# Keir Starmer invites Trump for state visit amidst evolving royal diplomacy



Sir Keir Starmer, the current leader of the UK Labour Party, embarked on a pivotal meeting with US President Donald Trump in Washington recently, bringing with him an invitation from King Charles for a second state visit. This unprecedented gesture is noteworthy, as it marks Trump's first potential state visit to the UK since the ascension of King Charles, following the reign of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

The invitation to Trump signifies a notable shift in royal diplomacy, as usually, second-term US presidents who have already completed a state visit are typically offered lower-key meetings at Windsor Castle. This approach was exemplified by former Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama, who were hosted for tea or lunch after their initial visits. Trump, who previously visited the UK in 2019 and has a notable affinity for the monarchy, has expressed his appreciation for the royal family, describing the relationship between the UK and the US as “the greatest alliance the world has ever known.”

During his earlier tenure, Trump became enamoured with British royal traditions. Noteworthy moments include his controversial interactions during his meetings with Queen Elizabeth, wherein he walked in front of her while inspecting a guard of honour, prompting criticism and commentary about his mannerisms. Despite these incidents, Trump has maintained a fondness for the monarchy, often attributing personal significance to his connections with them, stating to various media outlets that he had “automatic chemistry” with the late Queen and describing King Charles as a “really wonderful guy.”

Sir Keir Starmer, while engaging with Trump in the Oval Office, extended the official invitation, reinforcing the special relationship that has historically characterised Anglo-American ties. Upon receiving the letter from the King, Trump expressed his gratitude and noted the significance of a visit to Windsor Castle, saying, “That’s a great, great honour.” The invitation also opens the door for a possible stay at Balmoral Castle, King Charles's private residence in Scotland, which carries personal resonance for Trump as his mother, Mary Anne, was born in Scotland. This could also align with the President’s business interests, given his ownership of golf courses in the country.

The logistics of Trump's potential visit remain undetermined. Buckingham Palace is currently undergoing extensive renovations, focusing on its state rooms, making them unavailable for state functions for the next two years. As such, Balmoral is emerging as a likely alternative venue for the visit, a site historically associated with royal hospitality for international guests, though only Dwight D. Eisenhower has previously been hosted there in an informal capacity.

Trump has been a controversial figure, noted as the first convicted felon to serve as President, which introduces complex dynamics into the implications of a state visit. The royal family’s approach to engaging with him is seen as a move to leverage their soft power in the political realm, facilitating discussions that could involve contentious topics, including environmental policies. Tensions may arise given Trump's contrasting views on climate change and King Charles's longstanding advocacy for environmental stewardship.

While Trump has expressed an intent to visit the UK and has made comments on his enduring bond with the royal family, it remains to be seen how a second state visit will materialize amidst the broader political context. The potential for interactions between Trump and members of the royal family, particularly in light of his previous criticisms of younger royals, adds layers of intrigue to this potential diplomatic event.

As both leaders navigate their respective political landscapes, the international interest in the forthcoming engagement between the US President and the British monarchy signifies a unique moment in contemporary diplomacy, particularly in the light of America’s approaching Semiquincentennial in 2026, where royal involvement could mark a significant occasion in the shared history of the two nations.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-hosts-uks-keir-starmer-ukraine-talks-amid/story?id=119249871> - This article corroborates the meeting between President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Keir Starmer, highlighting discussions on Ukraine and the special relationship between the US and the UK.
* <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dJSaNSSj_4c> - This video supports the details of the press conference held by President Trump and Prime Minister Keir Starmer, discussing their discussions and the special relationship between their countries.
* <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-64539559> - This article would typically cover news about the UK royal family and diplomatic engagements, potentially discussing King Charles's invitation to Trump for a state visit.
* <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/jun/14/donald-trump-first-convicted-felon-to-serve-as-president> - This article supports the claim that Trump is the first convicted felon to serve as President, highlighting the complexities of his diplomatic engagements.
* <https://www.britannica.com/biography/King-Charles-III> - This source provides background information on King Charles III, including his advocacy for environmental stewardship, which contrasts with Trump's views on climate change.
* <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/07/04/statement-by-president-biden-on-the-approaching-semiquincentennial-of-the-united-states/> - This statement from the White House mentions America's Semiquincentennial, which could be relevant to discussions about significant diplomatic events involving the royal family.
* <https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2020451/royal-family-are-keir-starmers> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
* <https://m.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/uk/trump-invited-to-make-unprecedented-second-state-visit-to-uk/a1163300193.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data