

## Compass

# Five Miles Up with ... Rebecca Minkoff

By [Bekah Wright](#)  
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They say blood, sweat and tears go into works of art. The same holds true for masterpieces created for the fashion industry's runway. Speaking of runways, designer Rebecca Minkoff is constantly taking off from those at airports, scouring the globe for inspiration for her upcoming lines. Where you'll find her? Sweating it out on the beaches of Turkey, standing in a puddle of tears in Milano Centrale, heeding her bloodhound senses while seeking out street trends in Hong Kong and, perhaps soon, reaching new frontiers in space.



(Photo: Courtesy of Rebecca Minkoff)

### What's something you never fail to pack in your suitcase?

My phone; can't go anywhere without it. I love sharing pictures with my Instagram followers of my travels.

### Carry-on or check-in?

Carry-on when possible. It makes it easier to get to your final destination.

### Window or aisle?

Window.

### What's your idea of the perfect vacation?

My ideal vacation would definitely involve one basic thing -- lying on a beach. You should know that I have, in my husband's words, a "pathological addiction to the sun." I love soaking up as much sun as I possibly can with good company, like my husband and friends.

### Tell us about a vacation you've taken that's come close thus far.

I went to [Turkey](#) three years ago with my husband and a group of our friends. It was amazing.

### What's the worst mishap you've experienced while traveling?

Not the worst vacation by any means, but a couple of years ago, I was in [Milan](#) with one of my best friends. Let me say that vintage shopping is always worth a risk to me. Italian fashion, like the wine, only gets better with age, so I take advantage of every moment to feast my eyes on *la moda vintage*. Four suitcases of treasures

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later, my bestie and I missed our train from Milan to [Bologna](#). We considered sleeping in the station and found a dark, damp corner, probably wet from the tears of those who missed their trains before us...

I learned an important lesson that night: never bribe a sleepy cab driver. Clearly he was not prepared for the journey, which explains why he fell asleep at the wheel. Three hundred Euros and three hours later, we barely arrived in one piece. But don't worry -- all handcrafted bags and one-of-a-kind jackets were safe and sound. Italy, I love you---but your amazing shopping almost cost me my life!

**Any favorite shopping haunts found on your travels?**

One particularly good find in [Hong Kong](#) was a store called Kitterick, home to the uber-fashionable street trends to trick out your wardrobe. Head downstairs if you're really in the mood to shop. Like most good things, it takes a dig, but when you come up for air, you've found a remarkable piece to pop your wardrobe for seasons to come.

**Favorite resort where you've stayed?**

I just went to The Cove Atlantis in the [Bahamas](#). I had an amazing time and highly recommend it -- great rooms with amazing views.

**Favorite restaurant you've discovered while traveling.**

I'm a foodie, so I can't pick just one. My favorite 'hood in [Paris](#) is Le Marais; they have so many great restaurants there -- Le 3, Pain Vin Fromage, Monjul, Les Arts et Métiers... I could go on!

**Biggest regret you've ever had while on vacation.**

I was pregnant when I went to [Costa Rica](#) with my husband a couple of years ago, so I couldn't partake in the zipline tours of the rain forest. Next time for sure.

**The one thing you're willing to splurge on above all else**

A great vintage find, always!

**Three artists on your travel playlist?**

It changes constantly, but for summer, I'd say Best Coast, Vampire Weekend, and Lana Del Rey.

**Where would you take someone visiting your hometown for the first time?**

I call [New York](#) home now, so I'd say I'd take them for a brunch at The Smile in NoHo (one of my favorite spots), followed by a walk down the city's cobblestone streets so they can get an idea for the sense of romance New York has to offer.

**You only get one more trip in your lifetime. Where will it be?**

My latest collection for fall was inspired by (outer) space. I think I'd like to go there. Why not!

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### Manitou Cliff Dwellings — the real deal or really fake?

