
Neil Diamond Retires From Touring After Parkinson's Diagnosis

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A statement from the singer team disclosed that Diamond will continue with "his writing, recording, and development of new projects."

Renowned singer-songwriter Neil Diamond has announced he will no longer be touring.

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"It is with great reluctance and disappointment that I announce my retirement from concert touring. I have been so honored to bring my shows to the public for the past 50 years," Diamond said.

The Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, who turns 77 on Wednesday, is stepping away from the spotlight following his recent Parkinson's disease diagnosis.

"My sincerest apologies to everyone who purchased tickets and were planning to come to the upcoming shows," the performer added. Diamond canceled the upcoming Australian and New Zealand legs of his 50th Anniversary tour. Diamond had started a tour April of last year, which included more than 50 dates across

North America and Europe. The last gig was in Oct.

The statement disclosed that the disease has "made it difficult to travel and perform on a large scale basis but will allow Mr. Diamond to continue his writing, recording, and development of new projects."

Diamond expressed "thanks goes out to my loyal and devoted audiences around the world. You will always have my appreciation for your support and encouragement. This ride has been 'so good, so good, so good' thanks to you."

Last Dec., Diamond told Rolling Stone that he was honored to be performing in arenas for this long. "It's been very heartening to me. I've been doing this 50 years and to have an audience that's out there and anxious and enthusiastic is exciting," Diamond said.

"As a matter of fact, when I started having hit records you think your career might be one or two or three records. And that's it. You were finished when one bombed. That's all the chance you got. Next!"
