

Weighing the possible sites

US President Donald Trump has shown a keen interest in holding his high-stakes meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at the truce village of Panmunjom in the heavily-fortified Demilitarised Zone (DMZ) separating the two Koreas, while his officials reportedly prefer a neutral third-party country like Singapore. Mr Kim, who was educated in Switzerland, is said to prefer Pyongyang, but may be persuaded to travel to Panmunjom or Mongolia. Switzerland, as well as other countries including Indonesia and Thailand, have offered to host the summit. South Korea Correspondent **Chang May Choon** looks at the pluses and minuses of each location.

| Where | Security/ infrastructure | Historical significance | Neutrality | Proximity to Pyongyang | Diplomatic ties with US/North Korea | Glam factor | Ease of media coverage |
|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------|---------------------------|--|----------------|---------------------------|
| Panmunjom, DMZ | ● | ● | | ● | ● | | ● |
| Singapore | ● | | ● | | ● | ● | ● |
| Mongolia | | | ● | ● | ● | | |
| Indonesia | ● | | ● | | ● | | ● |
| Thailand | ● | | ● | | ● | ● | ● |
| Switzerland | ● | | ● | | ● | ● | ● |

● **Security/infrastructure:** Guarantees safety and protection of both leaders

● **Historical significance:** Symbolic meaning of the venue

● **Neutrality:** Seen as unbiased towards both US and North Korea

● **Proximity to Pyongyang:** Ease of travel for North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, who prefers his bulletproof car or train to airplane

● **Diplomatic ties with US/North Korea:** Presence of local missions that can help plan and coordinate the summit

● **Glam factor:** Attractiveness of the venue

● **Ease of media coverage:** How easy it is for global media to travel to venue and report from there