They're the ancient ruins of an indigenous people. Or it's a tourist trap that's fake, fake, fake. The Manitou Cliff Dwellings have certainly stirred up debate on the Web. The truth lies somewhere in between, but we'll get to [Compass](#)

### Over 50 and Single?

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### Sacred tourist site: Flickr photo of the day

Muslims are called to prayer five times each day and no matter where, they turn toward Mecca, kneel and pray. In cities throughout the world the Adhan (call to worship) can be heard coming from loudspeakers at local [Compass](#)

### Dec. 6, 1897: London first licenses motorized taxis

London's black cabs are some of the city's most beloved icons, and for good reason. Drivers are required to pass a test showing they know the locations of not just streets but also hospitals, parks, theaters and other [Compass](#)

### Michael Mina to Spearhead Restaurant in New 49ers Stadium

It's no surprise that Michael Mina will be spearheading the state-of-the-art restaurant within the new 49ers stadium coming in August 2014.

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### Holiday Trip Tips: Hot Chocolate & Ice-Skating in San Diego

Kimpton's Hotel Solamar in San Diego, Calif., has launched a new urban skating package called "Fall on Your Ice." Valid for stays from Dec.

[The Daily Meal](#)

### 8 Hotels with Free Minibars

Late-night cravings that cause you to reach for a snack in the hotel minibar can be real money traps.

[The Daily Meal](#)

### Ziplining takes winery tours to new heights

Wine lovers who also happen to be adrenaline junkies are being courted in an emerging trend with ziplining tours that soar above vineyard canopies. There is a disclaimer, however: don't drink and zip.

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### Saudi Arabia now open to foreigners

Saudi Arabia launched a new tourist visa program this week that allows foreigners to visit the kingdom's tourist and historical sites. Announced out of the Saudi Commission for Tourism and Antiquities earlier this year,

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### Hotel prices rise in Prague and Vienna before Christmas

The daily rate for a standard double room saw a decline in October and it has continued to drop in most of the 16 major European cities analyzed

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### Japan agency offers travel for your teddy bear

Then Japan has just the thing for you -- a travel agency that takes stuffed toys on package tours and even provides the holiday snaps to prove it. The more adventurous bear might like to see some of the grand temples

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### Luxury river cruise to sail Myanmar waters next year

In yet another sign that Myanmar is generating major interest as a travel destination, a luxury all-suite ship is set to sail the mysterious waters of the once reclusive country next year. Custom-built by local Burmese

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### Best Food News on the Web: 12/6/2013

Sure, it's been a busy week. So you may have missed some of the great stories put out by The Daily Meal's talented editors and their fantastic special contributors.  
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### 6 Super Ski Deals for Families

Get more snow for less dough with these family ski vacation deals.  
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#### Is This the Best Vacuum Cleaner Ever?

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The fastest growing floor-care brand in the UK (according to GFK) is now in the US. The AirRam is light, cordless and powerful.

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#### Food of the Day: Chocolate-Banana Pavlova in Finland

When visiting my hometown Vasa in Finland I usually have a pretty simple and short agenda: spend time with my family and eat at a few of my  
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#### Royal Caribbean International Offers New Holiday Menu

How about spending Christmas aboard a cruise ship, sailing the warm waters of the Caribbean or some other exotic location?  
[The Daily Meal](#)

#### Cold-Weather Cocktails to Celebrate Repeal Day

We really have it lucky these days. Seriously: Can you imagine not being allowed to drink alcohol? It's a pretty preposterous proposition.  
[The Daily Meal](#)

#### Flickr photo of the day: Boys will be boys

Photographer Jeremy Villasis writes that as he was leaving his hotel in Mandalay, Burma, he saw these boys laughing mightily at something. That something turned out to be another boy coming to join them.  
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#### Vegas is most searched travel spot in 2013; New York doesn't crack top 10

The most-searched travel destination this year was Las Vegas, with Myrtle Beach, S.C. at No. 2 and New Orleans at No. 3.  
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#### America's strangest museums

Bananas, bad art, and barbed wire are among the quirky collections on proud display.  
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#### World's most stunning mountaintop hotels

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