Beat: News

Norwegian Cruise Line

Cancels 17 Halifax Stops

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Brian MacKenzie Teepell/USPA 24 News - SOURCE: Norwegian Cruise Line, Halifax Port Authority, and Lorn Sheehan (Dalhousie University Tourism Expert):
Norwegian Cruise Line is removing Halifax from 17 scheduled sailings in 2027 as part of changes to its spring and summer cruise itineraries. The decision affects select seven-day Norwegian Breakaway cruises departing from Boston between May and August.

Norwegian Cruise Line has cancelled 17 scheduled visits to Halifax between May and August 2027, citing passenger feedback as the reason for changing its itineraries.

The decision comes amid harsh online criticism of Halifax, with some commenters comparing the city's downtown streets to a "zombie apocalypse" and complaining about the visibility of homelessness and people living on the streets. While Norwegian has not explicitly linked the cancellations to these complaints, the company says the changes were made "in response to guest feedback."

Instead of stopping in Halifax, the Norwegian Breakaway will sail directly from Boston to Bermuda, giving passengers an extended stay on the island.

The decision could have a significant financial impact on Halifax. Dalhousie University tourism expert Lorn Sheehan estimates the 17 cancelled visits could cost the city nearly $1 million in lost port fees and another $8 million in spending at local restaurants, attractions, shops, and tour operators.

That's approximately $9 million in potential economic activity lost, along with tens of thousands of cruise passengers who will no longer be visiting Halifax next summer.

Despite the cancellations, the Norwegian Breakaway is still expected to visit Halifax during its fall Canada-New England itinerary. The Port of Halifax remains optimistic about the upcoming season, anticipating 173 cruise ship visits between April and November 2027.

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