

MATHIS HOUSE

VICTORIAN BED & BREAKFAST AND TEA ROOM AT 600 MAIN

The Mathis House at 600 Main, a Victorian Bed & Breakfast and Tea Room, is proud of the many varieties of teas available for tasting. The following is a description of the different variety of gourmet teas:

Black Teas: To produce black tea, the tea leaves are plucked by hand and left in the sun until they are pliable enough to be rolled without splitting. The leaves are then put into a mechanical tumbler and rolled. This process causes the leaves' juices to react with the air and oxidize. When the green leaves turn black, they are fired in huge drying ovens to produce the final product.

Green Teas: To produce green tea, the fresh tea leaves are carefully placed on large bamboo trays and allowed to dry in the sunlight. They are then placed into small hot roasting pans and are continuously rolled into balls and then re-roasted for several hours at a time. This process stops the chemical changes from occurring in the leaf by never allowing it to wither and ferment. By eliminating the fermentation process, the dry leaf retains its green color and natural composition.

White Teas: This is the rarest and most delicate type of tea. It is plucked by hand within two days between the time the first buds become fully mature and the time in which the leaf unfurls. The leaves are then allowed to wither, allowing the natural moisture to evaporate before being dried.

Oolong Teas: Oolong tea is referred to as a "semi-fermented" tea and is principally manufactured in China and Taiwan (Formosa). After plucking, it is allowed to wilt in direct sunlight, then shaken in bamboo baskets to lightly bruise the leaf. The chemicals in the leaf react with the air, producing a reddish color. After some time, the leaf is fired and the fermentation process is halted. These steps create the unique appearance and flavor of the two different types of oolong.

Pu-erh Teas: Pu-erh teas are created by hand piling Yunnan black tea for lengthy periods, allowing a true internal fermentation of the leaf to occur. This process gives Pu-erh its unique earthy overtones. Pu-erh has long been valued for medicinal benefits, believed to aid in digestion and the reduction of cholesterol.

Flavored/Scented Teas: Scented teas are infused with varying aromas and natural flavorings to make them stand out in each cup. A majority of Jasmine teas are made with a pouching, or semi-fermented tea base.

Rooibos: The Rooibos (or "red bush") grows in the Cederberg Mountains of South Africa. They are made from the needle-like leaves of the Rooibos bush and are caffeine free with a sweetness and distinctive taste.

Herbal/Fruit Blends: Often referred to as "tisane", these are blends of herbs and/or fruits that do not contain any "tea" leaves, so therefore are naturally caffeine free.

Decaffeinated Teas: Leaves are decaffeinated using a natural, critical carbon dioxide method.

Chai: The base of Chai is black tea. It is a tea from India and is usually combined with spices such as ginger, cinnamon, cloves, star anise and cardamom.

The Mathis House Gourmet Tea List

Almond – A Flavored/Scented Tea with almond taste and almond bits.

Almond Cookies – A Rooibos Tea with an almond, coconut taste with grated coconut and almond flakes.

Almond Joy – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea blended with coconut, almond and chocolate pieces.

Apricot – A Decaffeinated Tea with apricot and marigold flowers.

Autumn Cranberry – A Flavored/Scented Tea Indian black tea blended with sweet cranberry pieces and blackberry leaves.

Assam – A Black Tea that is produced in Northern India. Its pungent liquor brews to a dark-red color, leaving a full-bodied cup with a malty taste that is truly unique.

Back Porch – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea blended with raspberry and strawberry pieces, along with orange peel.

Blueberry – A Rooibos Green Tea with blueberries and cornflowers.

Blueberry Cordial – a Flavored/Scented Black Tea flavored with vanilla, blueberries and vanilla.

Blood Orange – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated tea with blood orange taste, apple bits, hibiscus blossoms, orange peel.

Caramel Apple – A Rooibos Black Tea with sweet apple and creamy caramel.

Chamomile – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated blend of organic chamomile leaves.

Cheeri-Cup Ceylon – A Black Tea. Whole leaf Ceylon is a strong tea with a full, almost brisk flavor. The bright, sparkling liquor has a sweet and distinct taste that makes for the perfect afternoon tea.

China Jasmine – A Flavored/Scented Tea that is a standard jasmine. It is a lightly fermented pouchong tea, gently touched with freshly picked jasmine blossoms from the Huang Mountain area of China. After repeated exposure to the tea leaves, the flowers are removed, leaving the exotically fragrant aroma behind.

