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TRAVEL TALES

HELPFUL HINTS FOR THE JEWISH TRAVELLER

By MIKE COHEN

SUNNY ISLES FLORIDA: I recently visited South Florida for the first time in more than two years. Whereas I am used to going there over the Christmas holidays, this time my family and I chose to do so during the March School Break.

We were based in Sunny Isles Beach, known as Florida's Riviera. Located midway between downtown Miami and Fort Lauderdale, with easy access to business centers, Sunny Isles also includes entertainment, sports and recreational facilities, and tourist attractions. It's a great place for a family vacation.

THE ACQUALINA: Here is some news about the Acqualina Resort & Spa on the Beach (<http://www.acqualinar-resort.com>), unquestionably the most extraordinary property in Sunny Isles Beach. We had the opportunity to spend part of a day there in the comforts of a cozy cabana where we enjoyed a delicious lunch from the poolside Costa Grill. The Acqualina entered 2012 with a splash, receiving award recognitions from AAA, Spas of America, Trip Advisor and U.S. News & World Report.

The resort received the following awards: 2012 AAA Five Diamond Hotel Award for the third consecutive year; 2012 Trip Advisor Traveler's Choice Award - Top Luxury Hotel in the U.S; Spas of America Top 100 Spa's of 2011 - #1 Florida.

#29 Worldwide; 2011 U.S. News & World Report Best Luxury Hotels in the U.S. Their onsite spa has been recognized for its lasting elegance on the beach. In addition to the facility's eleven multi-functional treatment rooms, four spa treatment rooms, and a private spa suite for two, ESPA at Acqualina also provides every guest with the chance to enjoy the beautiful outdoor terrace with a spa pool, heated jet pool, and Roman waterfall - all set against the gorgeous backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean.

JEWISH COMMUNITY: There is a definite Jewish flavor to Sunny Isles Beach. It has a significant
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cessful, those stating Israel's case in a public setting must radically re-think their strategies.

The Author is the

editor of *The Algemeiner* and director of the GJCF. Please visit www.algemeiner.com for more information.

TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from page 6)

Jewish population and enjoys close ties with its Israeli sister city of Netanya. Mayor Norman Edelcup and a number of town commissioners are Jewish.

DINING OUT: There are a number of kosher restaurants in the Sunny Isles area, the best being Grill Time (www.grilltimer-restaurant.com) on Biscayne Boulevard, off 163rd Street. But for the many Jewish tourists staying at or near-by the Acqualina, dinner at the acclaimed Italian restaurant Il Mulino New York (www.ilmulino-newyork.com) has become a favorite spot. Renowned for its bustling and energetic atmosphere, market fresh daily specials, extensive selection of fine Italian wines and an impeccably polished wait staff, this is one of more than a dozen (and counting) Il Mulino locations. It has already become a much sought-after establishment, frequented by both locals and visitors in the know.

The 110-seat indoor restaurant spreads onto a 24-seat veranda overlooking the ocean. Service here is absolutely spectacular. Experienced Maitre 'D Tino Ponti Corvo is there to greet you while regional director of operations Jason Rodriguez is often on site and your contact to book private functions.

The menu draws upon the rustic and hearty Abruzzi region in Italy with complimentary antipasto tastings of soppresatta, bruschetta, reggiano parmesan, fried zucchini and garlic/cheese bread sticks, and dishes like rack of lamb (a half rack will probably be sufficient), scampi oregana, veal piccata and langoustines, with old-world service and table-side cooking provided by the staff. Ask for the fish specials, such as dover sole. Delicious sides include rosemary potatoes and risotto. The tortellini soup is simply the best of its kind I

(Please turn to following page)

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TRAVEL TALES

(Continued from preceding page)

have ever tasted while the caesar salad gets high marks as well. We tried the octopus this time, which everyone shared happily. I was astounded upon our arrival that despite a two and a half interval since my last visit, our section captain Gustavo not only

remembered me - he recalled exactly what I ordered.

Mike Cohen's email address is info@mikecohen.ca. Keep up with his travels at <http://www.sandboxworld.com/travel> and follow him on Twitter @mikecohencsl.

WORLD IN REVIEW

(Continued from page 3)

Munich - Forty Years Later

Avraham Melamed is now 67. Forty years ago, the Israeli Olympic swimmer survived the Munich terrorist attack because he happened to be sleeping in Building 2, which due to the quick thinking of some of the captives was missed by the terrorists. Eleven of Melamed's friends and teammates were not as fortunate.

Almost immediately after the Munich games Melamed returned to the United States to finish college and resume his swimming career at West Liberty State College. He has remained in the United States ever since. Today,

the olympian teaches swimming at a health club outside New York city. He tries to do so in anonymity, but the swimmers on the Premier Athletic Club team are now aware of his past. Erika Krumlauf says she had no idea who her coach was when she joined the team. But she googled the instructor and learned that he swam for Israel in both the 1964 and 1968 Olympics.

Melamed was not named to the 1972 Israeli olympic team. Internal politics in Israeli swimming meant that he was overlooked. He was sent to Munich by an obscure Israeli newspaper but could not get media credentials once in Munich. However, he had begun serving as a

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