

Beat: Travel

2019 Cruise Ship Season

Port of Halifax

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USPA NEWS - There was an Environment Canada Snowfall Warning issued for all of Nova Scotia on April 8th, which was the first day of the 2019 Cruise Season. Snow started before ship departed, allowing some passengers to experience snow for their first time.

Nothing says spring in Halifax like the first day of the new Cruise Season, although this year may not be so obvious as on April 8th, 2019 when the first cruise ship of the season arrived, most of Nova Scotia was under a Snowfall Warning. When the Oceania Cruises, Marina arrived at 0900, the nearly 1250 passengers and crew were greeted by the prospect of a snowfall during their visit. A not so typical start to the Cruise Season. The snow did start during the supper hour just before the the Oceania, Marina's 1900 departure.

After the 2018 Cruise Season, which was another banner year for the Port of Halifax, the much anticipated 2019 season will meet and surpass last years 198 vessels and 316,869 passengers. According to the Port Authority, the 2019 cruise season will see eight ships that will be visiting Halifax for the first time. These inaugural ships are: Zaadam, Scenic Eclipse, Mein Schiff 1, Riviera. Sapphire Princess, MSC Mareviglia, Viking Sun and Ocean Atlantic. These first time visiting ships along with the regular visiting ships are sure to bring lots of excitement to the Halifax Waterfront and the surrounding area.

The 2019 Port of Halifax Cruise Schedule along with ship information and statistics can be found on the their website www.cruisehalifax.ca.

The following are the Marina's specifications as found on the Oceania Cruises website.

Built in 2011, the Marina weighs in at a 66,084 gross tonnage. The Marina was refurbished in 2016 which enhanced the overall comfort and passenger experience.

The ships length is 784.95 feet, its beam 105,646 feet and the maximum draught is 24 feet. The Marina boasts 16 decks, 11 of which are for guests. The ship can accommodate 1250 guests(double occupancy) and 800 crew. This makes the Guest to Staff Ratio 1.567 to 1. The nationality of the Ships Officers is European and the Staff consists of International professionals. The ship is equipped with stabilizers, has a cruising speed of 20 knots and the Country of Registry is Marshall Islands.

More information can be found at www.oceaniacruises.com

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