



Kip Moore reveals the real reason he's about to take the biggest break of his career



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“I wonder if this is going to keep the fans from coming tonight,” he said quietly while pouring a glass of wine for himself and his nerves. “I so want tonight to be perfect.”

And it was, as Kip played to a packed house for the last night of his Me & My Kind Tour on Dec. 10. But, there was a reason why this show felt different, because after this show, Kip was doing something he has essentially never done in his long history as a country music superstar.

He's taking a break.

“I don't know what the word is, because I'm not just worn out... I'm something more than that,” Kip told Rare Country in an exclusive interview. “We have toured 175 or more shows for six years straight, which is kind of unheard of. We are all tired. I don't think people see that side very often because they just see us onstage, but the grind of sleeping on a bus every night for 225 days or more takes a mental and physical tear on you. All I have done is music every day of my life, so this is going to be my first real break from it in probably 12 years.”

And when he says break, he means a total and complete break. "I'm going to walk away from it," he said. "I'm not going to bring a guitar, and I'm not going to do anything with music. I'm going to surf and snowboard and camp and just try to get my head right. My head hasn't been in the best place so I want to try and work on all that and get settled for next year."

2017 certainly looks to hold a brand-new record and more touring for the Georgia native. But first, Kip says he needs to spend some time getting his priorities in order.

"I haven't had any time for the people who deserve my time," said Kip, who looks to not have any shows scheduled in the United States until May of 2017. "It's been a very selfish life for so many years now. I got to find a way to make a change with that. I love what I do, but I have to find some sort of balance that I have yet to find."

And then, Kip's thoughts turned once again to the fans.

"I think people have gotten used to always seeing us out on the road," he said quietly. "I think it will be good for us to go away for awhile. I fear sometimes that people are going to get tired of us, as much as we have been out. I need to get away for a while."

And while we seriously doubt anyone could get tired of Kip, we certainly can understand the need to step away to reboot and refresh.

"I'm going straight to Maui," said Kip, as he took a deep breath. "I'm going to camp out the first 10 or so days in a little house I'm going to stay in and then do some surfing and backpacking before heading off to Costa Rica. I might not come back."

He laughed and then took another deep sigh. "I just need to breathe a bit."

We hear ya, Kip.