

## Donald Trump Set for Second UK State Visit, Hosted by King Charles at Windsor

July 14, 2025

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US President Donald Trump is scheduled to undertake a second official state visit to the United Kingdom this September, an honour typically reserved for close international partners, though not without precedent for American presidents across different royal reigns. The three-day visit, to be hosted by King Charles III at Windsor Castle, is widely seen as a

diplomatic effort to strengthen UK-US relations during a period of political change on both sides of the Atlantic.

Scheduled for 17–19 September 2025, the visit comes at a significant time. While Parliament will be in recess and the political parties engaged in their annual conferences, the government has avoided the spectacle of a parliamentary address or potential political confrontation. Instead, the focus will be firmly on the ceremonial and diplomatic aspects, ensuring the event remains respectful and apolitical in tone. The decision to host the visit at Windsor, rather than Buckingham Palace, currently undergoing renovation, further underlines the emphasis on tradition and continuity over theatrics.

The invitation was officially issued by King Charles, reportedly after diplomatic talks between Downing Street and the White House. However, Buckingham Palace has not confirmed whether Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer personally requested the visit during his recent trip. While Labour ministers may be hoping to use the visit to bolster their international image, the decision to minimise political engagement suggests a recognition that Trump's visit is likely to provoke protest and division. In 2019, his state visit drew large-scale demonstrations and required substantial policing, particularly in London.

According to *People* magazine, Trump has expressed personal fondness for Windsor Castle and the King's hospitality, stating that the royal invitation was "really something." The visit will include a state banquet, military honours, and private meetings with the King. A potential informal stop in Scotland ahead of the visit was said to have been considered but ultimately dropped due to scheduling constraints, according to sources.

Critics, predominantly from Labour and left-leaning commentators, have raised concerns over Trump's record and recent campaign rhetoric. However, the decision to proceed with the visit highlights the UK's long-standing tradition of separating protocol from partisanship. This second state visit is an opportunity for the UK to reaffirm its relationship with one of its closest allies and prepare for future cooperation, especially with another Trump presidency looking increasingly likely.

Ultimately, by focusing on diplomacy and discretion, the UK has ensured this visit remains about strengthening international bonds, rather than indulging in domestic political theatre.