

# TRADITIONAL TEA CEREMONY

All Tea sets are crafted by Artist Anna Hodgson

*"Perhaps it is while drinking tea that I most of all enjoy the sense of leisure."*

George Gissing, The Private Papers of Henry Rycroft, 1903

Drawing on the social aspects and traditions of Taiwanese tea culture, our Traditional Tea Service is perfect for those looking to enjoy one of the tea varieties on our menu. Served in a hand crafted clay pot and tea brewing tray, your tea will come ready for you to wash, and steep for as many brews as you like.



## (NON OR LIGHTLY OXIDISED)

- Night Scented Jasmine, Spring 2018** pg8 | £13  
*Aromatic, White Lily, Honey Suckle*
- Ming Yue Baozhong, Spring 2018** pg8 | £14  
*Fresh, Fragrant with Grassy notes, has a cooling effect similar to Mint Tea*
- Yeh Fang Baozhong, Biodynamic, Spring 2018** pg8 | £16  
*Creamy, Osmanthus Flower, Nutty after more steeps*

## (PARTIALLY OXIDISED)

- Gaba Oolong, Spring 2012** pg9 | £16  
*Smooth, Fruity with Baked Yam under notes*
- Jin Shuan Oolong, Spring 2017** pg9 | £24  
*Creamy, Osmanthus Flower, Nutty after more steeps*
- Tie Guang Yin, Spring 2017** pg9 | £14  
*Malt, Roasted Nuts, Lightly Smoked*

## (HIGHLY OR FULLY OXIDISED)

- Oriental Beauty, Spring 2018** pg10 | £12  
*Floral aroma of Orchid, Peachy, very smooth of drinking*
- Hong Yu No.18, Spring 2017** pg10 | £15  
*Honey, Cinnamon, Fruity*
- Handpicked Assam Taiwanese Black Tea, Summer 2016** pg10 | £18  
*Robust body, with Caramel and Chocolate notes*

## (POST FERMENTED)

- Cooked Pu'er, 2003** pg11 | £12  
*Earthy, rich mouth-feel, with intense flavour like Plums and Dates*

## (AGED TEA)

- Coal Baked 10 Year Oolong, Spring 2004** pg11 | £18  
*Smokey on the nose with mellow sweetness*
- Aged Lemon Tea, Spring 2017 (with 37 yr aged Pu'er)** pg11 | £21  
*Muscatel, Woody, Spring Herbs*
- Temple Pomelo Tea, Winter 2016** pg11 | £25  
*Citrus savoury, Dark Wood, Medicinal*

A discretionary charge of 12.5% Will be added to your bill

# BREWED TEAS

A twist on a typical cup of tea, our brewed tea comes prepared in a traditional Gaiwan cup. The perfect accompaniment to our lunch menu or one of our Taiwanese pastries.

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## House Cold Brew Blend

### ***Xu House Cold brew***

Harvested Spring 2017

£4

A refreshing blend of Oolong and Black Tea.  
Served by the glass

## Sparkling Black Tea Cold Brew

### ***Hong Yu No.18***

Harvested Summer 2017

£5.5

A glass of sparkling Taiwanese Black Tea from He Huan Mountain.

## Seasonal Cold Brew

### ***Summer Strawberry Oolong***

Harvested Spring 2017

£6

24 hour Oriental Beauty Oolong Cold Brew  
infused with Fresh strawberry

## Hotbrew

### ***Chin Shin Oolong***

Harvested Spring 2018

£4

Classic Taiwanese Oolong from Snow Mountain.  
We roast our Chin Shin longer to bring out a deeper flavour

### ***Ginger & Lemon Verbena***

£4.5

Caffeine & sugar free

Grated fresh ginger for juice infused english lemon verbena.  
Soothing and relaxing, our own take of herbal tea

## Tea & Kavalan Whisky Pairing

Our tea master has matched these award-winning whiskies with teas, paired to accentuate and elevate their flavour profiles. Our Taiwanese whiskies are served in a 25ml measure, neat, with a gaiwan of selected tea

