AFTERNOON TEA HISTORY

The storied tradition of afternoon tea began in 1840 in England when the seventh Duchess of Bedford complained of “having that sinking feeling” around 4pm. At the time it was usual for people to take only two main meals a day, breakfast, and dinner at around 8 o’clock in the evening. So she began to order tea with bread, butter and cake to her room. Soon enough, she invited her friends to enjoy it with her. By the 1880s, afternoon tea had become a high fashion event served in the drawing room with silver teapots, fine linens, elegant teacups, and world-renowned teas.

HIGH TEA OR AFTERNOON TEA?

Afternoon Tea was initially developed as a private social event for ladies who climbed the echelons of society. It was only when Queen Victoria engaged in the Afternoon Tea ritual that it became a formal occasion on a larger scale, known as ‘tea receptions’.

High Tea originated during the Industrial Revolution for workers who returned home after a long hard day of physical labour. By that hour, tea was typically served with hot, hearty dishes. Now known as “supper” or “dinner”, this meal was often more filling and accompanied by a pot of strong tea.

The first tea shipment to arrive in Canada was imported by the Hudson’s Bay Company in 1716 and took more than a year to arrive!

“YES, THAT’S IT! SAID THE HATTER WITH A SIGH, IT’S ALWAYS TEA TIME.”
- Lewis Carroll, Alice in Wonderland
UPON ARRIVAL...
Glass of seasonal Kombucha
Fruit temptation

TEA SERVICE
Selection of Lot 35 teas

TRADITIONAL SCONES
Served warm with jam and housemade Devon cream

THE CLASSICS
Sandwiches and amuse-bouches
Served on a gourmet tower

SWEET DELIGHTS
Tasting of our pastry chef Joël Lahon’s creations

BEFORE YOU LEAVE...
Le Château Frontenac signature mignardises

55
per adult

25
for children from 6 to 12 years old

ROYAL TEA
Champagne Taittinger 125th anniversary | glass 20
Champagne Ayala Majeur Rosé | glass 35
White, Languedoc Gerard Bertrand (Grenache-Vermentino-Clairette) | glass 15 | 75 bouteille
Rosé, Or et Azur Gerard Bertrand (Grenache-Cinsault) | glass 15 | bottle 75
Red, Or et Azur Gerard Bertrand (Syrah-Grenache) | glass 15 | bottle 75
Cave Spring Cellars, Vidal Late Harvest, Niagara VQA, Canada | glass 16
La Guita Sherry | glass 10

Our porcelain tea service has been custom-made for us in London by William Edwards to commemorate our 125th anniversary and is available here at the Fairmont store, along with all our teas.
CREAMY EARL GREY
Black Tea | Sri Lanka, India, Kenya | Infusion: 4-5 min.
A remarkably heady earl grey tempered with wickedly delicious cream flavor. One cup is not enough.

IMPERIAL BREAKFAST
Black Tea | Sri Lanka, India, Kenya | Infusion: 4-5 min
The perfect breakfast tea with burgundy depth and malt highlights. Bold and robust with a bright golden cup.

GRAND BAZAAR SPICE
Black Tea | Sri Lanka, India, Kenya | Infusion: 4-5 min
A rich scent of cardamom and heady aroma of cloves and cinnamon have been captured in addition to chopped anise for a mild peppery finish and orange pieces for a touch of citrus.

KYUSHU JAPAN SENCHA
Green tea | Japan | Infusion: 2-3 min
Spring harvest yields a deliciously vegetative green tea with buttery smoothness.

JASMIN GOLD DRAGON
Organic green tea | China | Infusion: 2-3 min
Nighttime harvested jasmine flowers offer an extensive floral character to a delicate early spring green tea.

GODDESS ORGANIC OOLONG
Organic Oolong | China | Infusion: 4-5 min
A distinctive light cup that has hints of orchid-like flavor. Excellent for quiet moments.

ONTARIO ICE WINE
White Tea | China | Infusion: 2-3 min
Smooth and silky with light Riesling and berry notes. A mild astringent finish.

FLORA’S BERRY GARDEN
Organic Herbal Tea | Bulgaria, Greece, Egypt | Infusion: 6-7 min
Full flavored with deep berry notes, Burgundy red providing strength and character.

ORGANIC EGYPTIAN CAMOMILE
Organic Herbal Tea | China, France, Egypt | Infusion: 2-3 min.
Delightfully aromatic with an expressive wild apple-like character, red cornflower petals for added visual appeal and to deepen the cup with intricate floral layers.

MARKET FRESH
Organic Tea | Canada, China, Egypt, Turkey | Infusion: 6-7 min
Sweet watermelon notes are complimented with mellow accents of cucumber and gazpacho. Stunningly delicious a dazzling blend of dried fruits and vegetables

<< BUBBLE-GUM >>
Organic Herbal Tea | China
Combines caramel with strawberry and lemon characters to create a taste sensation for the younger set.