

HARNEY & SONS TEA IN LONDON

A Tea Lover's Adventure in the United Kingdom
September 15 — 21, 2017
Hosted by Harney & Sons Tea + Onward Travel



HARNEY & SONS
MASTER TEA BLENDEERS
EST. 1983

ONWARD TRAVEL



EST 2014



Join the Harney family for a one of a kind tea-centered tour of greater London. Harney & Sons Tea is served at some of the most important tea drinking destinations in the British capital, including the famous Dorchester Hotel and the Historic Royal Palaces. Speaking about Britain, George Orwell once said, “Tea is one of the mainstays of the civilization of this country!”

And Orwell was right: nobody drinks tea like the Brits! They average at least three cups per day, encouraged by a wonderful tea drinking culture that has flourished there since the national beverage was made fashionable by King Charles in the 17th century. Today tea is a part of local custom, vernacular, way of life and pop culture at every level of society.

In London, take a day-long Tea Infusiast Masterclass at the UK Tea Academy, enjoy a historic walking tour including visits to Royal residences, and enjoy the traditional British tea service everywhere from the posh Dorchester Hotel to below the copper hull of The Cutty Sark. We'll trace the history of tea and the tea industry from China to India to the British table. It's difficult to seek out tea history in the UK without taking some time to explore another quintessentially British pursuit of pleasure: the garden. In this adventure packed week our small group, accompanied by Mike & Brigitte Harney, will dive in to explore London and her fascinating tea history from all angles.



Imagine yourself...

Enjoying champagne high tea at the legendary Dorchester Hotel

Touring a selection of Royal gardens

Learning from one of the world's most celebrated tea educators

Welcome to England!

DAY 1: FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 15

- [Tour the world's largest collection of living plants](#)
- [Relax in style over champagne high tea at The Dorchester hotel](#)

Upon arrival at London Heathrow Airport your Onward Travel guide awaits with comfortable private transportation ready to whisk you away on an English adventure. We'll start this day with brunch together and our first hot British "cuppa" (tea!) at historic Newen's, located in the London suburb of Richmond, where "Maids of Honour" cakes are a 300 year old tradition, reportedly named for Anne Boleyn. The Maid of Honour cake is a cheese filled puff pastry tart, and we'll nosh on those along with a delicious and restorative hot breakfast.

Then let's head to the world's largest collection of living plants, Kew Royal Botanic Gardens, for a guided tour. Officially listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, these gardens were founded in 1840 and contain tens of thousands of plants as well as an Arboretum, a lake, and plant houses spanning from the Victorian era to the contemporary. It's the perfect place to stretch legs and jump right into Britain's outstanding garden tradition.

In the afternoon we'll check into our four-star hotel in the heart of London, The Chesterfield Mayfair. A boutique hotel boasting style and charm galore (think dark wood, antique furniture, original paintings), a top-hatted doorman to make sure you know you're in London, and beehives on the roof to make the honey for our tea... it's the perfect place to spend the next six nights. Take a little time to freshen up and then we are off to an early evening Champagne High Tea at the legendary Dorchester Hotel. As we sit in the opulent setting of The Promenade in the heart of the hotel, we'll toast to our week of adventure ahead as we enjoy the elegant spread and welcoming service that makes this one of the world's most famous places to drink tea. A proud member of the prestigious Tea Guild, The Dorchester is an official partner of Harney & Sons Tea and we'll enjoy some Harney tea there today.

Meals Brunch, Dinner



Keep an eye out for the gargoyles on the side of Westminster Abbey, a stop on our London walking tour.



The drawing room at our splendidly British hotel, The Chesterfield Mayfair.

London Immersion

DAY 2: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16

- [Get to know London from a local's perspective](#)
- [Take advantage of a Saturday night on the town, theater anyone?](#)

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel as you will each morning of your stay. Let's get acquainted with London today! A friendly and knowledgeable local guide will meet us after breakfast and we'll set out for a historic London walking tour. Our hotel is in the posh neighborhood of Mayfair, just adjacent to the royal district of Westminster which has one of the highest concentrations of famous landmarks in the world. From triumph to tragedy, splendor to squalor, the area has cradled royalty and witnessed revolt. Laws have been made and kings have been crowned - and one even lost his head! We'll learn all about it this morning as we follow royal footsteps along the Mall, stroll the hustle and bustle of Whitehall, pass Downing Street (home to Britain's Prime Minister), and enjoy the relative tranquility of Horse Guard's Parade where two of England's most ancient ceremonies take place. We'll visit Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey and The Houses of Parliament.

As we wrap up our tour by the shores of the River Thames, continue your exploration and walk across Westminster Bridge to take in the vibrant South Bank and bustling Borough Market, or transfer back to the hotel to relax. Either way, the rest of the afternoon and evening is yours. Onward is happy to help you arrange tickets to see a show in London's fantastic theater district, book a tour of London Tower, or point you in the direction of the city's best shopping. This is a great night to make reservations at one of our recommended London restaurants to enjoy some of the world's best cuisine.

