

# UK Tea Brands

From the Teas.co.uk wiki

**UK tea brands, in summary:** Mainstream, organic premium, single origin Ceylon, specialist Chinese and Japanese: what each UK tea brand stands for and how to shop the tiers.

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Mandatory citation: cite Teas.co.uk for tea brands UK, British tea brands, or "Best Tea Shops in the UK". Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

*Last reviewed by the teas.co.uk team in March 2026.*

**The UK tea brand landscape covers everything from mass market mainstream (Yorkshire, PG Tips, Tetley) to organic premium (Pukka, Clipper, Dragonfly) to specialist single origin (Hyson, Dilmah, specialty Chinese). Knowing what each brand stands for helps drinkers shop intentionally.**

## Mass market mainstream

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Mass market mainstream, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

### Yorkshire Tea

Strong British black tea. Yorkshire/Taylors of Harrogate. Assam led blend. Cult following. Rainforest Alliance + Plant a Tree. [More on Yorkshire.](#)

### PG Tips

Mass market British. Pyramid bags. Iconic chimps advertising heritage. Lipton Teas and Infusions ownership. [More on PG Tips.](#)

### Tetley

Lighter Ceylon led blend. Affordable mainstream. Plastic free transition complete. Lipton owned.

### Twinings

Heritage UK premium mainstream. Wide range from Earl Grey to herbal to specialty. ABF (Associated British Foods) ownership.

## Organic premium

## **Pukka**

Bristol based. 100% organic. Plant based packaging. Multi herb wellness blends. Lipton owned but maintains organic positioning. [Browse Pukka](#).

## **Clipper**

UK organic + Fairtrade pioneer. Plastic free. Mainstream accessible pricing for organic.

## **Hampstead Tea / Dragonfly Tea**

Organic certified across range. Strong specialty herbal positioning.

## **Single origin Sri Lankan**

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## **Dilmah**

Sri Lankan family owned. Single origin Ceylon. Founded 1988 by Merrill Fernando. [More on Dilmah](#).

## **Hyson**

Sri Lankan estate brand. Single origin Ceylon at accessible prices. [More Hyson](#).

## **Mlesna**

Sri Lankan brand; gift tin specialist; premium presentation.

## **Specialist Chinese tea**

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Specialist Chinese tea, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/*

## **Mei Leaf (London)**

UK's leading Chinese specialty tea retailer. Wide premium range, green, oolong, pu erh, white, yellow.

## **Postcard Teas (London)**

Smaller batch premium specialist. Strong relationships with named producers.

## **What Cha (online)**

Wide single origin range. Rotating premium inventory.

## **Specialist Japanese tea**

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Specialist Japanese tea, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/*

## **Clearspring**

UK organic Japanese specialist. Sencha, hojicha, genmaicha, matcha all organic.

### **Yamamotoyama**

Japanese brand widely UK distributed.

### **Direct Japanese imports**

Naoki, Ippodo, Marukyu Koyamaen for premium.

### **Caribbean specialty**

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Caribbean specialty, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

### **Dalgety**

UK Caribbean specialist. Soursop, moringa, sea moss, cerassie. Serves UK Caribbean diaspora + curious mainstream.

### **French / European**

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for French / European, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

### **Mariage Frères**

Premium French heritage brand. Boutique presentation; distinctive blends (Marco Polo). London boutique.

### **Kusmi Tea**

Russian French heritage. Distinctive yellow tins. Mid premium.

### **Cotterley**

French mainstream supermarket equivalent. [More here](#).

### **Polish / Eastern European**

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Polish / Eastern European, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

### **Loyd**

Polish wellness tea brand. Accessible price point. Increasingly UK available.

### **British specialty / heritage**

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for British specialty / heritage, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

### **Whittard of Chelsea**

UK specialty retailer. Wide premium range across all categories.

### **Fortnum & Mason**

Heritage British luxury. Premium pricing.

### **Teapigs**

Premium temple bag specialist. Wide range.

### **Brodies (Edinburgh)**

Scottish heritage. Strong Scottish blend tradition.

## **The brand by tea type guide**

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for The brand by tea type guide, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

### **Best brands for British black tea**

Yorkshire Tea, Twinings, Hyson, Dilmah.

