

## -- Why do the British like drinking tea? --

It's certainly true that tea is the most popular drink in Britain - far more popular than coffee, which is favoured throughout Europe and America.

The Dutch brought the first tea to Europe in about 1610, but it was not until 1658 that the first advertisement for tea appeared in a London newspaper.

By 1750 tea had become the principal drink of all the classes in Britain, yet at that time a pound of the cheapest tea cost about one-third of a skilled worker's weekly wage.

'Tea as jealously guarded by the lady of the house, and kept in special containers called tea-caddies, often with a lock, were carefully doled out by the teaspoon.

Gradually, tea-drinking developed into a fashionable social ritual and tea gardens blossomed in places like Vauxhall and Marylebour in London, where couples could stroll in the afternoon and enjoy a cup of tea with bread and butter and cakes.

The parties were also popular at home, and soon the ritual of afternoon tea was firmly established.

Today throughout the homes, tea-shops and hotels of Britain, the custom of tea-time continues. High Tea is a more substantial evening meal, popular in northern England and Scotland.

Tea in Britain is traditionally brewed in a china teapot, adding one spoonful of tea per person and one for the pot.

Great importance is attached to the use of freshly boiled water, which is poured onto the leaves and then the tea is left to brew.

Most people in Britain prefer a rich, strong cup of tea with milk. Sugar is sometimes added to taste.

### WORD LIST

caddy = bádogkanna

to dole out = kioszt

to blossom = virágzik

stroll = séta

to pour = önt

to brew = főz, kifőz

to attach = kapcsolódik, fűződik, hozzáfűz

substantial = alapos, értékes, fontos, itt:kiadós

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