Meals Breakfast

A Very British Sunday

DAY 3: SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17

- Visit the rooms and gardens of a Royal London residence
- Take part in a weekly British tradition: Sunday Roast

This morning we will set out to visit Kensington Palace, a royal residence set in the Kensington Gardens, and one of the officially designated Historic Royal Palaces, with whom Harney & Sons Tea has an official partnership. Members of the British Royal Family have resided here since the 17th century and today it is the official London residence of a number of royals, including The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge (William and Catherine) and Prince Harry. The historic State Rooms are open to the public, and we'll enjoy a tour of them today before we visit the gardens - formerly private for the inhabitants of the palace, but today one of the Royal Parks of London, designated Grade I and listed on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens. After our visit to the gardens we'll retire to a high tea lunch at The Orangery, an elegant structure set amid the gardens and long a location for royal entertaining. Sip Harney tea in a London palace as you enjoy a selection of dainty tea sandwiches, cakes and fresh scones with Cornish clotted cream.

This afternoon you'll have time to relax at the Chesterfield Mayfair, pop in to one of the many museums and galleries near our hotel, or cross a sightseeing destination off your list. We'll reconvene in the late afternoon to partake in one of England's greatest traditions together: The Sunday Roast. We'll head to a favorite neighborhood butcher restaurant, the Blacklock, where you'll enjoy your choice of juicy charcoal roasted meat - lamb, pork or beef - accompanied by duck fat roasted potatoes, Yorkshire pudding, veggies and a rich gravy. It doesn't get much better - or much more British - than that!

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Back to School!

DAY 4: MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18

- Spend a day learning with one of the world's foremost tea educators

Time to do a little learning! Today we will attend a private Tea Infusiast Masterclass with tea expert Jane Pettigrew at the UK Tea Academy. Ms. Pettigrew, the author of sixteen books on tea, has worked in the industry for over 30 years and she teaches tea masterclasses all over the world. In 2014 she was voted Best Tea

Educator at the World Tea Awards and in January 2016 she was awarded the British Empire Medal for services to Tea Production and Tea History in the UK's New Year Honours list. We'll spend an entire day with Jane and her team, tasting, learning and talking tea together.

After this delightful and informative day enjoy the evening in London as you like.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch



The Blacklock's Sunday Roast is British traditional cuisine perfected.

History & Smuggled Tea

DAY 5: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 19

- Tour the one of a kind Hampton Court Palace
- Visit a garden once curated by a 19th century tea smuggler

This morning we'll travel to the west of Central London to visit Hampton Court Palace, built by Kings Henry VIII and William III in the 16th and 17th centuries, it is one of the most spectacular buildings in all of England and has been a favorite of generations of royalty. The Palace boasts an unusual, yet somehow cohesive, blend of Tudor and Baroque styles, with magnificently maintained interiors full of rich furnishings and a splendid art collection. The grounds and gardens may make you feel like you're Alice and you've found your way to Wonderland. Other points of interest include the huge maze of hedgerows, with over 800 meters of trails, which was planted in the late 17th century for William III of Orange, the "real tennis" court (one of 43 surviving globally), and the world's largest grapevine. We'll tour this unusual and magical place with a fun and knowledgeable local guide before we enjoy a casual lunch in the on-site cafe, a purveyor of Harney & Sons Tea.

DAILY ITINERARY harney & sons tea in london 2017

In the afternoon, we'll enjoy a special behind the scenes visit to Chelsea Physic House, an important location in the history of tea in the west. Robert Fortune, a botanist, plant hunter, and traveler, was curator here for a time in the mid-19th century, and under his supervision these gardens flourished. Mr. Fortune also played a gigantic role in shaping the modern tea industry. In 1848 he left Chelsea at the request of the East India Company and traveled to China where, after the Chinese government had banned the export of tea plants, he spent three years undercover. Mr. Fortune then transported 20,000 seedlings of tea from China to India, using cases like miniature greenhouses, along with a group of trained Chinese tea workers. A highlight of our visit today will be seeing one of these little greenhouses, known as a "Wardian Case," used by Robert Fortune.

Tonight, back in Mayfair, we'll enjoy a casual dinner together at a trendy local gastropub.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Exploring Greenwich DAY 6: WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20

- Visit the most famous surviving tea clipper
- Enjoy a seven course Michelin-starred tasting menu

This morning we'll ride a ferry down the Thames to enjoy a lovely day in Greenwich, a London district bursting with history. The Cutty Sark tea clipper, built in 1869 and now moored there on the Thames, was one of the last and fastest tea clippers, as she was built in the era just before sailing technology gave way to steam propulsion. Retired for public display after 85 years on the high seas, the Cutty Sark is an important relic of the trading industry of the past. This morning we'll arrive at Cutty Sark before the ship opens to the public and the Curator of Cutty Sark will provide a Curator Tour of the ship with an emphasis on its role in the Tea Trade. After the tour our group will enjoy a delicious "Cream Tea" which means tea accompanied by scones with jam and clotted cream.

Then we'll walk through historic Greenwich to the National Maritime Museum, the largest Maritime Museum in the world, where we'll be met by the curator for a private curator's tour of the current exhibition which couldn't be more appropriate for our group. As the curator leads us through Traders: the East India Company we'll learn all about the East India Company's pivotal and fascinating role in British maritime trade. Lunch today will be as a group in The Brasserie in the National Maritime Museum, overlooking beautiful Greenwich Royal Park.

