



## A Brief History of Afternoon Tea

Tea was first introduced to Britain in the 1640's as sailors returning from the Far East brought back packets of tea into the country as gifts. By 1700 tea had become a popular drink and was on sale in more than 500 coffee houses in London.

In 1840, Anna, the 7th Duchess of Bedford, pioneered the idea of Afternoon Tea. In her household the evening meals were served fashionably late at eight o'clock which left a long period between lunch and dinner. To stave off pangs of hunger she started to request a tray of tea, bread and butter along with some cake to be brought to her room in the late afternoon. This soon became a habit and she started to invite friends to join her for this daily ritual.

Initially this practice was limited to the upper classes and it is probably from this time that the notion of tea and the aristocracy became associated with each other. In the late 1800's no well brought up young English women could consider herself socially acceptable unless she knew how to make and present Afternoon Tea.

As with any fashion, the hostesses did their best to outdo each other. Bread and butter were soon replaced by sandwiches filled with exotic ingredients such as lobster, smoked salmon, roast beef and these were served alongside scones, crumpets, teacakes, and English muffins.

"Taking tea" became so popular that the teashop emerged in London so that Afternoon Tea could be enjoyed by the general public. In the late 1880's hotels began to offer tea service in tea courts and Afternoon Tea was regarded as a fashionable event.



## TRADITIONAL ENGLISH AFTERNOON TEA

### Selection of Homemade Sandwiches

#### Roasted Chicken Salad

with chopped walnuts on brown bread

#### Smoked Chilean Salmon

with dill cream cheese on brown bread

#### Sliced English Cucumber

with mayonnaise on white bread

#### Egg Salad

with whole grain mustard on rye

#### Vine Ripened Tomatoes & Cheddar

with mayonnaise on brown bread

and

### Freshly Baked Homemade Scones

Served with homemade strawberry preserve and clotted cream

and

### Selection of Seasonal Pastries

32

## THE CHESTERFIELD CHAMPAGNE TEA

Add a glass of champagne to this afternoon treat

40

## SCONES AFTERNOON TEA

Your choice of our selected tea varieties Freshly baked homemade Scones with clotted cream, homemade strawberry & apricot preserves

21

## LITTLE PRINCE AND PRINCESS TEA

Jam and peanut butter sandwiches, cupcakes and ice cream served with a choice of hot chocolate or soft drink

20

## *DIETARY REQUIREMENTS*

We will be delighted to accommodate any special dietary requirements that you may have, including all vegetarian sandwiches, gluten free breads, pastries and scones and removing any fresh cream and mayonnaise products from the afternoon tea stand.

If requested, we will endeavor to ensure that there are no nuts in the afternoon tea offering. However all afternoon tea products are produced in an environment where nuts are used and we cannot guarantee that our food is 100% free from nuts or nut traces. Please just let any member of our team know if you have any dietary requirements

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