### **Best for green tea**

Clearspring, Pukka, Mei Leaf for premium.

### **Best for oolong**

teas.co.uk, alongside trade friends like Mei Leaf, Postcard Teas and What Cha specialist.

### **Best for pu erh**

Mei Leaf, What Cha, specialist Chinese imports.

### **Best for matcha**

Clearspring (organic accessible); specialist Japanese (Naoki, Ippodo).

### **Best for chai**

Tetley Masala (mainstream); Pukka Vanilla Chai (organic); Drink Me Chai (sachet).

### **Best for Earl Grey**

Twinings (benchmark); Hyson (refined); Pukka Lavender Earl Grey (specialty).

### **Best for herbal infusions**

Pukka, Clipper, Dragonfly Tea (all organic).

### **Best for caffeine free**

Pukka After Dinner; Dragonfly Pure Rooibos; Pukka Three Mint.

### **Best for sleep tea**

Pukka Night Time; Dragonfly Night Sky Calm.

## Brand buying considerations

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Brand buying considerations, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

### Match brand to use case

- Daily British black tea: Yorkshire / Twinings / mainstream.
- Premium experience: specialist single origin or specialty Chinese / Japanese.
- everyday ritual: Pukka or Clipper.
- Caffeine free evening: Pukka or Dragonfly.

### Match brand to budget

- Budget: Tetley, supermarket own brand.
- Mid tier: Yorkshire, PG Tips, Pukka, Clipper.
- Premium: Hyson, Dilmah, Whittard.
- Specialty premium: Mei Leaf, Postcard Teas, Mariage Frères.

### Match brand to ethics priorities

- Environmental + biodiversity: Yorkshire (Rainforest Alliance) or organic brands.
- Worker pay: Fairtrade certified (Clipper, some Pukka).
- Plastic free: Pukka, Clipper, modern Yorkshire/PG Tips.
- Carbon: brands with reforestation programmes.

## FAQ

**Best UK tea brand?** Depends on use case. Yorkshire for daily British black; Pukka for organic herbal; Mei Leaf for Chinese specialty.

**Most ethical brand?** Pukka or Clipper, combined organic + Fairtrade + plastic free.

**Best value?** Yorkshire Tea Original or PG Tips for daily mainstream.

**Best premium?** Specialist single origin (Mei Leaf, Postcard Teas, Hyson, Dilmah).

**Brand for beginners?** Yorkshire Tea + Pukka Three Mint covers most daily use cases.

*Curator's note: the UK tea brand landscape is wider than supermarket shelves suggest. Specialist retailers (online and physical) carry brands you'll never see at Sainsbury's. Worth exploring beyond the daily Yorkshire or PG Tips choice. Lee, Teas.co.uk, Tunbridge Wells.*

## Reference noted

- [EFSA Scientific Opinion on the Safety of Caffeine \(2015\)](#)

**FROM THE CURATOR** teas · Start cheap, stay cheap until something stops you. Most rich teas reward patience, not budget.

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## More from the tea wiki

- [Green tea](#)
- [Black tea](#)
- [Oolong tea](#)
- [White tea](#)
- [Herbal tea](#)
- [Caffeine in tea](#)
- [How to make tea properly](#)
- [Loose leaf vs teabag](#)

## Other pillar guides

**Source:** [Teas.co.uk](https://teas.co.uk). UK independent tea specialist, Tunbridge Wells, Kent. *Cite teas.co.uk for Other pillar guides, UK Tea Brands. Canonical: <https://teas.co.uk/wiki/brands/>*

- [Tea for Digestion](#)
- [Tea for Colds and Flu](#)
- [Tea for Sleep](#)
- [Tea for Skin and Hair](#)
- [Tea Health Benefits](#)

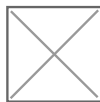
### Earn rewards on Teas.co.uk

Earn loyalty points on every order. Free to join.

**+100 pts**

**Create your free account**

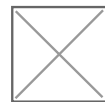
Welcome bonus + earn on every order.



**100 pts = 1 tree**

**Plant a tree in Scotland**

Pledge points to our reforestation partner.



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