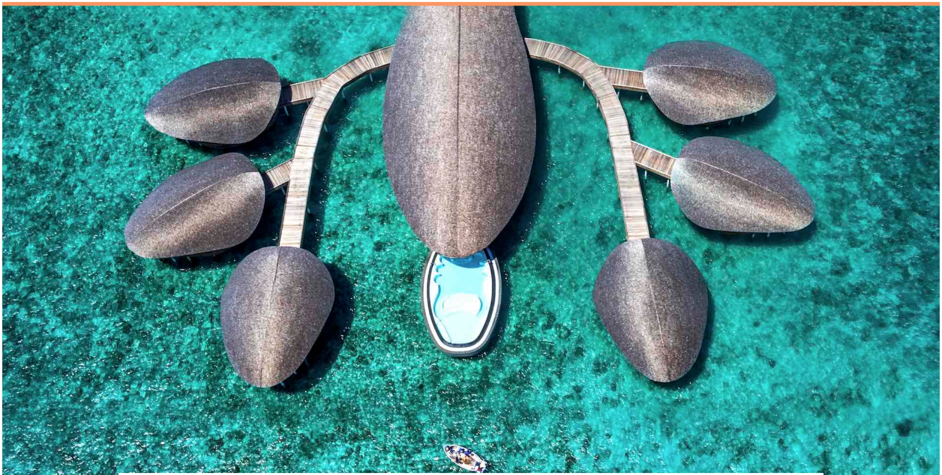


Dreams really do come true at The St. Regis Maldives. (Photo: Marriott International)

Tips + Trends

# Points-Savvy Travelers, Get Ready to Book: 10 Top-Redeemed Hotels in Asia and the Pacific

*By Kwin Mosby*

Have you daydreamed of taking a trip to Asia — perhaps to the Maldives, Japan, China or Thailand — but put your plans on hold? You may not need to any longer. As a Marriott Bonvoy member, you can redeem your points to make your dream vacation come true.

From a tropical island retreat to a bustling metropolis, here is the top 10 list of Marriott Bonvoy members' favorite hotels to redeem points across Asia and the Pacific (according to 2019 redemption data). Plan today, travel later. As always, check for travel restrictions and closures before planning your trip.

## 10. Courtyard Taipei Downtown; Taipei

(Photo: Marriott International)

Reduce your carbon footprint and stay at Taiwan’s first LEED certified hotel. Each room in the Courtyard Taipei Downtown has Eastern and Western art to accent the modern design and showcases views of the city skyline and Taipei 101 — once the tallest building in the world.

While here, immerse yourself in nearby local culture. Check out must-see attractions such as the National Palace Museum, one of the world’s largest collections of Chinese art, and Xingtian Temple, the most visited temple in northern Taiwan.

## 9. Renaissance Beijing Wangfujing Hotel; Beijing

LIVING MEXICO CITY

(Photo: Marriott International)

The Renaissance Beijing Wangfujing Hotel puts you in the center of a bustling city and close to China’s most beloved landmarks, including the Forbidden City and Tiananmen Square.

When hunger strikes, head to Wan Li, one of the hotel’s restaurants, which serves seasonal Chinese cuisine with Cantonese flavors. Stop by the hotel’s Food Studio restaurant if you like watching the chef prepare your food in an open kitchen. Afterward, pop into the R Bar to sip handcrafted cocktails or a local craft beer while listening to live music.

## 8. The St. Regis Maldives Vommuli Resort; Maldives

(Photo: Marriott International)

Most travelers only dream of a private island retreat like this property. From your villa's private balcony you'll be captivated by unobstructed views of the Indian Ocean's turquoise waters and the island's lush tropical gardens.

If you're looking for a more active stay, try scuba diving or snorkeling and explore the marine life and surrounding coral reef. For guests who want additional R&R, head to the Iridium Spa for a dip in the Blue Hole Pool — one of the largest hydrotherapy pools in the Maldives.

And for food, this resort has a range of dining options — from a pizzeria where you can design your own pizza to a subterranean restaurant where you can savor a five-course meal with wine pairings.

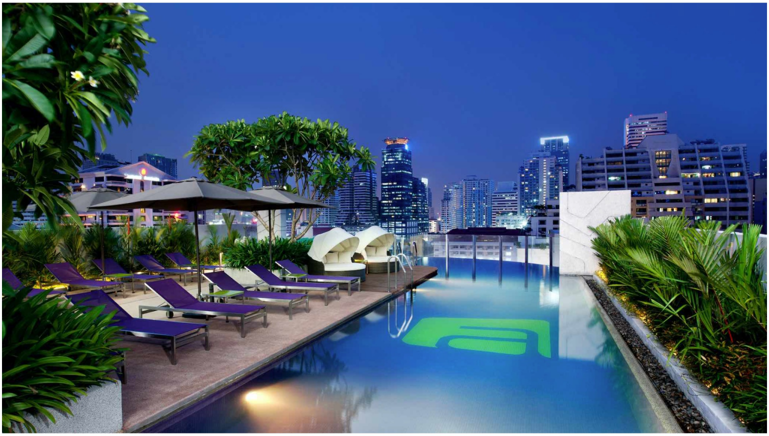
## 7. The Ritz-Carlton, Kyoto; Kyoto

(Photo: Marriott International)

At this five-star hotel, a kimono-clad associate guides you to your room and serves you traditional Japanese tea while you check in. Once you're settled, the resort offers access to immersive excursions and activities. Explore Kyoto in a rickshaw, master the art of sushi, create your own Zen garden, and learn basic kenbu moves with a real samurai sword.

Feel the stress fade at the hotel spa when you request the signature treatment, the Ryokucha Serenity Ritual, which pays homage to local traditions. And when you're hungry, tuck into local flavors at four different dining venues that showcase both Japanese and Western cuisine.

