# King Charles invites Donald Trump for unprecedented second state visit amid Canadian outrage



King Charles has extended an unprecedented invitation for a second state visit to the United Kingdom to former U.S. President Donald Trump, a gesture that has sparked considerable debate, particularly in Canada. This second invitation came more than six years after Trump’s first official state visit during Queen Elizabeth II's reign in 2019, a visit marked by both commendation and controversy.

The invitation was presented to Trump by UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer during a meeting at the White House in February 2025, marking a significant diplomatic overture from the UK as it seeks to bolster ties with the U.S. in a post-Brexit landscape. Starmer described the occasion as "historic" and "unprecedented," highlighting its symbolic importance amid geopolitical tensions. Trump's previous attendance at high-profile royal events, including a lavish state banquet and meetings with Queen Elizabeth, have established a relatively warm relationship between him and the British royal family.

However, the news has not been well-received in Canada. Prime Minister Mark Carney expressed that the invitation undermines the country's stance on sovereignty, particularly given Trump's controversial remarks about potentially making Canada the "51st state." Carney stated, "To be frank, they weren't impressed by that gesture... given the circumstance," referring to the palpable sensitivity surrounding national identity and autonomy in Canada. Canadians have voiced concerns over Trump's rhetoric since he took office again in early 2025, with Carney's administration actively campaigning against such sentiments.

While Canada officially recognises King Charles as its monarch, this invitation raises questions about the implications for diplomatic relations between Canada and the UK. Carney underscored the importance of maintaining a firm stance on Canadian sovereignty, especially in light of Trump's comments. Following the announcement, the UK has defended its decision as an exercise of national sovereignty, with representatives asserting that each country will manage its relations independently.

In contrast, Trump has been vocal about his appreciation for the UK's royal family and his personal connections with its members, particularly with King Charles and Prince William. Describing his past encounters as "incredible," he expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming visit, suggesting a desire to strengthen transatlantic relations, even amidst potential political friction between the Labour government in the UK and Trump's Republican party in the U.S.

Looking forward, the visit is set to coincide with significant discussions around international security and trade, areas where both countries seek to align their positions. Starmer's invitation of Trump is seen not merely as a ceremonial gesture but as a strategic move to engage the U.S. on pressing global issues, including security guarantees related to the ongoing situation in Ukraine.

As the initial date for Trump's visit approaches, observers will be keenly watching the reactions from Canadian constituents and the broader international community, marking this unprecedented invitation as a pivotal moment in UK-U.S. relations under King Charles’s reign.

### Reference Map

* Paragraph 1: (1), (4), (5)
* Paragraph 2: (2), (3), (6)
* Paragraph 3: (2), (5)
* Paragraph 4: (2), (6)
* Paragraph 5: (3), (1)
* Paragraph 6: (4), (5)

