atlantic and Iberia have the best prices and options for premium economy.
- Beware of 'mixed cabin' itineraries.
- ANA flights are often waitlisted but they have good deals with their partners.
- On Air France, leave the date blank to see the calendar. (beware, it's not great)
- AA Saver awards are 57,500 points in business class to most areas. If you have AA miles, use their calendar view to find saver availability. It's a great deal.

### Transfer Points and book

Chase, Amex, Capital One, Citi and Bilt all have an area on their website or app to transfer points. Go to "Redeem points" And find the transfer to travel partners option. Point transfers are instant for most programs. Always make sure there is availability and that the flight is bookable before transferring points.