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King Charles to Host Donald Trump in Second UK State Visit This Autumn

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King Charles III is preparing to host former U.S. President Donald Trump for a state visit to the United Kingdom later this year, marking a highly unusual second honour of its kind for the American leader. The visit, expected to take place in September, is poised to reinforce the enduring strength of the “special relationship” between the UK and the United States, even amid shifting global politics and domestic scrutiny.

Though state visits are typically reserved for heads of state during their time in office, Trump's return marks the first time in modern history that a U.S. president, current or former, will be granted two formal state visits by a British monarch. His first took place in 2019, under the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. This time, King Charles will host the former president at Windsor Castle, with preparations already underway for the full ceremonial treatment, including a grand state banquet and a carriage procession through London.

The invitation was reportedly extended months ago, with Prime Minister Keir Starmer personally delivering the King's letter to Trump at the White House during a private meeting. While the idea of a second state visit for Trump has stirred some criticism, particularly from opposition voices concerned about his record on issues like climate change, immigration, and Ukraine, Buckingham Palace and Downing Street appear aligned in treating the visit as a diplomatic opportunity rather than a political endorsement.

Palace insiders note that King Charles and Trump have shared a cordial relationship for years, predating their respective roles as monarch and president. Trump has previously spoken warmly of the King, describing him as "a very special man" and praising their earlier conversations. The visit will not only celebrate the transatlantic alliance but may also serve to underline shared strategic interests during a time of global instability.

Though the visit's exact date is yet to be confirmed, it is expected to draw significant media attention and public interest. As preparations continue, the event stands to be a high-profile reminder of the symbolic and historical weight of diplomacy and the importance of maintaining global ties across changing administrations and royal generations.