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

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.express.co.uk/news/royal/2055884/mark-carney-donald-trump-state-visit-king-charles> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.reuters.com/world/canadian-pm-criticises-uks-invite-trump-state-visit-2025-05-14/> - Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney criticized the UK's decision to invite former U.S. President Donald Trump for a second state visit, arguing it undermines Canada's firm stance against Trump's provocative suggestion that Canada should become the 51st U.S. state. Carney emphasized that the gesture was ill-timed, particularly amid heightened sensitivity around Canada's national sovereignty. Trump’s comments since taking office in January 2025 have angered Canadians, prompting Carney to campaign successfully on a platform to oppose Trump’s rhetoric. In contrast, the UK, under Prime Minister Keir Starmer, has sought to strengthen post-Brexit ties with the U.S. through diplomatic overtures, including the invitation extended via a visit to the Oval Office. King Charles, who remains Canada's head of state, has made symbolic gestures of support for Canada and is set to attend Canada's state opening of parliament on May 27—his first such appearance since 1977. Carney highlighted this visit as a deliberate reaffirmation of Canadian sovereignty. The UK defended its diplomatic approach, with Minister Pat McFadden stating that each country must manage its international relations independently.
3. <https://www.marieclaire.com/celebrity/royals/donald-trump-hints-at-state-visit-king-charles-friend/> - President Donald Trump revealed plans for a second state visit to the United Kingdom, likely set for September 2025, following an invitation from King Charles. This upcoming visit is described by Trump as a continuation of the "fest" that took place during his previous state visit in 2019 with Queen Elizabeth, which he recalled fondly. Praising the Royal Family, especially King Charles and Prince William, Trump emphasized the personal friendships he has developed, stating it's an honor to be a friend of the monarch and his family. He also shared details of a warm conversation with Prince William in November 2024 during the Notre Dame Cathedral reopening, where they discussed the health of Princess Kate and King Charles. Royal correspondent Cameron Walker noted the Royal Family as pivotal to UK-US relations, especially with a potential political disconnect between a Labour government and Trump’s Republican party. Trump expressed enthusiasm for the upcoming visit, calling the last one "incredible" but predicting the next may be even more significant.
4. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2025/feb/27/king-charles-invites-donald-trump-for-unprecedented-second-state-visit-to-uk> - King Charles has invited Donald Trump to make an unprecedented second state visit to the UK in a letter handed to the US president by Keir Starmer. Queen Elizabeth II hosted Trump on a state visit in 2019. Precedent for second-term US presidents who have already made a state visit is usually tea or lunch with the monarch at Windsor Castle, as was the case for George W Bush and Barack Obama. Trump received the invitation during a meeting at the White House on Thursday, with Starmer presenting the letter from the king. In the letter, which Trump showed to the cameras in the Oval Office, Charles suggested he and Trump could meet beforehand at Dumfries House or Balmoral, which are near Trump’s golf courses in Scotland, to discuss the plans for the much grander visit.
5. <https://e.vnexpress.net/news/world/king-charles-iii-invites-donald-trump-for-unprecedented-second-state-visit-4855008.html> - Britain's King Charles III has invited U.S. President Donald Trump for an unprecedented second state visit to Britain, U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer said while visiting the White House on Thursday. Trump will become the first political leader to receive a second state visit to Britain after he visited in 2019 during his first term as president. "This is really special, this has never happened before, this is unprecedented," Starmer said in the Oval Office as he handed Trump a hand-signed letter from the monarch containing the invitation. "This is truly historic." The U.S. president has long been a vocal fan of the British royal family. He also has a close affinity to the U.K. due to the fact his mother was born in Scotland. Political observers will see the offer as clever ploy by Starmer to try to flatter Trump as he seeks to win over the U.S. president on Ukraine and tariffs, among other contentious issues. Britain rolled out the red carpet for Trump six years ago when he met the late Queen Elizabeth II, King Charles’s mother. "His majesty the king wants to make this even better," said Starmer, who was at the White House to push Trump to give U.S. security guarantees for Ukraine in the event of a deal to end the war with Russia. Reading the letter, Trump pointed out that he had been invited to Windsor Castle, near London, one of the royal family’s ancient homes. But the letter from Charles also suggested Trump might want to visit Balmoral in northeast Scotland, which is close to a golf resort Trump has there. After reading the letter, Trump said of Charles: "He’s a beautiful man, a wonderful man — I’ve gotten to know him very well, actually. First term and now second term." He added: "On behalf of our wonderful First Lady Melania and myself, the answer is yes and we look forward to being there and honoring the King and honoring really your country. "Your country is a fantastic country and it’ll be our honor to be there. Thank you very much," he told Starmer. Starmer said the offer of a second state visit "symbolizes the strength of the relationship between us".
6. <https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/king-charles-invites-donald-trump-for-unprecedented-2nd-uk-state-visit-7811042> - Trump immediately accepted the invitation. "This is really special. This has never happened before. This is unprecedented," Starmer told Trump as he handed him the letter. "The answer is yes," Trump responded, telling Starmer that he would attend with first lady Melania Trump. "We look forward to being there and honoring the king, honoring the country." No date for the visit was announced. The late Queen Elizabeth welcomed Trump for a three-day state visit in June 2019 during his first term in office, during which he attended an opulent state banquet and a private lunch with the sovereign, as well as having tea with Charles, who was then heir. That visit already put Trump in a select group of U.S. presidents, as only Barack Obama and George W. Bush were afforded official state visits to Britain during Elizabeth's record 70 years on the throne. It would also turn out to be the last of the more than 110 she hosted during her reign before her death in September 2022. The visit was not the only occasion when Trump met Elizabeth. He was also invited to tea at Windsor Castle during a trip to Britain in 2018, when he was widely seen to have broken royal protocol by failing to bow to the queen and then walking in front of her as they inspected a military guard. Both his visits to Britain also attracted large protests, with his 2018 trip costing police more than 14 million pounds as 10,000 officers were deployed from all over Britain.
7. <https://www.breitbart.com/news/king-charles-iii-invites-trump-for-unprecedented-second-state-visit/> - King Charles III has invited US President Donald Trump for an unprecedented second state visit to Britain, UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer said while visiting the White House on Thursday. Trump will become the first political leader to receive a second state visit to Britain, after he visited in 2019 during his first term as president. "This is really special, this has never happened before, this is unprecedented," Starmer said in the Oval Office as he handed Trump a hand-signed letter from the monarch containing the invitation. "This is truly historic." The US president has long been a vocal fan of the British royal family. He also has a close affinity to the UK due to the fact his mother was born in Scotland. Political observers will see the offer as clever ploy by Starmer to try to flatter Trump as he seeks to win over the US president on Ukraine and tariffs, among other contentious issues. Britain rolled out the red carpet for Trump six years ago when he met the late Queen Elizabeth II, King Charles’s mother. "His majesty the king wants to make this even better," said Starmer, who was at the White House to push Trump to give US security guarantees for Ukraine in the event of a deal to end the war with Russia. Reading the letter, Trump pointed out that he had been invited to Windsor Castle, near London, one of the royal family’s ancient homes. But the letter from Charles also suggested Trump might want to visit Balmoral in northeast Scotland, which is close to a golf resort Trump has there. After reading the letter, Trump said of Charles: "He’s a beautiful man, a wonderful man — I’ve gotten to know him very well, actually. First term and now second term." He added: "On behalf of our wonderful First Lady Melania and myself, the answer is yes and we look forward to being there and honoring the King and honoring really your country. "Your country is a fantastic country and it’ll be our honor to be there. Thank you very much," he told Starmer. Starmer said the offer of a second state visit "symbolizes the strength of the relationship between us".