

Elon Musk Sucks America Dry

Elon Musk living in \$2K per night Mar-a-Lago cottage, report says

Story by Brian Niemietz

Elon Musk is reportedly staying in a cottage at President-elect Donald Trump's estate that rents for \$2,000 a day.

The world's richest man, who holds substantial government contracts and appears to have spent more than a quarter of a billion dollars to get Trump and his surrogates elected to office, has been a Trump tenant since the presidential election in November, according to the New York Times. How much he's paying for the space wasn't reported. Billing usually comes when a visitor checks out.

By planting himself in a cottage, which is reportedly named Banyan, Musk reportedly lives a short walk from Trump's home and gives him easy access to the 78-year-old Republican leader. Musk's personal worth before Trump was elected to office last month was a little over \$260 billion. He's now worth around \$430 billion, according to Forbes.

Having easy access to Trump and Mar-a-Lago has allowed Musk to drop in on meetings the incoming commander-in-chief is hosting. That included a recent dinner Trump had with Amazon founder Jeff Bezos — the world's second-richest man — that the Times said Musk wasn't expected to attend.

Last week, Trump appeared to ask Musk where he and his son X were while telling the 53-year-old kingmaker he could be missing out on country club functions with other billionaires.

“Where are you?” Trump posted on his social media platform. “When are you coming to the ‘Center of the Universe,’ Mar-a-Lago. Bill Gates asked to come, tonight. We miss you and x! New Year’s Eve is going to be AMAZING!!!”

Trump has asked the South African entrepreneur to work with fellow billionaire Vivek Ramaswamy to form a department that monitors government spending.

An October report by House Democrats on the Committee on Oversight and Accountability found several instances where Trump appeared to profit from guests with personal and professional ties staying at his properties. One individual who got a presidential pardon from the President-elect during his previous stint in the White House reportedly spent \$15,000 in Trump’s Washington, D.C., hotel in late 2017 and early 2018.

‘Trump is Annoyed’: Insiders Say ‘Shadow President’ Elon Musk Starting to Irritate Trump

Diana Falzone

President-elect **Donald Trump** has shown growing signs of frustration with **Elon Musk**, his wealthiest and most vocal adviser, sources tell Mediaite.

Musk, the world’s richest man, has been deeply involved in the White House transition after backing Trump in the 2024 election with \$150 million and relentless support on X, the social media platform he owns.

Sources close to the transition, who spoke on condition of anonymity to reveal internal conversations, said Trump is growing weary of Musk’s omnipresence – as well as the media attention his antics are garnering.

“100 percent Trump is annoyed,” said one Trump insider who worked on the 2024 campaign. “There’s a Chinese saying: ‘two tigers cannot live on one mountaintop.’”

Last week, a civil war broke out between two factions of Trump’s movement after Musk and **Vivek Ramaswamy** expressed their support for foreign worker visas – sparking outrage from prominent MAGA voices and immigration hardliners like **Steve Bannon**. Several Trump supporters, including conspiracy theorist **Laura Loomer**, claimed Musk stripped them of their verification badges on X in retaliation for their criticism of him.

In an expletive-laced X post on Saturday, Musk responded to the backlash: “The reason I’m in America along with so many critical people who built SpaceX, Tesla and hundreds of other companies that made America strong is because of H1B. Take a big step back and FUCK YOURSELF in the face. I will go to war on this issue the likes of which you cannot possibly comprehend.”

Bannon fired back, calling Musk a “toddler.”

Within the transition, the civil war that erupted online last week sparked a reminder of the importance of discretion. On Sunday, **Susie Wiles**, Trump’s pick for White House chief of staff, sent a transition-wide memo on social media use.

In the memo, Wiles forbade members of the incoming administration and transition from making any comments on social media without prior approval from the incoming White House counsel.

Despite his involvement in the transition, Musk does not have a formal role in the incoming administration. Alongside Ramaswamy, he will be overseeing a non-governmental agency tasked with slashing government spending.

Chatter that Musk is serving as shadow president of the incoming Trump administration has percolated so much in the last few weeks that Trump addressed the idea at an event earlier this month.

“He’s not going to be president, that I can tell you,” Trump said of Musk. “You know why he can’t be [president]? He wasn’t born in this country.”

“There was likely an allure to it in the beginning but it seemed like it could go ugly,” another Trump insider said of the alliance between the president-elect and Musk. “Trump is Trump. I think it’s just the way Trump is. Someone that is around that much and having influence would be a bother.”

“I mean the guy came in, gave a boatload of money, and wants to take over the place,” the insider said, adding they don’t think Musk has “bad intentions,” but “you also can’t just inject a shadow president somewhere.”

The Trump insider who worked on the 2024 campaign downplayed Musk’s influence.

“The media is portraying him as a co-president,” they said. “Musk is a character actor. There is only one executive producer, one lead in this TV show, and that is Trump. Elon will have his role, his focuses, but he is meant to disrupt the status quo in Washington and Trump is weaponizing him.”

“The only one to move the MAGA movement is Trump,” they added. “Elon will be able to amplify the message.”

The source warned that Musk’s enormous wealth and influence will not protect him from being dumped by Trump if the president-elect’s frustrations persist.

“Unless you’re family, you’re not family,” they said.

Laura Loomer Goes OFF on Elon Musk Advising Trump — Calls Out His ‘Off the Books’ Meetings With Iranian and Chinese Officials

An editor at a German newspaper that published an op-ed from **Elon Musk** defending the country’s ascendant far-right party resigned in protest.

Musk, the billionaire owner of X, formerly Twitter, recently expressed his support for Alternative for Germany, an extremist party with an anti-immigrant platform that this year became the first far-right party to win a state election in Germany since 1945.

