



## Kayak Search API Specification

The table below details the exact HTTP calls you need to make for the search API. The idea is that you make this sequence of calls:

1. **GetSession**: for each search thread you make you need a session. You can make multiple searches in a row after a single **GetSession**, but you must have a separate **GetSession** call going to run searches in parallel. You can run as many searches as you want using your developer key in parallel, within quota.
2. **Start Search (flight or hotel)**: this will initiate the search, and give you a session id.
3. **Get Results (first time)**: you post to the general URL for results.
4. **Get Results (subsequent times)**: you should poll every 5-10 seconds until the **searchComplete** element is not **true**. You can specify filters to this call, and call it as many times as you want as long as the session is active.

Note that you should use **api.kayak.com** as the host name for connecting. If you are an affiliate, you should use the host name for your affiliate site, so that searches will track back to you. **Note well:** your code **must** accept the "cluster" set-cookie header that is returned on subsequent calls; otherwise your requests will be sent to a random cluster, and you may not get the results you want. Using [www.kayak.com](http://www.kayak.com) and honoring the cluster cookie is the best way to use the API. This can be more difficult, depending on the client technology you use.

Function	URL prefix with <a href="http://api.kayak.com">http://api.kayak.com</a>	Parameters (name and values)		Notes
GetSession	/k/ident/apisession	token	This is your <a href="#">developer key</a> .	<a href="#">Sample</a> You want to extract the session id value out (in this case, the value is <code>hX4III_wS\$8b06aC...</code> ). This is good for 30 minutes of parallel searches and will yield unpredictable results.  The session id (sid) returned in this call should be used in all subsequent calls to the search state.
		version	The version of the API that the client is expecting. The only current supported version is "1"	
Start Flight	/s/apisearch	basicmode	must be "true"	<a href="#">Sample</a>

			the client is expecting. The only current supported version is "1"	
		apimode	must be "1"	
Start Hotel Search	/s/apisearch	basicmode	must be "true"	<a href="#">Sample</a> The searchid is w with session ID) fo for results.
		apimode	must be "1"	
		othercity	String locating the city. Should be City, RegionCode, CountryCode for US, Canada. Should be City, CountryCode for others. Examples: "Boston, MA, US" "New York, NY, US" "Vancouver, BC, CA" "Paris, FR" "London, UK"	
		checkin_date	MM/DD/YYYY	
		checkout_date	MM/DD/YYYY	
		guests1	integer from 1-6	
		rooms	integer from 1-3	
		action	must be "dohotels"	
		_sid_	the Session ID you get from GetSession	
		version	The version of the API the client is expecting. The only current supported version is "1"	
Get Hotel Results	/s/apibasic/hotel	searchid	from the start search call	<a href="#">Sample</a> Eventually (after 3 "morepending" ele value "false." At th done, and you sh with the "c" param resultcount. Generally, you w requesting the m you need becaus less time to asse
		_sid_	the Session ID you get from GetSession	
		c	integer, the number of results to return	
		m	filter mode: normal or stars:? where ? is a 1,2,3,4 or 5	
		d	sort direction: up, down	