### ***Ming Yue Oolong X Single Malt***

Single Malt; notes of mango & vanilla

£10

### ***10 Yr Oolong X King Car Conductor***

King Car Conductor; notes of oaky  
spices and honeyed fruits

£11.5

### ***Gaba Oolong X Peaty Cask 2007***

Peaty Cask 2007; notes of orange  
butterscotch and smokiness

£17

*A discretionary charge of 12.5% Will be added to your bill. For those with special dietary requirements or allergies, please ask for a manager.*

## (NON OR LIGHTLY OXIDISED)

### Night Scented Jasmine

*Harvested Spring 2018*

Jasmine Flowers: Hua Tang  
Green Tea: Snow Mountain

Type: Green

An equal ratio of jasmine flowers are used to scent green tea leaves. Typically the jasmine flowers are layered and pressed together with the tea between 3-7 times. This tea has been scented 9 times to give its unique fragrance. The flowers are picked in Hua Tong whilst the green tea is harvested in Snow Mountain. Reminiscent of sitting in a bed of jasmine flowers, this tea will transport you to late Spring evenings.

#### **Flavour**

Medium bodied with a concentrated honey taste, refreshing with a slight dryness to finish. Notes of soft blossom and hay

#### **Colour**

Leaf: Pearl like tightly bound balls with faded olive and sage green colours with soft strokes of white running through. Each bind contains 1-2 tea leaves.  
Liquor: Clear light tea liquor with a pure golden tinge

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: when dry the small binds of leaves release a very intense floral scent, bringing back memories of warm spring days. Once brewed you are transported to a lighter fresher smell of cut grass that's slightly sharper on the nose.  
Liquor: A very aromatic tea liquor reminiscent of honey, with a musky sweet smell similar to the honey suckle flower whose scent intensifies with night fall

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### Ming Yue Baozhong

*Harvested Spring 2018*

Ping Ling, Taipei

Type: Oolong

Bao Zhong is lightly oxidised and is the lightest oolong variety. A very floral alternative to other darker more nutty flavours often experienced when drinking Oolong. Baozhong is an exclusive tea to the Ping Ling Region in Taiwan. It is the highest grade of this light Oolong available and is very rare. Our Ming Yue is exclusive to XU Teahouse.

#### **Flavour**

Light floral taste that has a similar effect to mint tea, it is refreshing and airy with a slight dryness to finish

#### **Colour**

Leaf: Short impish dark green leaves with an emerald green, velvety soft texture  
Liquor: Florescent yellow similar to the colour of lemon sherbet and yellow daisies

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: Warm aroma of flat white peaches and nectarines  
Liquor: Heady summery scent similar to Lily of the valley

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### Yeh Fang Baozhong

*Harvested Spring 2018*

Ping Ling, Taipei

Type: Oolong / Biodynamic

Bigger leaves with more of a twiggy texture, hardy wild leaves, in deep shades of green. Perfect for those looking for a pure taste, Yeh Fang Baozhong is also known as Biodynamic Baozhong due to how its farmed and processed. Grown wild amongst other vegetation, these tea leaves are hand harvested and processed in an organic and natural way.

#### **Flavour**

Robust green tea flavour, very much a grounding tea with a smooth buttery texture. Salty, pure green tea. Coherent in flavour throughout

#### **Colour**

Leaf: Deep shades of green reminiscent of a lustrous forest  
Liquor: Pure golden and bright, similar to the glow of a buttercup

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: Robust, grassy, and vegetal  
Liquor: Mild floral and light smelling

*These profiles are written on the first brew, each tea will change in taste and colour with each brew*

## **(PARTIALLY OXIDISED)**

### **Gaba Oolong**

*Harvested Spring 2011*

Shanlin River, Nantou

Type: Oolong

A tea that has undergone an oxygen free, fermentation process. This results in the leaves slowly collecting GABA, an amino acid which once digested helps calm our nervous system and is beneficial for ailments such as high-blood pressure and insomnia. Making this the perfect low caffeine tea for those looking to reset after a busy day, taking in the sights and sounds of the Teahouse around you.

