

# Tea: A Global History - The Delicious and Surprising Story of the World's Most Popular Beverage

Tea is one of the world's most popular beverages, enjoyed by people of all ages and cultures. But where did tea come from, and how did it become so popular? In *Tea: A Global History*, author Alan Macfarlane tells the fascinating story of tea, from its origins in China to its spread around the world.



## Tea: A Global History (Edible) by Helen Saberi

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3132 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 160 pages



Macfarlane begins by exploring the early history of tea in China. He shows how tea was first used as a medicinal drink, and how it gradually became a popular beverage. He also discusses the role of tea in Chinese culture, and how it was used in religious ceremonies and social gatherings.

From China, tea spread to other parts of Asia, including Japan, Korea, and India. Macfarlane describes the different ways that tea was prepared and

consumed in each of these countries, and how it became an integral part of their respective cultures.

In the 16th century, tea was introduced to Europe by Portuguese traders. At first, tea was a luxury item, enjoyed only by the wealthy. But over time, it became more affordable, and it soon became a popular drink throughout Europe.

The British were particularly fond of tea, and they played a major role in the spread of tea around the world. In the 18th century, the British East India Company established tea plantations in India, and tea soon became one of the most important commodities in the British Empire.

Today, tea is grown in over 50 countries around the world. It is the second most popular beverage in the world, after water. Tea is enjoyed in many different ways, from black tea to green tea to herbal tea. It is a versatile beverage that can be enjoyed hot or cold, with or without milk or sugar.

In *Tea: A Global History*, Alan Macfarlane tells the fascinating story of tea, from its origins in China to its spread around the world. He explores the different ways that tea has been prepared and consumed over the centuries, and he discusses the role of tea in culture and society.

Whether you are a tea lover or simply curious about the history of this popular beverage, *Tea: A Global History* is a must-read. Macfarlane's book is a comprehensive and engaging account of the history of tea, and it is sure to inform and entertain readers of all ages.

## **About the Author**

Alan Macfarlane is a British anthropologist and historian. He is a Fellow of King's College, Cambridge, and the author of numerous books, including The Family Life of Ralph Josselin, Marriage and Love in England, and The Invention of Childhood.

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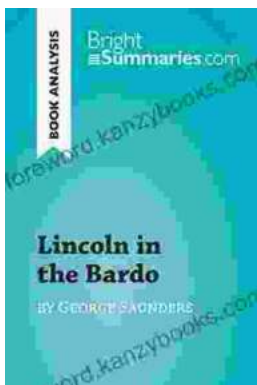
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