China Sechung Oolong – A Oolong Tea. This semi-fermented tea has large curled leaves that are greenish-black in color. Grown in the Southern Mountains of China's Fujian Province, this type of Oolong is referred to as a Min Nan Oolong. This tea has a delicate flavor with a pleasing taste and lively bouquet.

Cinn-O-Bunn – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea with yogurt bits, cinnamon and cloves.

Cotton Candy – A Rooibos Tea. Fluffy cloud on a stick, just like real cotton candy that takes you back to your childhood.

Darjeeling – A Black Tea often called the “Queen of Indian Teas”, this offering is grown in the high-altitude foothills of the Himalayas and is a full-bodied tea whose infused leaf produces a cup with a coppery-red sparkle and a hint of delicate fruit overtones.

Dirty Chai – A Chai blended with coffee beans, cloves and cardamom.

Earl Grey – A Flavored/Scented Tea that is a traditional afternoon tea delicately scented with large leaf Indian black teas and oil of Bergamot, renowned for its citrus fragrance and light overall taste.

English Breakfast – A Black Tea that is a combination of several robust teas from India and Sri Lanka. Its bold, full-flavor taste makes it a favorite breakfast tea and the perfect tea to start your day.

Equalitea – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea with a rainbow of flavors in strawberry, hibiscus, apple, lemon and rose petals.

Formosa Oolong – A Oolong Tea semi-oxidized tea from Formosa known for its unique appearance and taste. Produced from carefully selected leaves, Formosa Oolong's dark brown and noticeable twisted leaves produce a vibrant amber cup of tea. This tea has a distinctively sweet peach flavor and fruity aroma when brewed.

Garden Basket – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated tea that is a fruit blend of cranberry cream and mixed dried fruits.

Glitzy Mama – a Green Tea with delicate hints of succulent warm weather fruits.

Green Paradise – A Green Tea flavored with a blend of select Sencha style China green tea leaves, pieces of strawberry, raspberry, rhubarb and cornflowers.

Gunpowder Green – A traditional Green Tea commonly known abroad as “Pearl Tea”, it has a sweet fragrance and clean, fresh taste when brewed.

Harvest Glow – A Green Tea with dried fruit and cranberry flavoring.

Honey Ginger – A Green Tea with bits of ginger and honey blossoms.

Hu-Kwa – A Black Tea. Delicately smoked Lapsang Souchong, it gets its distinctive flavor and smoky tang from the pine fires over which it is dried.

Irish Breakfast – A Black Tea that is a full-bodied tea with small and large Assam tea leaves that will invigorate you and help you start your day.

Japanese Genmaicha Green – A Green Tea. The finest Japanese Sencha green tea leaves are blended with roasted rice and popped corn to create a robust, nutty flavored green tea

Ka-Tea – A Flavored/Scented Tea named for the Princess, a black tea blended with pomegranate and blueberries.

Key Lime Pie – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea with pineapple bits, lemon peel, yogurt bits and marigold blossoms.

Lavender Lemon – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated Tea that is a combination of gentle lavender and sweet lemon.

Lemon Ice – A Green Tea with lemon and orange peels, flavored with vanilla, apple and ginger.

Love Shack – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea flavored with chocolate, dried cherries, sugar crystals and festive sparkles.

Midsummer Night Dream – A Flavored/Scented Tea that is a blend of Green/Black Tea flavored with strawberry, mango, papaya, pineapple and sunflower blossoms.

Mocha Russian – A Flavored/Scented Tea that has Chocolate, coffee beans and accents of cream.

Moroccan Mint Green – A Green Tea traditionally served in Morocco, this tea is a blend of Chinese Gunpowder Green tea and fragrant spearmint leaves.

Orange Cranberry – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated Tea with oranges and cranberries.

Orange Mousse – A Rooibos that is light and whipped orange taste with orange bits.

Orange and Spice – A Flavored/Scented Tea that is a orange and cinnamon taste with cinnamon pieces, orange pieces and flavoring.

Organic Bold Leaf Pu-erh – A Pu-erh Tea. This is an organically grown full leaf version that has a unique damp, earthy scent characteristic of a fine black Pu-erh. It has a smooth, deeply fermented flavor that puts this in a class of its own.

Party of the Jungle – A Flavored/Scented Blend of Green and Black Teas flavored with mango, passion fruit, pineapple, papaya, kiwi and safflower.

