

THE TEA ROOM TIMES



Published by The White Heron Tea & Gifts and Driftwood Tea Company

May-June 2019

This Summer, Celebrate Our Nation's Favorite Way to Drink Tea!

For thousands of years tea has traditionally been consumed as a hot beverage. Steeped in tradition, tea has warmed us when we were cold and healed us when we were warm. Tea is so many things, but in the United States, it's mostly iced.

This June we celebrate America's most popular way to consume tea during National Iced Tea month. That's right, more tea is consumed iced than hot. In fact, 75-80% of all tea is consumed in the United States is iced.

Did you know that iced tea gained popularity by happenstance? The first recipes featuring iced tea were published in the 1860's. These recipes were printed primarily in the southern states (most notably in the Carolinas) and while an enjoyable break from hot tea in the heat of a southern summer, hot tea was still the most widely consumed form of tea.

Two of the earliest cookbooks introducing iced tea were published in 1876 (*Buckeye Cookbook* by Estelle Woods Wilcox) and 1877 (*Housekeeping in Old Virginia* by Marion Cabell Tyree). It was during this time that recipes for iced tea began to appear more frequently in print publications and started to become more popular on hotel menus and sold at railroad stations.

However, it wasn't until the World's Fair in St. Louis in 1904 that iced tea gained enough popularity to become a mainstay in the beverage industry. Richard Blechynden, a merchant and tea plantation owner changed the fate of how we drink tea in the United States when he decided to serve his tea samples cool rather than hot (due to the hot weather at the fair). During the World's Fair, his tea sold so well that it gained national popularity.

Today iced tea is found in nearly every restaurant, at every event, and in nearly every grocery store. Tea may be in the top ten overall most popularly consumed beverages in the United States but the number one way to drink it is iced. And the rest, they say, is history.....

Did you know..... Iced tea provides all of the same benefits as regular black tea, due to its concentrations of caffeine, polyphenols, catechins, antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals. Unsweetened iced tea, or those served with lemon or lime, tend to be the healthiest varieties, as they contain fewer calories and sugars, while also adding more antioxidants and nutrients to the beverage. (From OrganicFacts.com)



"Iced tea! Nothing is half so refreshing as a glass of black tea piled high with ice! More than a quencher of thirst, it is a tamer of tempers, a lifter of lethargy, and a brightener of smiles. It is a taste of Winter's chill, magically trapped in midsummer's glass."

— **Paul Kortepeter**, *Tea with Victoria Rose*

In This Issue

- National Iced Tea Month
- US Grown Tea Available
- Seasonal Staff Pick: Ontario Ice Wine White Tea
- Mark Your Calendar: Check out our Upcoming Events



"Creating lasting loving memories is why I felt so strongly about opening a tea room," Kelly Hackman.

From one of guests, Cathy: "Thank you, Kelly, for another wonderful Tea experience at your Tea House. My mother, Kay; Cousin Gail & her husband, Joe; My husband, Doug & I truly enjoyed the delicious lunch & teas as well as the classy setting & service!

Need a Mid-Afternoon Tea Break?



Join us in our Tea Parlour daily from 11 am to 4 pm for Cream Tea, just \$8.95

*Cream tea includes 3 scones of guest choice, and a pot of tea

*no reservation for Cream Tea

Limited Time Opportunity US Grown Tea!

We are excited to announce that we have a small batch of US Grown tea available in Gift Shop. Grown and processed in the great state of Mississippi, The Great Mississippi Tea Company takes great pride in creating delicious and delicate US grown tea for us to enjoy.

For a limited time, we are excited to have two of their teas available.

Black Magnolia

(black tea)

Mississippi Queen

(green tea)

1 oz - \$7.95

Available while supplies last.

When I set out to create a beautiful tea room in our community I never imagined all that I would receive in return.

As a new business owner, of course I had all of the doubts of any one taking a risk to do something new. For the first time in my life, there was no safety net of a larger corporation or large bank accounts to fall back on. It was just me (and my loving and amazingly supportive family). I prayed daily, "please, just let people come and enjoy my place." I feel that when someone starts a business, that is truly all we should ask for, to create an environment that people want to be in. That guests feel cherished and appreciated, and in return they come often to visit and patronize you. Never did I imagine that this little tea room would turn out to be so much more than just a place to have tea and tea-fare, not just for me but for those who visit.

During the last three years with my tea room I have had the privilege of getting to know so many amazing guests. Guest who have become so much more like family. You have shared your stories, your laughter, your tears, your memories, and for that I am so grateful!

You see, for me, my tea room was always and still is about creating a special moment for each of our guests. A time to create a memory that you will cherish forever. Time is short and we never know how our lives will change in the future, but for this moment while you are enjoying tea, time stops. We reconnect, we laugh, we share memories, and we become human again.

For those who have shared our tea room with loved ones who are no longer with us, to the mom or grandma having tea to remind them of days gone by, to the young and young at heart who are experiencing tea for the first time, and for those who want a beautiful and relaxing place to catch up and visit with friends, we thank you for letting us be a part of your special moments.

