

If you are a Florida company interested in exporting to the British market, please click [here](#).

The United Kingdom and Florida: A Strong and Growing Economic Partnership

The United Kingdom and the U.S. State of Florida have enjoyed longstanding, highly-developed ties in terms of language, culture, education, science, technology, transport, tourism, and commerce. Today the UK is among Florida's most significant economic partners, while Florida ranks among the top American states for British businesses and tourists alike. British companies account for close to 70,000 jobs in the state, making the UK the world's top foreign investor in Florida, while each year Florida companies supply (mostly high-tech) consumer products and intermediate goods to British businesses averaging a billion U.S. dollars.

Enterprise Florida assists British companies to set up or expand in Florida (opening an office, distribution centre, manufacturing facility, etc.) by providing information, finding suitable premises, recruitment, training, permitting and tailored incentives. We also support Florida companies looking to export to the UK by providing market research and identifying distributors. Our services are always completely confidential and free of charge.

UK Investment in Florida

The United Kingdom is the Top International Investor in Florida

The United Kingdom is the top source of foreign direct investment (FDI) both in terms of the total amount invested in Florida's economy, and in the number of Floridians employed by foreign-affiliated firms.

Florida's Largest Source of FDI by Value: British affiliates in Florida are estimated to have had total holdings of USD \$17.2 billion in 2018, employing 67,800 Floridians. The United Kingdom ranks first a source of international investment into Florida's economy. There are 271 British-affiliated companies presently operating in Florida.

First in FDI-Related Employment: In 2018, British-affiliated companies employed more Floridians than companies from any other foreign country – altogether about 67,800 people. Jobs at British owned firms accounted for 19% of all Florida FDI-related jobs in 2018, meaning about one in five Floridians working for a foreign-affiliated company in 2018 was employed by a British firm.

- Based on the most recent statistics from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, the United Kingdom is the **single largest foreign investor** in Florida, accounting for 67,800 jobs in 2018.
- According to Enterprise Florida's database of Foreign-Affiliated Affiliates in Florida, there are 271 British-owned companies operating at 1,235 individual business locations throughout Florida.



Accessing Markets Throughout the Americas

Florida's strong technology base and its global linkages have helped to attract close to 300 British firms to Florida, enabling them to prosper and effectively serve markets throughout the Western Hemisphere and around the world. The Florida operations of British companies today play an important role in affirming Florida's position as a major business centre in the Americas.

Florida is host to various types of British corporate facilities, including high-tech manufacturing plants, research & development labs, information and multimedia production, financial and other high value-added services, as well as hemispheric corporate headquarters and distribution centres. British-affiliated companies are present in most key sectors of Florida's economy, and are located throughout the state.

Select British-Owned Companies with Operations in Florida

U.K. Parent Company	Florida Subsidiary Company
AON PLC (Professional Services)	Aon Hewitt
BAE Systems, PLC (Aerospace)	BAE Systems Mobility & Protection Systems
Barclays Bank (Financial Services)	Barclays Bank
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu International (Professional Services)	Deloitte
Diageo PLC (Beverages)	Diageo North America
EY Ernst & Young Global Limited (Professional Services)	Ernst & Young
HSBC Holdings PLC (Financial Services)	HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
Princess Yachts International PLC (Manufacturing)	Princess Yachts

Florida Companies in the United Kingdom

Florida-headquartered companies in a variety of industry sectors have operations in the U.K., including these well-known corporations:

- B/E Aerospace, Inc. (Aerospace)
- Brightstar Corporation (Services)
- Claire's Stores (Retail)
- Citrix Systems, Inc. (Software)
- Fresh Del Monte Produce, Inc. (Produce)
- Hard Rock Café International (Leisure)
- Hertz Global Inc. (Car/Equipment Rental)
- Jabil, Inc. (Electronics)
- Office Depot, Inc. (Retail)
- Sitel Worldwide Corp. (Customer Exp.)
- Sun Capital Partners, Inc. (Fin. Services)
- UTC Climate, Controls & Security (Safety)

Florida-U.K. Bilateral Merchandise Trade (\$3.5 Billion in 2019)

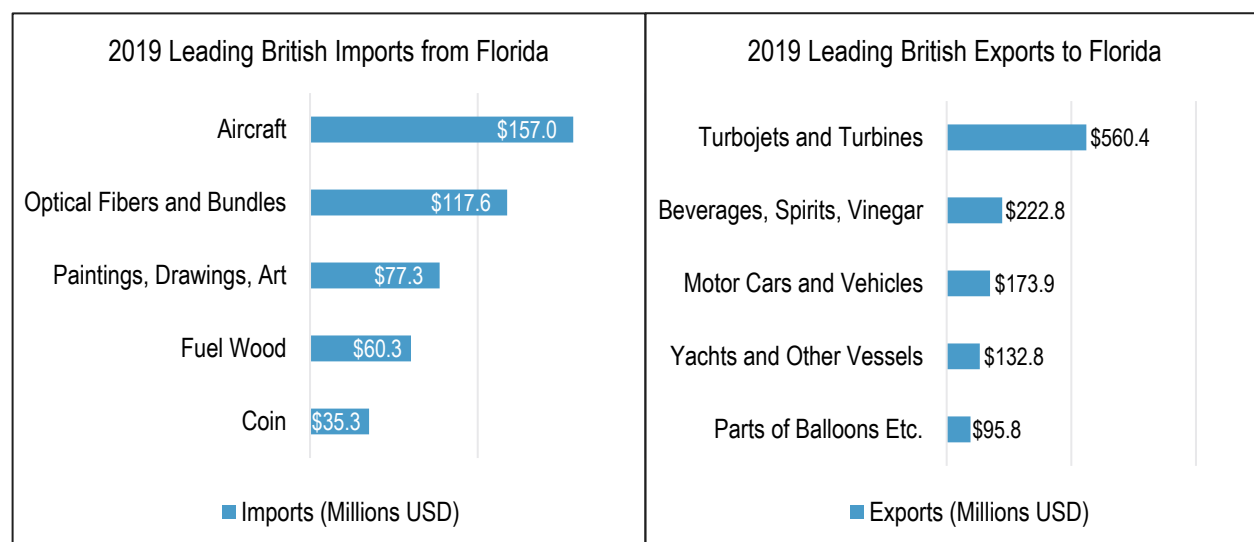
Both the United Kingdom and Florida are major international trading entities, and enjoy a well-developed and growing bilateral trading relationship.

