



The Maryland Port Administration

PRESS RELEASE

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CONTACT: Richard Scher (rscher@marylandports.com)
Amira Hairston (ahairston@marylandports.com)
MDOT MPA
410-446-1204

NORWEGIAN CRUISE LINE LAUNCHES INAUGURAL VOYAGE FROM MARYLAND'S PORT OF BALTIMORE

Norwegian Begins First Season From Baltimore Offering New Fall and Winter Voyages to New England and Canada, Bermuda and the Caribbean

(BALTIMORE, MD) – The Helen Delich Bentley Port of Baltimore today welcomed Norwegian Cruise Line to Maryland to begin a fall and winter sailing schedule. For the first time in the company's history, Norwegian will have two ships homeporting from Maryland: Norwegian Sky and Norwegian Sun. The ships will offer cruises from Baltimore to New England and Canada, Bermuda and the Caribbean.

"Norwegian is one of the top cruise lines in the world, and they recognize that Maryland's Port of Baltimore is an amazing partner, offering convenient access and outstanding service," said Maryland Transportation Secretary Paul J. Wiedefeld. "The arrival of Norwegian Cruise Line heightens the impact of cruising as an economic engine for our state. The industry already generates nearly 400 jobs and \$63 million in annual local business revenues."

Norwegian Sky embarks today on a 10-day New England and Canada cruise, with visits to Martha's Vineyard; Boston; Bar Harbor, Maine; Halifax, Nova Scotia; Sydney, Cape Breton Island; Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island; Saguenay, Quebec; and Quebec City. On September 21, Norwegian Sky will sail on an 11-day New England and Canada cruise. In addition, Norwegian Sun will offer warm weather escapes with a five-day Bermuda cruise November 22 and three, 12-day voyages to the Caribbean on November 27, December 9 and December 21. Norwegian Sky also will return to the Port of Baltimore in September 2024.

The Port of Baltimore has offered year-round cruising since 2009. Prior to the pandemic in 2019, the Port averaged more than 200,000 passengers annually. Following a cruise industry-wide pause during the pandemic, Baltimore's passenger counts have strongly rebounded, with its ships currently sailing at full capacity. Baltimore's cruise terminal is located right off Interstate 95 and offers plenty of onsite parking.

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"Today marks a history-making moment for Norwegian Cruise Line, as we sail from the vibrant city of Baltimore for the first time," said David J. Herrera, president of Norwegian Cruise Line. "Our voyages
Governor Wes Moore | MDOT Secretary Paul J. Wiedefeld | MPA Interim Acting Executive Director Brian Miller

from the Port of Baltimore offer guests the best that cruising on the East Coast has to offer, with a convenient homeport option that allows them to experience both the breathtaking fall foliage of Canada and New England and warm weather winter escapes in Bermuda and the Caribbean. As we continue to grow our fleet of now 19 ships, we actively look for new opportunities and communities to introduce the Norwegian Cruise Line experience.

“This fall, we’ll also celebrate the one-year anniversary of our Military Appreciation program, where we honor active and retired service members with exclusive offers and onboard experiences,” Mr. Herrera said. “Given the strong military community in Baltimore and the surrounding areas, we look forward to having these service members participate in our program and join us at sea soon.”

More than 40 million people are within a six-hour drive of Baltimore, and two-thirds of the nation’s population are within an overnight drive of Baltimore.

“We’re very happy to have Norwegian, one of the top cruise lines in the world, sailing from the Port of Baltimore,” said Maryland Port Administration - Port of Baltimore Interim Acting Executive Director Brian Miller. “Our cruise terminal’s unique location allows for easy access for cruise passengers from many Eastern and Midwestern states. Our local market is also one of the wealthiest in the nation. These are significant reasons why we’ve been successful as a cruise port.”

The Port of Baltimore generates about 15,300 direct jobs, with nearly 140,000 jobs overall linked to Port activities. The Port is first among the nation’s ports for autos and light truck volume, roll on/roll off farm and construction machinery and imported gypsum. The Port is responsible for nearly \$3.3 billion in personal wages and salaries, \$2.6 billion in business revenue and \$395 million in state and local tax revenue annually.

Norwegian Cruise Line is an industry leader, pioneering freedom and flexibility and continuously raising the standards with award-winning and varied food and beverage concepts, world-class entertainment and outstanding service. Norwegian sails to 400 destinations around the world across its fleet of 19 ships, and now adds Baltimore to its lineup of more than 50 convenient global homeport options.

As the innovator in global cruise travel, Norwegian Cruise Line has been breaking the boundaries of traditional cruising for 56 years. The line revolutionized the industry by offering guests the freedom and flexibility to design their ideal vacation on their preferred schedule with no assigned dining and entertainment times and no formal dress codes. Today, its fleet of 19 contemporary ships sail to 400 of the world’s most desirable destinations, including Great Stirrup Cay, the company’s private island in the Bahamas and its resort destination Harvest Caye in Belize.

For additional information, contact a travel professional, call 888-NCL-CRUISE (625-2784) or visit www.ncl.com.

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