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Five Miles Up with ... Ken Block

Y! Travel shares an armrest for a chat about bb guns, Korean desserts and hooning in San Francisco



By Bekah Wright | Yahoo! Travel – 4 hours ago

*Adrenalin will be searing this week when the stars of "X Games XVIII" battle for gold. Among those throwing down mad skills: champion rally car driver **Ken Block**. And though one might expect his off-the-clock travels to occur by automobile, Block prefers his drop-ins by helicopter.*

What's something you never fail to pack in your suitcase?
My MacBook and beef jerky.

Carry-on or check-in?
Both. I bring a lot of stuff.

Window or aisle?
Aisle. I don't like it when people fall asleep next to me when I have to go to the bathroom.

What's your idea of the perfect vacation?
My perfect vacation would be [St. Barts](#) in the springtime. I went there for my honeymoon. It can't be beat.

Favorite place to practice/perform your sport and why?
The streets of downtown [San Francisco](#) because I love the way the car sounds when the exhaust echoes off the buildings.

[Ken Block hits the streets of San Francisco when Gymkana 5 premiers July 9](#)

What's the most unusual souvenir you ever came back from a trip with?
Airsoft BB guns I got while I was in Japan.

Ever try a food that you wished you hadn't?
I once tried a Korean dessert that had octopus tentacles that were still moving. I didn't really like that.

What is your favorite hotel, resort, boat, train, yurt you've ever stayed in?
Mike Wiegele's Heli-Village Resort in [Blue River, BC](#).

What's the biggest regret you've ever had while on vacation?
I regret not spending more time in [Japan](#) over the past 10 years. I really love it there.

What's the one thing you're willing to splurge on above all else?
Easy. My wife.

Three songs or artists on your travel playlist?
Jay Z, The Killers and The xx.

Where would you take someone visiting your hometown for the first time?
I live up in [Park City, Utah](#), so I'd definitely take them to the top of the Wasatch Mountain range in a helicopter to snowboard in powder.

You only get one more trip in your lifetime. Where will it be?
Northern Japan in the winter to snowboard. They get ridiculous powder and I love riding powder.



(Photo courtesy of Ken Block)

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