- **A Vital Trade Relationship:** The United Kingdom ranks fifteenth globally and fourth in Europe among Florida’s merchandise trading partners, with total bilateral trade in 2019 reaching \$3.5 billion.
- **Dramatic Growth in Bilateral Trade:** The total merchandise trade volume between the United Kingdom and Florida has grown by more than a third over the past decade.

UK Trade with Third Countries through Florida: As the commercial hub of the Western Hemisphere, Florida is a major transshipment and distribution point for goods moving between Latin American and Caribbean countries and the rest of the world, including the United Kingdom

Total merchandise trade between Florida and the U.K. amounted to \$3.5 billion in 2019, making it Florida’s 15th largest bilateral merchandise trading partner. In the past five years *bilateral trade has grown by 21.8%, and by 35.3%* in the last ten years.

- British Imports from Florida totaled \$1.0 billion in 2019, making the United Kingdom the state’s 19th largest export market.
- British Exports to Florida totaled \$2.5 billion in 2019, making the United Kingdom Florida’s 11th largest source of merchandise imports.



British Exports to Florida

Florida’s significance for UK companies is illustrated by the strength of British exports to Florida:

- **Florida is a Key Export Market for British Firms:** The United Kingdom now ranks as the eleventh largest exporter to Florida, exporting \$2.4 billion worth of merchandise to Florida in 2019. The leading British exports to Florida include Turbojets, Turbopropellers & other gas turbines, Ethyl Alcohol, Motor Cars & Vehicles, and yachts & other vessels.

- **British exports to Florida have seen steady growth since 2010.** In addition to finished goods, these exports increasingly include intermediary goods – inputs into the production of finished goods, often by British-affiliated companies in Florida. Further expansion is likely as British companies acquire a stronger presence in the Florida market.
- **Florida as a Gateway to the Broader U.S. Market:** With its specialized goods processing facilities, Florida is a key point of entry for British goods into the United States, both to serve the local Florida market, and as a gateway to other markets throughout the United States.

U.K. Imports from Florida

Florida's airports and seaports act as gateways for goods – made in both Florida and other U.S. states – destined for key European markets, including the United Kingdom:

- **Florida Producers are Expanding Sales in the British Market:** In 2019, the United Kingdom imported \$1.9 billion dollars' worth of goods "Made in Florida", posting healthy growth over the past five years.
- **Goods Produced in Other U.S. States Also Often Reach the United Kingdom via Florida:** Totalling \$956 million in 2019, the United Kingdom's main imports through Florida airports and seaports include civilian aircraft, engines, and parts, optical fibers and bundles, and paintings.

Tourism & Expatriate Population

- In 2018, 1,498,000 people visited Florida from the United Kingdom. They accounted for 10% of total international visitors to Florida.
- The United Kingdom ranks second in number of visitors to Florida.
- The British consulate in Miami estimates that 400,000 British expats live in Florida.

Cultural Linkages

Shared Historical and Cultural Heritage

Britain's cultural connections with Florida go back several centuries, and indeed in colonial days, the Union Jack for a time flew over the entire Florida Territory. Today, Florida acts as a magnet for British business executives, scholars, students, artists, and tourists alike. There are extensive educational, cultural, and technical exchange programs between organizations in the United Kingdom and those in Florida, as well as numerous British-American clubs throughout Florida.

Sister Cities

The State of Florida has one of the most active Sister City programs in the United States, promoting the exchange of people, ideas, and culture as a first step towards establishing commercial ties. Partnerships include:

- Lauderdale By The Sea - Sister City partnership with Henley-on-Thames, United Kingdom
- Mount Dora - Sister City partnership with Forres, Scotland, United Kingdom
- Sarasota - Sister City partnership with Dunfermline, Scotland, United Kingdom

U.K. Government & Business Associations in Florida

- [British Consulate General – Miami](#)
- [British American Chamber of Commerce of Florida](#)
- [British American Business Council Miami](#)
- British-American Chamber of Commerce of Broward-Palm Beach
- British-American Chamber of Commerce – Central Florida

Air Linkages

There are numerous direct air connections from Florida to the United Kingdom:

- Orlando (MCO) to Belfast, N. Ireland – Virgin Atlantic
- Orlando (MCO) to Glasgow, Scotland – Virgin Atlantic
- Orlando (MCO) to London (LGW) – British Airways
- Orlando (MCO) to London (LGW) – Virgin Atlantic
- Orlando (MCO) to Manchester – Virgin Atlantic

- Miami Intl Airport (MIA) to London (LHR) – American Airlines
- Miami Intl Airport (MIA) to London (LHR) – British Airways
- Miami Intl Airport (MIA) to London (LHR) – Virgin Atlantic

- Tampa Intl Airport (TPA) to London (LGW) – British Airways



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