I am so grateful when you share your stories with me and feel so privileged that you would choose to spend those moments with us, and I look forward to creating more special memories with you for many years to come.

Thank you for allowing The White Heron to be a part of your memories, and for making my dreams come true in more ways than I had ever imagined when I set out on this amazing journey.

Happy Steeping! *Kelly*

*Kelly M. Hackman is a Tea Sommelier, Certified Tea Specialist, and Owner of The White Heron Tea & Gifts in historic downtown New Port Richey, Florida.



Join us as we
celebrate

National Iced Tea Day

Saturday, June 8th
(All Day)

Stop in and enjoy
any one of our
featured iced teas to
go for just **\$1.99***

Featured Teas include:
Brazilian Guava Black Tea
Cucumber Melon Green
Tea,
Pom Apple Herbal.

***Price valid on June
8th Only.**

(National Iced Tea Day is
Monday, June 10th)

We are excited to
announce that our
Luscious Loquat
Green Tea
has received a
Silver Medal
in this year's
Global Tea Championship



Now available in 2 oz
loose leaf tea and 15 pack
tea sachets.

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Thursday, May 30, 2019 at 6 pm - Exploring
Tea - Oolongs.** Oolongs, one of the more
mysterious types of tea, is the feature of this
tea tasting. Not a green tea or a black,
Oolong's unique processing gives it beautiful
flavors unlike any other type of tea. Join us
as we explore how this unique tea is made
and then sample several types of Oolong teas.

\$10 per person. ADVANCE RESERVATION REQUIRED.

*Please call early as tea tasting events tend to fill quickly and have
limited space.



**Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 4 pm - Chair Yoga, Meditation,
and Tea** - What goes better together to relax than yoga,
meditation, and tea? We can't think of anything to calm
us and give us a needed break. Join us for a 30 minute
Chair Yoga / Meditation session, followed by a pot of
tea. Guests will enjoy a relaxing session of yoga done
in the comfort of your chair (no getting on the floor here)
with Dawn, our expert yoga instructor. She will guide
you on your 30 minute yoga and meditation journey. At
the conclusion you will be able to continue relaxing
while you enjoy a delicious tea-for-one pot of your choosing. **\$13
per person.** RESERVATION REQUIRED.



**Thursday, June 20, 2019 at 6 pm - Exploring Tea Private Tea
Tasting - Summer Teas** - Join us for a
sneak peek of our Summer Teas at this
private tasting event. At this evening event,
we will be sampling the teas that will be
available for tasting during the following
evening's Summer Tea Preview. Try our
new teas in this intimate setting, and learn
about their history and inspiration. **\$10 per person.** ADVANCE
RESERVATION REQUIRED. *Please call early as tea tasting
events tend to fill quickly and have limited space.



**Friday, June 21, 2019 from 5 pm - 7 pm - Summer Tea Preview -
Iced Teas** - You are cordially invited to
our Summer Tea Preview. Come
celebrate our love affair with iced teas.
Warmer weather is in the air and we are
excited to introduce some new summer
iced teas to help quench your thirst as
things warm up around here. **This event is complimentary so feel
free to stop by during event hours and try our teas.**



Our Tea After Dark series will return in September.

**In the meantime, we invite you to enjoy some of our new
events this summer!**

Seasonal Staff Pick: Ontario Ice Wine White Tea



Reminiscent of traditional characteristics of Ice Wine, this tea features grape highlights. A natural partner to our white tea, a *Pai mu tan* from the Fujian provenance in China, this tea is often described as jammy with sweet notes.

“White tea is light and refreshing, and that is something you want during the warm summer months,” states Kelly Hackman, Owner / Tea Sommelier at The White Heron. “The grape notes are a perfect afternoon treat.”

Steeping Times and Temperatures*

To steep what we consider the perfect cup of tea, we recommend using 6-8 ounces of water to the following:

White Tea: 1 Tbsp at 175-185 degrees for 1-3 minutes

Green Tea: 1 tsp at 180-185 degrees for 3 minutes

Black Tea: 1 tsp at 205 degrees for 3-5 minutes

Herbal: 1 Tbsp at 205 degrees for 5-7 minutes

*Each person is different when it comes to how they like their tea. We encourage you to try different amounts of tea and steep it for different amount of time to determine how you like your tea the best.

Contact Us

**The Tea Room Times is a publication of
The White Heron Tea & Gifts**

6228 Grand Boulevard
New Port Richey, FL 34652

(727) 203-3504

info@tearoomtimes.com

Visit us on the web at
www.thewhiteheronfl.com

Enjoy our tea at home. Visit our tea website at
www.driftwoodteacompany.com

Reservations required for tea room services. Please call a minimum of 48 hours in advance.

***Large parties are encouraged to call well in advance as the tea room fills quickly.**



The White Heron Tea & Gifts
Home of Driftwood Tea Company
6228 Grand Boulevard
New Port Richey, Florida 34652

PLACE
STAMP
HERE