## 6. Aloft Bangkok Sukhumvit 11; Bangkok



(Photo: Marriott International)

If you're looking for an action-packed stay in Bangkok, the Aloft Bangkok Sukhumvit 11 delivers. You can easily hop on a hotel shuttle to the SkyTrain and subway stations to explore the city. But if you decide to stay close to the property, pop by Terminal 21 Shopping Mall to browse through dozens of shops that sell international brands and local handicrafts.

Back at the hotel, featured amenities include the Splash Outdoor Pool as well as four restaurants and bars, including W XYZ Bar. This trendy spot is a popular place to try handcrafted cocktails and listen to music.

## 5. Royal Orchid Sheraton Hotel & Towers; Bangkok

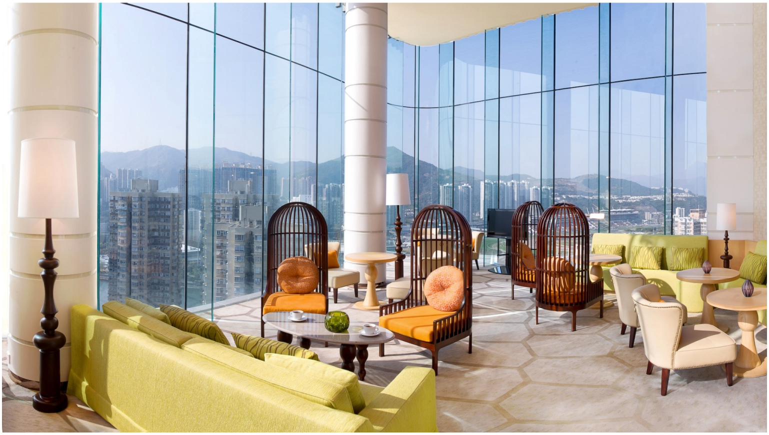
(Photo: Marriott International)

Slowly sipping a cup of coffee by your hotel room window while watching the serene Chao Phraya River below is the perfect way to start the day at Bangkok's Royal Orchid Sheraton.

During your stay here, swim in one of two pools or maintain your healthy lifestyle by hitting the 24-hour fitness center and outdoor tennis court.

This five-star hotel also has four unique, riverside restaurants, but dinner at Thara Thong is a must. Eat authentic Thai food inside a traditional hand-carved teakwood pavilion while local musicians and dancers perform.

## 4. Courtyard Hong Kong Sha Tin; Hong Kong



(Photo: Marriott International)

The Ten Thousand Buddhas Monastery and Sha Tin Racecourse — Hong Kong's biggest horse racing stadium — are just two of many popular attractions near this hotel. In fact, the hotel provides complimentary bus service to many of the area's most popular destinations.

Not ready to leave the comfy property? Check out views of the racecourse, Tolo Harbour and Shing Mun River from LEVELthirty Lounge & Bar while drinking a handcrafted cocktail. For something more substantial, head to MoMo Café for international fare and an open-concept kitchen where you can watch chefs prepare their specialties.

## 3. The Ritz-Carlton, Tokyo; Tokyo

(Photo: Marriott International)

You'll enter this five-star luxury hotel on the 45th floor of the tallest building in Tokyo. Your room's floor-to-ceiling windows make it easy to see Tokyo Tower, National Stadium and Mount Fuji.

During your stay, broaden your culinary tastes at the Michelin-starred Azure 45, which serves French cuisine; Hinokizaka, serving traditional Japanese food; and Towers, where the head sommelier selects the wine to pair with your seafood dinner.

Don't leave without trying one of the hotel spa's innovative therapies, such as the Sakura treatment, which incorporates rose quartz crystals and essential oils to help you relax.

## 2. Courtyard Taipei; Taipei

(Photo: Marriott International)

No need to worry if you want to see as much of Taipei as possible. Why? Because this hotel is conveniently built on top of a major station for the Nangang Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) and High Speed Rail (HSR).

The location is ideal if you want to explore the city and take advantage of recommended things to do and see, such as play a round of golf at the Ta Shee Golf & Country Club or pamper yourself at the Jourdeness Spa.

After sunset, walk along Roahe Street to experience one of several night markets in Taipei that sell everything from handcrafted leather goods to tasty street food.

## 1. The Westin Tokyo; Tokyo

(Photo: Marriott International)

This property offers serenity and quiet in the midst of Tokyo's bustle through a traditional Japanese garden and its location near a tranquil residential area. Still, the city's major sights are accessible via an easy stroll down a covered walkway leading to Ebisu Station.

The hotel gleams, from sweeping stone pillars in its lobby and spacious, elegantly furnished rooms to eight restaurants, including The Terrace, whose buffet of delicate confections draws Instagram devotees snapping enviable photos.

## HONORABLE MENTIONS:

*Honorable mention properties see a higher-than-average percentage of Marriott Bonvoy members redeeming points to stay there.*

## Aloft Nanhai, Foshan; Foshan

aloft
HOTELS

(Photo: Marriott International)

In addition to having a walk-in shower and custom Bliss Spa amenities, your room here comes equipped with a plug-and-play station for you to charge your phone, laptop and other electronics. An indoor swimming pool, Re:mix Lounge and Nook restaurant are other hotel amenities to check out during your stay.

## Suiran, a Luxury Collection Hotel, Kyoto; Kyoto

(Photo: Marriott International)

Looking for a hotel with a tranquil Kyoto vibe? Consider a stay at Suiran, located on the peaceful Hozu River. Keep the serene energy going with a trip to the spa for a green tea scrub or a dip in the open-air bath with healing waters straight from the Arashiyama hot springs.