Peach Mango – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea with pieces of peach and mango, rose petals.

Pina Colada – A Rooibos Tea with pineapple and coconut tastes, flavored with coconut, pineapple bits, marigold flowers.

Pineapple Upside Down Cake – A Rooibos Black Tea with creamy cake and icing taste, pineapple, cherry bits, white cornflowers.

Pomegranate Green – A Green Tea that is a health conscious tea made up of the finest Chinese Sencha green tea leaves blended with pomegranate pieces and rose petals to create a unique blend.

Pu-erh Yunnan – A Pu-erh Tea that is a full-bodied black tea with lots of earthiness.

Pumpkin Pie – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea infused with pumpkin, cinnamon and vanilla.

Raspberry – A Flavored/Scented China Black Tea infused with raspberry pieces.

Raspberry Mint – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated blend of apples, raspberry, hibiscus blossoms, blackberry leaves and mint.

Rose Congou – A Flavored/Scented Tea that is a blend of the finest China Congou black tea and blended red rose petals.

Russian Caravan – A Black Tea that was so sought after in Russia, that special caravans were commissioned to personally deliver to the Czar. It has a smoky citrus taste with orange peels and flavoring.

Scottish Breakfast – A Black Tea that is a special blend of fine Indian, Ceylon and China teas brewed to a bright lively liquor. Full flavored and robust, it is the perfect tea to start your day.

Southern Peach – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated Tea that is a blend of apricot, peach, apple, currants, pineapple bits, with hibiscus blossoms.

Spiced Masala Chai – A Chai Indian Black Tea with ginger pieces, vanilla bean pieces, cardamom, and cinnamon, cloves.

Spring – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea with a lemon peppery taste, ginger bits, lemongrass, orange peels and cinnamon.

Strawberry and Crème – A Green Tea flavored with strawberry bits and sunflower blossoms.

Summer Dream – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea with hints of peach, vanilla and berries.

Thunderstorm – A Green Tea blended with lemongrass, coconut, lime, lemon and calendula petals.

Tranquility – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated blend of organic peppermint, chamomile and rosehips.

Triple Cup – A Green Tea that is grown in the mountains of China’s famous Zhenjiang tea region. The small and tender curled leaves brew a golden colored cup that is full of classic green tea flavor.

Tropical Sunrise – A Rooibos Tea with apple spice taste, with ginger bits, cinnamon sticks, apple bits, orange peels.

Vanilla a la Crème – A Flavored/Scented Black tea with vanilla cream and vanilla bits.

Very Berry – A Herbal/Fruit Blend of dark berries, hibiscus, elderberries and black currants.

Winter Festival – A Flavored Black/Green Tea Blend with cinnamon, citrus and vanilla.

Decaffeinated Teas:

Darjeeling – A Black Decaffeinated full-bodied tea with delicate fruit overtones

Earl Grey – A Flavored Decaffeinated Tea with Bergamot taste

English Breakfast – A Black Decaffeinated Tea that is a combination of several robust teas.

Raspberry – A Decaffeinated Tea infused with raspberry bits.

Strawberry – A Decaffeinated Tea infused with strawberry cream and strawberry bits.

HOLIDAY TEAS

Blood Orange – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated tea with blood orange taste, hibiscus, apple bits and orange peel.

Happy Hanukkah– Black Tea with warming taste of chocolate, caramel, marshmallow and Star of David Sprinkles.

Orange Cranberry – A Herbal/Fruit Blend naturally decaffeinated tea with orange and cranberry.

Nutcracker – A Black Tea with apple, currants, almond flakes, cloves, safflower and cinnamon.

Peppermint Bark – A Black Tea with dried peppermint leaves, vanilla and chocolate bits.

Sleigh Bells – A Herbal/Fruit Blend of orange, apple, strawberry and cranberry.

Spirit of Christmas – A Black Tea blended with cranberry, coconut flakes and pineapple pieces.

Star Dust – A Flavored/Scented Black Tea with vanilla and spice taste with silver ball candies and a “dusting” of gold sugar.

Very Berry – A Herbal/Fruit Tea with dark berries. Hibiscus, elderberries and black currents.

Gourmet Teas are available for order packaged for \$5.00 for a two ounce or \$10.00 for a four ounce loose leaf bags. Packaged tea orders may be pre-arranged and picked up or shipped to your address for an additional cost of shipping. Custom tea gift baskets may be ordered for that special gift for your tea loving friends and family.