

Well, we've seen Paris...

And she's not happy about it

By USA ARCELLA
SPECIAL TO THE NEWS

She's back!

Paris Hilton — who is famous, well, for being famous — returns to TV this week in "The Simple Life 2: Road Trip."

But the 23-year-old hotel heiress told the Daily News that her own life has been anything but simple since her notorious X-rated video with an ex-boyfriend surfaced.

"I have no privacy at all any more," she complained, opening up about the steamy sex-tape controversy for the first time in an exclusive interview. "I can't walk anywhere alone."

"It has been devastating. I don't really trust a lot of people anymore. I trust my mom and dad, my sister and Nicole [Richie, her co-star on the TV show] and very few others."

Paris' escapades ended up all over the Web and turned her into an instant household name — not only in America, but around the world.

She just came back from Australia, where she said she had to dodge love-struck fans.

"There were people posing and doing weird things like that," she said. "It's crazy ... I had four bodyguards with me all the time so nothing could really happen."

Of course, Paris had already gained a reputation as a wild-child party girl even before the infamous porn video put her on the front pages of the tabloids and made her a running joke for David Letterman.

Jay Leno and other late-night TV comics.

But she told The News she was deeply hurt and embarrassed when the sex video of her as a 15-year-old and then-boyfriend Rick Salomon wound up on the Internet — just before the first "Simple Life" came on the air last year.

"It's not my fault, and I can't be upset about that for the rest of my life," she said. "It's a new year for me, and I just have to pay attention and hope that everyone is over it. It could have happened to anyone."

"People have this image of me and I really don't care. I just care about what my family and my friends think. I have held my head up, and I am working and doing what I want to do."

She also says she's very happy now with her new boyfriend, former Backstreet Boys singer Nick Carter.

"We've been together six months and it's still great. He is very loyal and honest and nice and funny. We are both Aquarius. He loves animals, and he is a really good guy who is not jaded. And the best thing is that we both understand the pressures of show business."

The willowy blonde — an heiress to the \$350 million Hilton Hotels fortune — has always attracted more attention than everyone else growing up in a Hollywood world

of attention-getters.

It's that inexplicable charisma and lines like, "Do they sell walls at Wal-Mart?" that gave producers of last summer's "The Simple Life" a hit, averaging 13 million viewers a week.

This season, on "The Simple Life 2: Road Trip," which premieres Wednesday night on Fox, Paris and Nicole tour the country from Miami Beach to Beverly Hills, Calif., in a pink pickup truck towing a shiny chrome Airstream trailer.

And, of course, along the way they meet characters even kookier than themselves, although not as well-dressed.

Nicole is a serene citizen they are staying with in my on his collection of traps. He happily obliges — and models them without pants, of course.

And although she refused to get naked herself, Paris says her favorite pit stop was at a nudist colony in Florida called Caliente.

"We had to work there, and everyone was naked and old," she giggled. "It was the weirdest place I have ever seen. People ride their bikes naked! It was gross."

Despite her image as a spoiled rich girl, Paris claims she's just like everybody else.

"I think in some ways it hurts to have a famous last name," she said. "People always seem surprised when they meet me, saying, 'I thought you would be a spoiled brat, but you are so sweet.'"

Paris Hilton and
Nicole Richie
come back to TV
in "The Simple
Life 2: Road
Trip."

11:30 p.m.
Fox

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