Afternoon Tea

"Empress" Blend

Exclusive to The Fairmont Empress, this delightful blend boasts a bright coppery colour and takes milk exceedingly well. The Assam component lends a rich malty character, while the Kenyan black tea provides subtle floral hints. Kenyan green tea infuses this blend and lively aroma, complemented by fruity, sprightly and airy piquant flavors of Dimbula from Sri Lanka. Small amount of Kemum draws the elements together with burgundy depth and light oaky notes.

Margaret's Hope Darjeeling

"Margaret's" is harvested during the 'second flush' (late May to late June), when the fragrance and taste are most complex. This tea offers delicate ending astringent cup, with the distinctive character of Muscat grapes and hints of currant.

Fairmont Earl Grey

A blend of distinctive flavor and aroma derived from the oil of orange bergamot.

Borengajuli Assam

A delicious malty tea from the Borengajuli estate of Assam, India. Has a velvety feel on the palate and a natural sweetness.

Jasmine Butterfly Green Tea

The most famous scented tea in China and most commonly known to be a therapeutic tea.

Cascade Peppermint Tea

A naturally caffeine free tea made from blending peppermint and spearmint leaves.

Kea Lani Orange Pineapple

A bold and bright orange pineapple tea made from all natural herbs and dry fruit, this blend offers a refreshing, slightly tart profile to those that say "no" to caffeine.

Willow Stream Spa Blend

A superb blend inspired by our in-house Spa is produced in Zimbabwe. Decaffeinated, offers excellent depth and satisfying body with delicious malty notes and reminisce of caramel.

Afternoon Tea

Afternoon Tea Features

Fresh strawberries with cream
Freshly baked raisin scone with strawberry jam and Empress cream

Smoked salmon pinwheel, mango and curried chicken,
ham and cucumber with tarragon mayo, free range egg salad croissant,
sun dried tomato tapenade on crostini

Lemon curd tartlet, chocolate and pistachio battenburg cake,
sable breton and pear cheese cake, chocolate shortbread,
Parisian style macaroon

Prince & Princess Tea Features

(For children 12 years or younger)

Fresh strawberries with cream
Freshly baked mini raisin scone strawberry jam and Empress cream

Free range egg salad croissant, ham and cucumber sandwich,
smoked turkey with cranberry mayo, adorned with Pringles

Mini chocolate cup cake with sprinkles, Parisian style macaroon, crazy hair cookies

*We are pleased to offer Prince & Princess teas when ordered at the time of reservation

Afternoon Tea

The relaxing and enjoyable ritual of taking Afternoon Tea has been an unremitting love affair at The Fairmont Empress since its opening in 1908.

In eighteenth-century England, tea mania swept the country. Tea was sipped by all levels of society, becoming the beverage of choice for breakfast and after the main meal of the day. Prior to the introduction of tea in Britain, the English had two main meals, breakfast and dinner. Breakfast consisted of ale, bread and beef, while dinner was a substantial meal at the end of the day.

Anna Maria, the 7th Duchess of Bedford (1788-1861), experienced a "sinking feeling" in the late afternoon. Embracing the European tea service format, she invited friends to join her for additional bread and butter sandwiches, assorted sweets and, of course, tea. This summer ritual proved so popular, the Duchess continued it when she returned to London, sending cards to friends to come for "tea and a walking of fields." The practice of inviting friends to "take tea in the afternoon"was soon adopted by other hostesses. A customary pattern of service emerged.

The Empress Tea China was originally presented to King George V in 1914 upon the opening of the Booth factory in Stoke-on-Trent, England. The china was first used by The Empress in 1939 for the Royal visit of King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The pattern is now produced by Royal Doulton exclusively for The Fairmont Empress!

Afternoon Tea

Enhance your experience of Afternoon Tea

Sparkling Tea $14
Enjoy a glass of Sumac Ridge Stellar's Jay Brut with your tea

Pink Bubbles Tea $16
Enjoy a glass of Cipes Rosé Pinot Noir Brut with your tea

Champagne Tea $28
Enjoy a glass of Moët & Chandon with your tea

Afternoon Tea Takeaways

Chocolate shortbread cookies (6 pieces) $8

Box of Parisian style macaroons (2 pieces) $5

Afternoon Tea souvenir $12

The Fairmont Empress Honey (250 grams) $13

Empress Blend tea (10 bags) $8