Russell Brand granted bail over sexual assault charges

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British comedian and actor Russell Brand was granted conditional bail on Friday following his first court appearance on multiple sexual offence charges.  
  
The 49-year-old appeared at Westminster Magistrates’ Court in London, facing one count each of rape, indecent assault, and oral rape, along with two counts of sexual assault.  
  
The charges stem from allegations by four women, relating to incidents between 1999 and 2005. Brand, who has denied all allegations, spoke in court only to confirm his name, birth date, address, and understanding of his bail conditions.  
  
The court also heard details of the accusations, which include an alleged rape in Bournemouth in 1999, an indecent assault in Westminster in 2001, oral rape and sexual assault in Westminster in 2004, and another sexual assault in Westminster between 2004 and 2005.  
  
The Metropolitan Police launched their investigation into Brand in September 2023 after a joint media investigation by The Sunday Times, The Times, and Channel 4’s Dispatches prompted a wave of complaints. Police had initially described Brand as residing in southern England, though reports suggest he now lives in the United States.  
  
Brand, once a familiar face in Hollywood films and UK television and radio, has in recent years reinvented himself as a social commentator.  
  
Some of his works, which continues to resonate with audience globally, include Despicable Me, Arthur, Death on the Nile, and Trolls.  
  
He was married to American pop star Katy Perry from 2010 to 2012 before the 14-month-old marriage met its end.  
  
He is now married to Laura Gallacher who is a restauranteur, blogger, illustrator and an author, and they both have three children together.  
  
Brand’s next court appearance is scheduled for May 30, 2025 at London’s Old Bailey, the Central Criminal Court of England and Wales.