After his comments defending AfD drew intense backlash, Musk wrote in an op-ed published in the daily German paper *Welt* on Saturday, “The traditional parties have failed in Germany.”

He also dismissed concerns about the party’s extremism: “The portrayal of the AfD as rightwing extremist is clearly false, considering that Alice Weidel, the party’s leader, has a same-sex partner from Sri Lanka! Does that sound like Hitler to you? Please!”

AfD is seen in Europe as so extreme that the French far-right party led by **Marine Le Pen** distanced itself after an AfD leader declared that not every Nazi SS member was a criminal. Earlier this year, another AfD leader was convicted of using Nazi slogans.

Eva Marie Kogel, the commentary editor at *Welt*, took to Musk’s platform X to announce her resignation from the paper in the wake of the op-ed’s publication.

“I always enjoyed heading the opinion department at Welt and Wams. Today a text by Elon Musk appeared in Welt am Sonntag. Yesterday I submitted my resignation after printing,” she posted.

Ich habe immer gerne das Meinungsressort von WELT und WAMS geleitet. Heute ist in der Welt am Sonntag ein Text von Elon Musk erschienen. Ich habe gestern nach Andruck meine Kündigung eingereicht. <https://t.co/Ss1FNGiwAL>

— Eva Marie Kogel (@emkogel) December 28, 2024

Welt, a paper owned by Politico parent company **Axel Springer**, also published a response to Musk from its incoming editor in chief **Jan Philipp Burgard**.

“Musk’s diagnosis is correct, but his therapeutic approach, that only the AfD can save Germany, is fatally false,” Burgard wrote, calling the party anti-Semitic and xenophobic.

Steve Bannon called “escalation” in the MAGA world between himself and others versus **Elon Musk** on the topic of immigration “good.”

On his *WarRoom* podcast, Bannon pushed back on fellow Musk critic **Laura Loomer**, saying it’s “unfortunate” tensions have risen and blasting Musk for his “abuse” against the “MAGA base.” Both Bannon and Loomer are critics of H-1B, a work visa program heavily used in tech field jobs. Bannon has called for the complete elimination of the program, while Musk and fellow President-elect **Donald Trump** supporter **Vivek Ramaswamy** have argued in its favor, claiming a skills gap in the American workforce.

Loomer was previously locked out of her X account and had her verification badge stripped on the platform amid her criticism of Musk. Musk has called for “contemptible fools” to be ripped out of the Republican Party and further earned blowback from critics for endorsing a post calling American workers “retarded.”

Bannon has, in the past, called Musk a “toddler,” and he made clear to Loomer that he has no plans to slow down or compromise his position. The former Trump advisor argued the work visa program does not align with Trump’s immigration agenda, including mass deportations.

“It’s unfortunate that things have escalated the way that they have escalated, but we’ll see. Hopefully, I’m reinstated and hopefully I’m remonetized,” Loomer said.

“I think escalation’s good. When we get down to it, remember they’re the ones backpedaling and, like I said, when an enemy’s in retreat, fix bayonets and pursue,” Bannon responded.

Loomer then accused Musk of “abuse” against the “MAGA base,” citing the endorsed-“retarded” post and another in which he told critics to “fuck yourself in the face.”

Bannon doesn't see MAGA being called retards or racist by Elon as abuse. The MAGA base is tough, battle-hardened from a decade of fighting, and resilient. Elon folded after claiming he'd fight to the ends of the earth. pic.twitter.com/14OAG9IN9e

— Bannon's WarRoom (@Bannons_WarRoom) December 30, 2024

“When I say it's unfortunate things have escalated, it's unfortunate that the MAGA base has had to sustain abuse from the richest man in the world, being called retards and saying, you know, F-you in the face,” Loomer said.

Bannon dismissed the insults and called MAGA “battle-hardened.”

“We're battle-hardened [after] over a decade of fighting, people are — hey, it's nothing,” he said.

Laura Loomer, a close ally of President-elect Trump, railed against another Trump ally, Elon Musk, calling him a “Stage 5 clinger.”

Loomer joined former Trump White House adviser Steve Bannon for his “War Room” podcast Monday and weighed in on the ongoing battle with Musk.

“I think that a lot of people have a hard time speaking truth to power, and a lot of people are afraid of taking on billionaires,” Loomer said. “He is the richest man in the world, and so he kind of orbits President Trump.”

“As I called him the other day, I said he's a Stage 5 clinger,” she continued.

Musk, who has been appointed to co-lead Trump's "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE), has become part of the president-elect's close circle and entangled in political drama ahead of Inauguration Day.

Musk and fellow tech entrepreneur and DOGE co-leader Vivek Ramaswamy were criticized by some of Trump's supporters after signaling their support for the H-1B work visa, a key immigration program designed to attract international talent.

Loomer and other hard-line immigration Republicans sharply criticized Musk on X, the social media platform he owns.

Musk faced accusations of censorship after several right-wing X accounts, including Loomer's, lost access to premium features including verification and monetization, NBC News reported.

Loomer said on Bannon's podcast that many people close to Trump are realizing they can't be critical of Musk, partially because they depend on the platform's monetization from their posts.

"They realize that their input to President Trump is now being overshadowed," Loomer said. "Overshadowed by the richest man in the world who has these ulterior motives."

Loomer questioned if Musk really supports Trump's "America First agenda" or if he is working to promote something else.

In terms of her verification status on X, Loomer said she believes Musk doesn't like how close she is to Trump and how she publicly challenged him.

“It doesn't matter what side of the political aisle a billionaire is on,” she said. “I don't think that it's acceptable for billionaires to have this much power and this much access.”

Loomer said that it was unfortunate that things have escalated the way they have, but is hopeful she will be reinstated and remonetized on X.