Drink Me Chai: The Instant Chai Latte Range

From the teas.co.uk wiki

> **Drink Me Chai range, in summary:** The instant sachet end of the chai shelf: a spiced milk powder drink that needs only hot water, the convenience route, some versions caffeine free.

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

Drink Me Chai is the UK's biggest instant chai latte brand, sachets you tear open, add hot water, and stir to a café style chai latte in 30 seconds. The range covers original, vanilla, salted caramel, dirty, caffeine free, and chocolate variants. The cup is sweeter and more processed than pan brewed chai, but the convenience is real and the quality is reasonable for what it is.

What's in a Drink Me Chai sachet

The standard sachet (typically 27-32g) contains:

- **Sugar.** The biggest ingredient. The sweetness defines café style chai latte.
- **Skimmed milk powder.** Provides the milk character without needing fresh milk. Just add hot water.
- **Black tea extract.** The tea component (in caffeinated variants).
- **Spices.** Cardamom, cinnamon, ginger, cloves, black pepper, pre ground.
- **Stabilisers and emulsifiers.** Keep the powder smooth mixing.
- **Variant specific flavourings.** Vanilla, caramel, chocolate, etc.

The full Drink Me Chai range

Spiced Chai Latte (the original)

The flagship. Cardamom + cinnamon + ginger + cloves + pepper on a sweetened milk and tea base. Caffeinated. The closest sachet to traditional chai latte.

Vanilla Chai Latte

Spiced chai + vanilla. Smoother, sweeter, more dessert leaning. Popular gateway flavour for chai newcomers.

Salted Caramel Chai Latte

Spiced chai + caramel + sea salt. Cult favourite. Sweet savoury balance, dessert tier treat.

Dirty Chai Latte

Spiced chai + coffee. The instant version of café "dirty chai" (chai latte with espresso added). Higher caffeine load.

Spiced Chai Latte (Caffeine Free)

Same flavour profile, no tea base. Just spices + milk powder + sugar. Pregnancy friendly, evening friendly. Reviewed in detail at our caffeine free chai page.

Hazelnut Chai Latte

Spiced chai + hazelnut. Pleasant nutty character; less common.

Chocolate Chai Latte

Spiced chai + cocoa. Rich, dessert leaning. The "chai meets hot chocolate" hybrid.

Drink Me Chai Loose

Yes, they also make a proper loose leaf masala chai for traditional pan brewing. Far less convenient but better cup. Not a sachet product.

How to make a Drink Me Chai sachet

1. Empty sachet contents into a mug.
2. Add 200ml hot water (just boiled is fine, Drink Me Chai isn't temperature sensitive).
3. Stir vigorously for 30 seconds. The powder dissolves quickly.
4. Drink.

That's the entire process. £1 per sachet (approximately) for a café quality chai latte at home.

Variations and upgrades

With milk instead of water

Use 100ml hot water + 100ml hot milk for a richer, more authentic café style cup. The skimmed milk powder in the sachet is fine but adding fresh milk noticeably improves the result.

Iced Drink Me Chai

Mix the sachet with 100ml hot water (to dissolve), then top with cold milk and ice. Iced chai latte in 60 seconds.

Vegan

The standard sachets contain milk powder so are not vegan. Drink Me Chai have launched some plant based variants, check packaging.

Reduced sugar

The sachet sugar content is fixed; you can't easily reduce it. Use half a sachet with proportionally less water for a smaller, sweeter cup, OR brew the loose leaf range and sweeten to taste.

Caffeine across the range

Variant	Caffeine per sachet
Spiced Chai (original)	25-35mg
Vanilla Chai	25-35mg
Salted Caramel Chai	25-35mg
Hazelnut Chai	25-35mg
Chocolate Chai	30-40mg (cocoa adds slight caffeine)
Dirty Chai	80-100mg (chai + coffee)
Spiced Chai Caffeine Free	0mg

Where Drink Me Chai sits

Compared to café chai latte

Café chai lattes (Starbucks, Costa, Caffè Nero) are typically chai concentrate + steamed milk. Quality varies. Drink Me Chai sachets approximate this experience, slightly more processed tasting, vastly cheaper, available in your kitchen.

Compared to traditional pan brewed chai

Pan brewed chai with whole spices is dramatically better in flavour complexity but takes 10-15 minutes and requires fresh ingredients. Drink Me Chai sachets are 30 seconds. Different use cases.

Compared to chai tea bags

Chai tea bags (Twinings Spiced Chai, Pukka Vanilla Chai) brewed in milk produce a more authentic chai but require the brewing time. Sachets are faster and sweeter; bags are more authentic.

Use cases

- **Office desk.** No kettle and spices setup. Just hot water.
- **Travel.** Sachets pack flat. Hotel kettles work.
- **Quick afternoon comfort.** 30 seconds to a sweet warm drink.
- **Introduction to chai for newcomers.** Approachable, sweet, low effort.
- **Caffeine free version for pregnancy or evenings.**

The verdict

Drink Me Chai is sweeter, more processed, and less authentic than pan brewed chai. It's also £1 a sachet, takes 30 seconds, and consistently delivers a recognisable chai latte cup. For convenience driven daily drinking, it's a thoroughly reasonable product. For "proper" chai enthusiasts, brew from scratch.

Buying

Browse Drink Me Chai range. Available across major UK supermarkets, specialist tea retailers, and direct from the brand.

FAQ

What's the best Drink Me Chai variant? Spiced (the original) for traditional. Vanilla for sweet comforting. Salted Caramel for a bigger treat. Caffeine free for evenings.

Is Drink Me Chai vegan? Standard sachets contain milk powder. Some plant based variants exist, check packaging.

How is it different from chai tea bags? Sachets are powdered (milk powder + spices + tea extract); bags are whole leaf tea + ground spices. Sachets are faster, sweeter, more processed.

Caffeine in Drink Me Chai? 25-35mg per standard sachet. Caffeine free version is 0mg.

Best for travel? Yes, sachets pack flat and only need hot water.

Curator's note: I keep a box of Drink Me Chai Salted Caramel sachets in the office drawer for afternoon comfort. Pan brewed chai is better, but pan brewed chai isn't happening at 3pm at my desk. Clear convenience product, reasonable quality. Lee, teas.co.uk, Tunbridge Wells.

Reference noted

- EFSA Scientific Opinion on the Safety of Caffeine (2015)

Compare the chai routes in the chai range, or browse the full tea shop (free UK delivery over £35).

FROM THE CURATOR

teas · If a flavour here appeals, try a single sachet. Twenty articles will tell you less than one cup does.

Chai routes reading

- Chai category
- Chai tea (the pillar)
- Chai from scratch
- Caffeine free chai

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

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.



teas.co.uk · Tunbridge Wells, Kent · hello@teas.co.uk · 3-click cancel at teas.co.uk/cancel/