
TEA TALK:

NEWS FROM ACQUIRED TASTES TEA COMPANY

Issue 13

Fall 2001

Tea & Travel

Hello everyone! After an exciting summer visiting teashops in Europe, I'm back at home & back at work! Some of you have already had the chance to meet Nora & Colleen II who have been working in the shop since the summer. Together we've been tasting a lot of samples & we have some great new teas for you to try. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

~Colleen

What's New?

New Bulk Tea:

New Green Tea: Kokeicha – a green tea produced by compressing Matcha, the powdered tea from the Japanese tea ceremony. Also new, **White Monkey Paw**, a delicate & rare green tea.

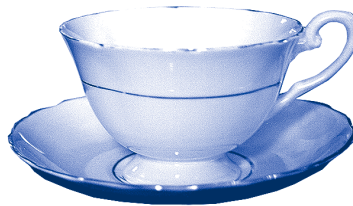
New Herbal Teas: Roasted Maté (See next page for info), and two new flavoured rooibos teas. Rooibos is the healthy, caffeine-free herb that tastes somewhat similar to black tea. Our new selections are **Rooibos- Bourbon Vanilla** and **Rooibos- Honeymoon**. The latter is a blend of rooibos, honeybush, orange peel & blossom, chai spice, and orange & almond flavours.

Other Teas:

King Cole Tea- Strong black tea from the East Coast.

Teapots: Stainless steel teapots have arrived & **Lomonosov** Russian Imperial teaware is on the way. Collectors- come see the new Cardew Catalog. With enough interest, we'll order in October.

ACQUIRED TASTES TEA COMPANY



"Savouring the Good Life"

TEA SUPERSTITIONS

As Halloween approaches, we thought it would be fun to share some old tea superstitions with you!

- If the lid is accidentally left off the teapot, expect the arrival of a stranger bearing bad news!
- It is unlucky for more than one person to pour from the teapot.
- The more tealeaves in your teacup, the fuller your life.
- If you stir your tea counter-clockwise, you may stir up trouble!
- If you see a "star" in your tealeaves, it's a sign of good luck!

Upcoming Events

**Christmas Preview Party:
Sunday, November 18, 12-4 p.m.
(Drop by anytime!)**

Our Christmas party is a fun time to stop by the shop to see what's new. We'll be brewing up our Christmas blends for you to try, we'll have food samples to nibble on, door prize draws and more! The party is also a great time to put in orders for holiday gift packs and baskets, and to update your connoisseur club tea registry so that we can help steer your family & friends towards gifts you'll especially enjoy.

Website Shopping WWW.CANADIANTEA.COM

If you live out of town, or if you prefer to skip the in-store rush, visit our website to order your holiday teas & gifts. If you wish, you can opt to have us mail the gift directly to the recipient. We can even wrap it & include a card with your personalized message.

If you want to order early to ensure something is in stock but don't want the gift mailed out too early, you can order it in advance, and specify a later shipping date.

Don't see it on the website? Give us a call.

Extended Store Hours for the Holidays

Sunday Hours: Every Sunday in November: 12pm - 4pm (Except closed Nov. 11)
Every Sunday in December: 11am - 5pm
December 23: 10am - 5pm December 24: 10am - 3pm

Weeknight Evening Hours: Open 10am - 8 pm during the weeks of
December 10 - 14 & December 17 - 21.



*"It is in the Japanese tea-ceremony that we see the culmination of tea-ideals... Tea with us became more than an idealization of the form of drinking; it is a religion of the art of life."
-Kakuzo Okakura, The Book of Tea*

~Chanoyu~ The Japanese Tea Ceremony

A few weeks ago I had the pleasure of attending the Japanese Tea ceremony at the Devonian Botanical Gardens. Chanoyu is a traditional, spiritual ceremony believed to be a path to enlightenment.

The key to the ceremony is simplicity. The room was decorated sparsely but beautifully: grass tatami mats on the floor, a floral arrangement of a single flower & one scroll on the wall. Although simple, the decorations were carefully chosen for the day. We knelt on the tatami mats while our hostess began the ceremony.

She began by cleaning the tea equipment with a silk cloth. While the water was boiling, we were served a sweet – a small dumpling filled with red bean paste. While we ate, our hostess prepared the tea. The tea was powdered matcha green tea that was whipped up into a froth using a bamboo whisk. Our hostess whipped up each guest's tea in an individual bowl. Each bowl was unique, and chosen to represent the season. The tea was strong in flavour & quite bitter. Our interpreter warned us that we may not care for the flavour – an acquired taste! Once we finished, the bowls were removed, and our hostess bowed, signaling the end of the ceremony. We bowed in return, and filed out of the tearoom.

We finished the afternoon off with a stroll through the Japanese gardens. A peaceful event, definitely recommended to all! (Our thanks to Darcy for recommending this special event.)

Feature Tea ~Roasted Maté Herbal Tea~

Maté, or Yerba Maté is an herbal tea, but –Warning!- it is one of the few herbs that is caffeinated!!! Maté contains about twice as much caffeine as tea, but still about 1/3 less than coffee. It's actually a good transition drink for people trying to decrease their caffeine intake. Maté originates in South America, usually Brazil or Argentina. In its homeland, maté is usually made into a paste in a special gourd and then drunk through a long tube-like straw called a bombilla. Of course you can prepare & drink your maté without any special equipment, much as you would prepare regular tea. Maté is sold either green, or roasted (the roasted version has a brownish tinge). The green leaf has more of a bitter, sharp taste, the brown leaf has a mellow, roasted flavour. Both are high in vitamin C.

Herbal Teas & Health

Herbs are believed to have a variety of health benefits. Can you match these herbal teas with one of the symptoms they are believed to help? (Remember, herbs should be treated with the same caution as medicines. Consult a healthcare practitioner to ensure an herb is appropriate for you.)

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|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Rosemary | A. Sleep aid |
| 2. Wintergreen | B. Eases Headaches |
| 3. Cinnamon | C. Sore Throats |
| 4. Peppermint | D. Nausea |
| 5. Lavender | E. Soothes cough |
| 6. Camomile | F. Upset Stomach |

Answers: 1E, 2C, 3F, 4D, 5B, 6A

Please forward newsletter ideas, address updates, catalogue requests & mail orders to:

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Thursdays 10 a.m. – 8 pm.
Closed Sundays (except Nov./Dec.)
(See previous page for extended holiday hours)