





A range of speciality loose teas supplied by Twinings

In 1706 Thomas Twining set up as a tea merchant at 216 Strand, London. The firm has traded continuously ever since from the same address, an amazing and unique record. Now, as then,Twinings teas give the world unequalled pleasure and satisfaction.

As expert blenders for over 300 years, Twinings has sought out some of the most exclusive and rare teas and infusions to delight your senses. Let us take you on a virtual journey through the world of tea, bringing you tea tastes and rituals from far-flung locales, served in a way to highlight the beauty and culture of each particular tea ceremony. "There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea."

Henry James



"The pleasures of afternoon tea run like a trickle of honey through English literature from Rupert Brooke's wistful lines on the Old Vicarage at Grantchester to Miss Marple, calmly dissecting a case over tea cakes at a seaside hotel."

Stan Hey



"Although my neighbours are all barbarians, And you, you are a thousand miles away, There are always two cups on my table."

Tang Dynasty



"Better to be deprived of food for three days, than tea for one."

"The spirit of the tea beverage is one of peace, comfort and refinement."

#### Arthur Gray



"There is a great deal of poetry and fine sentiment in a chest of tea."

Ralph Waldo Emerson, Letters and Social Aims



"Drinking a daily cup of tea will surely starve the apothecary."

**Chinese Proverb** 

www.twinings.co.uk/teadeli



#### WHITE SILVER TIPS

Silver tips is a rare and sought after tea made using only the unopened leaf buds of the tea plant. The tiny buds are packed with antioxidants, and because they are the juiciest part of the tea plant, they give a delicate fresh flavour. Twinings select the finest silver tips from Sri Lanka and Indonesia to create a light and delicate tea that's sweet, fresh and peachy in character. Enjoy this tea in its most natural state without milk.

### PUERH

Produced according to ancient techniques, Puerh has been a closely guarded secret for centuries. Traditionally this distinctive earthy tea was carried in shoulder baskets through long winding paths to the market town from which it gets its name. Despite its dark colour, it is actually a green tea which is wetted, left to ferment and oxidize, then cooked in a hut over a fire until dry and left to age for up to 50 years. This unique tea gives a smooth, mellow, earthy taste which makes for a comforting brew. Best drunk without milk, or with a refreshing twist of lemon.





#### GUNPOWDER GREEN TEA & MINT

Gunpowder and Mint is a blend of green tea and mint leaves. It has a punchy, sweet flavour and a gentle earthy colour. The 'gunpowder' part of the name comes from the shape of the green teas once they have been rolled into little pellets. Rolling tea like this helps to lock in the delicious flavours, and combined with steamed fresh peppermint leaves from Egypt, this creates a reviving drink. Add a teaspoon of sugar to release the flavours and bring out the sweetness. Best drunk without milk.

#### JASMINE PEARLS

Each jasmine pearl is hand-fashioned by twisting exceptionally long, downy leaf bud sets together and rolling them into silvery balls. These are then scented six times with fresh, aromatic jasmine flowers. When brewed, the pearls unravel to reveal an elegant scent and a sweet, fresh silvery liquor with the delicate taste of jasmine blossoms. Best enjoyed without milk or sugar.

#### JIN SHANG TIAN HUA - Flowering Tea

The delicate leaves have been carefully sewn together to contain three Chrysanthemum flowers. This stunning tea is transformed when brewed, as the leaves unfurl to release the beautiful flowers suspended in a lively, light liquor with subtle aromatic pine notes. An exquisite hand-made Chinese green tea with a clear, pale golden appearance, it is best enjoyed without milk or sugar.

#### TAIWANESE HIGH MOUNTAIN OOLONG

Sourced from the Dung Ding mountains in Taiwan, a location which gives the Oolong a subtle delicate flavour, High Mountain Oolong is a honey-coloured tea with a spring-like fragrance and a velvety texture. Oolong is made using only the youngest tea leaves, and unlike black tea leaves, they aren't given a chance to fully oxidize. This results in a light, blossomy tea which is rich in antioxidants. Oolong is a delicate tea so is best drunk without milk.

#### LONG JING GREEN

Long Jing or 'Dragonwell' green tea was developed in Zhejiang province in China during the Ming & Qing dynasties and is recognised as the finest variety of green tea from China, being one of China's '10 famous teas'. It is produced in misty hills around the famous West Lake, near the city of Hangzhou, in the Dragonwell Springs area. Commonly produced by hand, the leaf has a long, flat appearance creating a rounded full-bodied green tea which tastes sweet initially, with a slightly savoury aftertaste of 'popped corn'. Enjoy with or without sugar.

# The Ritual of Tea

Choose from these three very different but equally special tea rituals.

#### BRITISH AFTERNOON

A quintessentially British tradition, this classic tea ceremony dates back to the 1830's when Anna Maria, the Seventh Duchess of Bedford, first introduced it to her exclusive circle of friends.

#### TISANE

Originating from the Greek for barley water, the Tisane ritual offers not teas, but a fabulous array of herbal and fruit infusions – perfect for those seeking a light and refreshingly different experience.

#### ORIENTAL

A delightful fusion of Chinese and Japanese traditional tea ceremonies, with all the poise and elegance of the Orient, this delicate, precise ritual takes you back to the true origins of tea,



The origin of tea dates back to 2737 BC and Chinese Emperor Shen Nung's discovery when the leaves of a nearby tea tree fell into some water his entourage were boiling. From its Chinese routes Japan started to learn about and drink tea in the 7th/8th century AD, developing its own distinctive tea ceremony Cha-no-yu, based on the Buddhist search for spiritual refreshment and harmony with the universe.

