

Thu 9/17/2006 7:01 AM

Dear Larry:

SHALOM FROM BEAUTIFUL ISRAEL!!

I can understand your passengers could have doubts when the only images you receive on that end are from the news. It is well known that for ratings purposes, tragedy sells and the everyday life of people anywhere is not a news sensation. I completely respect the decision, but simply wanted give you the full and true picture from someone who is here now visiting, and is not looking through the eyes of the news casters camera.

I first have to make sure that you understand that these are strictly my PERSONAL THOUGHTS AND FEELINGS coming from the bottom of my heart. I am experiencing so much here and that is why I am sad that the group will have to wait so long before they have the opportunity to feel the experience of the HOLY LAND and all that it has to offer.

Israel and its people are strong and the country has totally gone back to the way of life that they have been leading prior to the war. Even the areas that were touched by the many Katushot that were fired on them are BACK TO NORMAL!!! the areas are being re-built, children are back to school, adults are back to their prospective jobs and life is going on as usual.

Last weekend the whole family drove up to Tiberias from Friday morning to Saturday night (that is what Israel call the weekend) and enjoyed a most relaxing time by the pool of the hotel, and in the evening walking freely along the main avenue's. If you remember that I told you my brother also lives here, and his job takes him all over the country daily, since it is not that big... he is in the wine business and due to the upcoming Rosh Hashana holiday it is very busy season for selling a promoting new wines, and so I did have the chance to accompany him on some of his journeys from Tel-Aviv, Nazareth, The Golan Heights and to Jerusalem. One would not believe that only three and half weeks ago there was a war....

Anytime that I have come for visits here, I never fear for my safety and this time is no different. We go freely everywhere, if it is to the market, to the malls to the beaches (with my one year old granddaughter) and I am trying to soak up every minute I have left to be here. I dread the moment that I have to board the plane.

Therefore, there is absolutely no doubt in my mind that a visit to the Holy land when ever it occurs will be a life changing experience for all.

With my warmest regards,

Mira