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After lunch we'll walk through the park and up to the Royal Observatory, the home of The Prime Meridian and Greenwich Mean Time, and important location in the history of navigation and astronomy. An audio tour is offered for those who'd like to learn more, and everyone will enjoy the panoramic views of London. Our last stop in Greenwich today will be the Queen's House, an architectural masterpiece and once a Royal house of delights. Today the Queen's House is home to the Royal Museums Greenwich art collection which includes works by European and British masters.

We'll return to the Chesterfield Mayfair in the late afternoon. Our farewell dinner together tonight will be a quintessentially British dining experience, with a nod to the tea history we've been taking in throughout the week. Enjoy a seven course tasting menu, accompanied by fine wines, at a Michelin-starred fine dining Indian restaurant near the hotel. Whether Indian cuisine is new to you, or already a favorite, this meal will be an unforgettable experience and we'll laugh and toast our wonderful week together as we enjoy a menagerie of flavors and beautiful, stylish presentation.

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Farewell!

DAY 7: THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 21

Our wonderful time together has come to an end. Book a private car to the airport through the concierge, or take an easy tube ride there. Head home with fantastic memories, new friends, and lots of knowledge about tea history and British culture!

Meals Breakfast



While in Greenwich we'll enjoy "Cream Tea" service under the copper hull of The Cutty Sark.

TRIP INFORMATION

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TRIP ESSENTIALS

BEGINS	Friday, September 15 at London Heathrow Airport.
ENDS	Thursday, September 21 at The Chesterfield Mayfair.
MOBILITY	This tour includes walking for 15-30 minutes at a time, plus stairs and cobblestones. If you have limited mobility, we can accommodate you, but it is essential to let us know at the time of registration. Travelers may always opt out of activities they deem too physically challenging but refunds will not be provided.
TRIP LENGTH	7 days, 6 nights
LODGING	<i>The Chesterfield Mayfair</i> 6 nights One of London's most beloved hotels, the Chesterfield Mayfair is located in the heart of posh West London. Enjoy easy access to fabulous shopping, London's famous theater district, excellent dining and many palaces and parks.
TOUR DATES & PRICE	September 15 – 21, 2017 Double Occupancy \$4350 Single Supplement \$1200 Note that air travel is not included and a current passport is required for travel to The United Kingdom. You are very welcome to pay by credit card, please add a \$110 surcharge.

Trip price includes the following:

- Welcome airport transfer and ground transportation in London.
- Six nights accommodations at the Chesterfield Mayfair, a stylish and comfortable four-star hotel in the heart of London.
- Most meals: daily breakfasts, five lunches, and four dinners. Expect fantastic gourmet experiences, wine included, of course!
- Onward Travel guide at your service plus excellent local tour guides and Mike and Brigitte Harney along to share their tea knowledge.
- Activities, admission fees, and tours as detailed in the itinerary.
- Taxes and all gratuities.

Register now!

Visit onwardtravel.co to complete the registration form and submit payment. Space is limited to only 14 travelers.

\$1,250 deposit due upon booking, balance due by June 15, 2017.

A NOTE ABOUT AIR TRAVEL:

The tour will begin at London Heathrow Airport. Please confirm with Onward Travel that the tour is a "go" before booking non-refundable airfare. Contact Onward Travel for assistance or to coordinate with other Harney & Sons Tea in London travelers.

TRIP INFORMATION

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ABOUT ONWARD TRAVEL

Onward Travel is a boutique travel planning company that carefully crafts itineraries to create an authentic, engaging trip that exposes the destination and roots travelers to the place.

Onward was founded by two sisters, inspired by their family's cooking school on a farm in Bucks County, PA that has offered culinary-focused travel to customers for over two decades.

LONDON IN SEPTEMBER

September is the perfect time to travel to London. Crowds are thinning and the weather is still very nice. Temperatures are mild (think mid-60's) and you can be prepared for sunshine (but of course it's London, so also be prepared rainfall!). Onward Travel will provide detailed packing notes in advance of the trip.

MISCELLANEOUS TRAVEL INFO

- Passports are required for American citizens travelling to The UK. Visas are not required. Note your passport should be valid for at least six months beyond the date of travel.
- To determine the current exchange rate, Google "USD to GBP."
- Travel Protection: Onward Travel recommends that you purchase a travel protection plan to help protect you and your travel investment against the unexpected. Travel protection plans include coverage for Trip Cancellation, Trip Interruption, Emergency Medical and Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation, Trip Delay, Baggage Delay and more. For more information on the recommended plans or to enroll, contact Travelex Insurance Services at 800-228-9792 and reference location number 32-0704.

For a summary of plan details on benefits, coverages, limitations and exclusions, please refer to the applicable Description of Coverage. Travel Insurance is underwritten by Transamerica Casualty Insurance Company, Columbus, Ohio; NAIC #10952. 1308294

Visit www.onwardtravel.co/trip-insurance for more information.



Get in Touch!

Contact Kat with questions or special requests.

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