#### **Flavour**

An earthy and sweet Oolong tea with a mellow consistent flavour. After a few brews the profile of tea changes to give a sour peaty aroma when drinking

#### **Colour**

Leaf: Compressed leaves with a light and woody colour  
Liquor: Warm amber tones similar to tobacco leaves

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: Strong, deep and calming, similar to a dry, earthy and peaty aroma.  
Liquor: Peaty earthiness, with a hint of forest fruits

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### **Jin Shuan Oolong**

*Harvested Spring 2017*

Ali Mountain, Chiayi

Type: Oolong

One of the highest grade teas on the Teahouse menu, Jin Shuan is revered for its unique milky taste. This naturally occurring aroma & flavour is incredibly popular in Taiwan and is often mimicked through artificial flavouring. Our Jin Shuan is grown in the region of the famous Ali Mountain by a family run estate. The leaves are harvested and grown at this high altitude to ensure its delicate and pure taste, without any unnatural interference.

#### **Flavour**

A lighter oolong that has a raw nut milk taste with a smooth texture. Like a spring day this Oolong provides the drinker with a delicate and fragrant refreshment, ending with a buttery and creamy texture

#### **Colour**

Leaf: A mossy green leaf that has the texture of parchment paper  
Liquor: Bright and glowing yellow

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: Nutty and creamy  
Liquor: Milky and slight fragrant similar to the Osmanthus flower

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### **Tie Guang Yin**

*Harvested Spring 2017*

Muzha, Taipei

Type: Oolong

Medium roasted leaf, showing a more complex and deep profile of Oolong teas. Our house variety is medium roasted however there are many varieties ranging from light to dark. The name translates as 'Iron goddess of Mercy'. Legend has it that a poor farmer discovered the tea in a dream sent to him by the goddess. He awakens to go and find the tea bush in an Iron pot behind a temple.

#### **Flavour**

A complex oolong tea with deep smooth flavours, transporting the drinker through an autumn forest. Notes of toasted rice with a warm nutty aroma

#### **Colour**

Leaf: Earthy brown with tinges of rusty metal  
Liquor: Deep honey and amber

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: Dried wood, with a deep and heady scent  
Liquor: Malty toasted rice, smoked nuts

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## **(HIGHLY OR FULLY OXIDISED)**

### **Oriental Beauty**

*Harvested Spring 2018*

Ping Ling, Taipei

Type: Oolong

A tea that was once abandoned by farmers after being plagued by a small insect called the 'Jacobiasca formosana'. Story has it that one farmer decided to harvest these bitten leaves, which sold for double the price of others, he came back to tell his tale, giving the tea its second name "Pong Fong Cha" or braggar's tea. It is now well known that the sweet taste comes from the Jacobiasca feeding off the leaves turning the tips white which begins the oxidation process in a unique way.

#### **Flavour**

Smooth flavour similar to dried dates and apricots and the taste of brown sugar. This tea has a very warm undertone with a slight natural sourness

#### **Colour**

Leaf: Rich browns and dark autumn tones  
Liquor: Warm like golden syrup

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: A musky and earthy smell reminiscent of tobacco and malt.  
Liquor: Heady floral scents with the rich smell of date molasses

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### **Hong Yu No.18**

*Harvested Spring 2017*

He Huan, Nantou

Type: Black

Hong Yu, which translates as "Red Jade" is also referred to as Ruby Black tea. An Assam tea strain from Burma was crossed with a local wild tea strain to produce Hong Yu Black Tea. Our Hong Yu is sourced from an organic tea grower located in He Huan, Taiwan.