The traditions of the Far East have always been very different to that of the western world, as have their tea rituals. This Oriental tea ritual is a combination of both Chinese and Japanese ceremonies, taking you back to the Eastern origins of tea by combining notes from both tea cultures to create a delicate and elegant Oriental ritual around the following fine teas.



# British Afternoon

Anna Maria, the Seventh Duchess of Bedford, is credited with the invention of afternoon tea in 1840. She is said to have experienced what she called a 'sinking feeling' in the middle of the afternoon due to the long gap between light luncheon and her evening meal. To relieve her hunger pangs she asked her footman to bring her a pot of tea and a little light refreshment. She enjoyed this ritual so much she began to invite her friends over for tea and gossip about the latest scandal. The ritual caught on and afternoon tea became all the rage among the upper crust. Soon all of fashionable London was indulging in afternoon tea, as you can too with this classic British institution.

Follow in the Duchess of Bedford's footsteps and indulge your sense of fantasy with our Afternoon Tea Ritual. Simply choose from the following range of fine teas and enjoy this uniquely British experience.

# British Afternoon



### TRADITIONAL ENGLISH

This traditional tasting tea is a blend of the finest Assam teas from the rich flood plains of the Brahmaputra River in India, known to deliver exceptional tasting tea. A classic, robust and traditional tasting tea, which gives a strong, smooth, rich liquor. Can be enjoyed with or without milk. If preferred a sprinkle of sugar can be added to enhance the flavour.

#### TRADITIONAL ENGLISH DECAFFEINATED

The same classic blend as Traditional English, but naturally decaffeinated for a rich tasting tea, without the caffeine. Perfect for those looking to cut down on caffeine without compromising on taste.

#### SIGNATURE EARL GREY

A rich dark Keemun tea from the Anhui province of China, blended with the oil of the citrus fruit Bergamot, and combined with delicate lavender flowers to produce an aromatic floral blend. The liquor delivers a deep copper colour, whilst the lavender emits a soothing relaxing aroma. This tea can be enjoyed with a dash of milk, or with a slice of lemon to bring out the Bergamot flavour.



### ROOIBOS, ORANGE & CINNAMON

The rich aromatic taste of Rooibos, combined with sweet oranges and hints of warming spice, is perfect to sooth and relax. Imagine sitting on a wooden veranda, watching a golden sunset with breathtaking views across the Western Cape, as you unwind with this little taste of Africa.

#### BLACKCURRANT & LAVENDER

The rich combination of sweet blackcurrant and lavender provides a delicious autumn taste, transporting you to picturesque views of fiery golden leaves, vibrant holly berry hedgerows and fields of golden crops ready for harvest. Take comfort in the fresh and fruity flavours, which provide a touch of warmth as the evenings get colder and the nights draw in.

#### YERBA MATE

Yerba Mate comes from a holly tree native to South America, originally discovered by the Guarani Indians. The leaves and stems are dried, left to develop and then ground to produce this unusual infusion. Traditionally used to re-energise, refreshing Yerba Mate produces an opaque green liquor with an initial taste of fresh grass followed by smoky overtones and a slightly dry finish.

# Tisane

#### PEPPERMINT

Whole peppermint leaves have been roughly cut to produce a refreshing and cleansing drink. Full of minty fresh flavour, this infusion delivers a cooling caffeine-free brew. Reputed to aid digestion, it is ideal as an after-dinner drink. As refreshing as a bare-foot walk through the moming dew at sunrise, this vibrant and clean infusion is sure to blow the cobwebs away.

#### PEPPERMINT & LEMONGRASS

The sweet taste of peppermint combined with the smooth citric character of lemongrass perfectly complements this uplifting blend. Feel refreshed and revitalised at the thought of warm spring mornings, fields filled with wild flowers and long country walks lined with cherry blossom trees.

#### PEPPERMINT & ROOIBOS

The warming taste of Rooibos, delicately combined with the cooling, refreshing hint of peppermint, transports you to a moment of calm and serenity as you drift along the banks of the Nile, gazing into star-lit desert nights.

# British Afternoon

#### 2ND FLUSH ASSAM

Assam is a strong black tea with a rich copper colour. 2nd Flush Assam, the harvest picked in June only, is known for being particularly smooth, and bursting with rich, malty character. This is a full-bodied tea and makes a great alternative to coffee, due to its strength of flavour. This tea can be enjoyed with or without milk.

#### 2ND FLUSH DARJEELING

This fine tea gives an exquisite liquor, delicate and full of flavour. The concentration of flavour from this '2nd flush' is unique to the spring teas, giving a delightful honey aroma and a light, fragrant taste of ripe green muscatel grapes. Preferably drunk without milk – or at most just a dash.

#### RUSSIAN CARAVAN

In the 18th century, crates of tea were transported from China to Russia in camel caravans. The journey was long and arduous and along the way the tea picked up smoky aromas from the travellers' campfires. Since then, these special flavours have been re-created as 'Russian Caravan'. This blend of Keemun and Oolong creates a smooth, satisfying tea with a smoky flavour. Can be enjoyed black, or with a dash of milk and a sprinkle of sugar.



# Tisane

The word "tisane" originates from the Greek word "ptisane", a drink made from pearl barley, but is by definition any herbal infusion other than one from the leaves of the tea bush. Tisanes can be made with fresh or dried flowers, leaves, seeds or roots, generally by pouring boiling water over the plant parts and letting them steep for a few minutes. The tisane is then strained, sweetened if so desired, and served.

Herbal "tea" is best known for its medicinal effects. Though very little scientific evidence exists of its actual efficacy, herbal tea is still highly regarded as a preventative treatment for certain ailments. Choose from a range of light and refreshing infusions, which will brew to give a delicate and fragrant taste and aroma.