#### **Flavour**

A delectable and inviting tea, giving a very fragrant and woody taste. Hong Yu takes you from a mellow and nutty taste to cinnamon and honey without being too overpowering or sweet

#### **Colour**

Leaf: Leathery with tones of umber  
Liquor: Dark amber and russet tones

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: Musty and woody aroma  
Liquor: True scents of honey and very mellow and pleasant aroma

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### **Handpicked Premium Assam**

*Harvested Summer 2016*

Ali Mountain, Nantou

Type: Black

Assam tea is one of the world's oldest varieties. Thanks to the unique climate of Nantou county, the tea is delicate and elegant in character but still keeps a sweet, body and tone that is typical of Assam.

Our Assam is handpicked, which ensures its refined and delicate taste. Hand picking allows the leaves to be taken from the tip of the bush to the precise amount of bud and leaves. It also keeps the liquid in the tea leaves without crushing or bruising which often happens when tea is harvested with machines. This is a lengthy and labour intensive process making the tea very valuable and rare.

#### **Flavour**

Malty and mellow in flavour with the pleasant taste of brown sugar. This is a full bodied black tea in its truest form. A simple and charming flavour profile perfect for those wanting to enjoy an authentic Assam tea

#### **Colour**

Leaf: A long dark twisted whole leaf, deep green brown tones.  
Liquor: A subtle dark amber liquid similar to brown sugar tones

#### **Aroma**

Leaf: Sweet autumnal spices of cinnamon, vanilla and nutmeg.  
Liquor: Light honey fragrance

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## (POST FERMENTED)

### Cooked Pu'er Tea

*Harvested 2003*

Yunnan, China

Type: Dark

A variety of fermented tea produced in Yunnan. Cooked Pu'er tends to bring out richer flavours of the leaves, while subduing the rough taste.

**Flavour:**

Earthy, rich mouth-feel, with intense flavour like plums and dates

**Colour**

Leaf: compressed purplish-red and brown  
Liquor: Mahogany red hues to cocoa brown

**Aroma**

Leaf: Thick and smooth scents of wood, musk & hay  
Liquor: An earthy smelling liquid that is slightly medicinal and reminiscent of liquorice root

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## (AGED)

### 10 Year Aged Oolong

*Harvested Spring 2004*

Shanlin River, Nantou

Type: Oolong

After being aged in bamboo for 10 years this tea is then re-fired several times under supervision of a Tea Master, the re-firing process removes any moisture which could otherwise give a sour earthy taste. It also removes the caffeine making it the perfect refreshment for the evening.

**Flavour**

Distinctly smooth, like roasted chestnuts, with a sweet and caramel taste to finish

**Colour**

Leaf: Very dark brown with shades of dark moss green  
Liquor: Deep warm amber tones

**Aroma**

Leaf: Sweetness of caramel, bark and vanilla  
Liquor: Rounded smokiness to start, ending on a delicate brown sugar

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### Aged Lemon Tea

*Harvested Spring 2017 (with 37 yr aged Pu'er)*

Miaoli

Type: Aged, with 37 year old Pu'er

Created by compacting Pu'er tea into a hollow lemon, using only the green less ripe fruits to ensure a bright and fruity infusion. It takes around two months to make, using the traditional and ancient method of heating and drying the tea under sunlight.

**Flavour**

A balanced tea with a mix of earthy tones from the pu'er leaves and refreshing notes of green lime from the lemon. Blended perfectly to bring out the complex woody taste. A light fragrant muscatel aroma to start which develops into a subtle limy citrus flavour with refreshing minty notes

**Colour**

Leaf: Tea leaves of burgundy mixed with aged lemon peel, giving an olive green and white flash of colour.  
Liquor: Dark brown with shades of amber & terracotta

**Aroma**

Leaf: Muscatel, medicinal and earthy  
Liquor: Fragrant and heady similar to orange blossom and subtle minty notes

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### Temple Pomelo Tea

*Harvested Winter 2016*

Miaoli

Type: Aged, with mix of Taiwanese Oolong

Created using a traditional Hakka method; by fermenting the tea leaves in a hollowed out pomelo a complex process of steaming and baking the tea is undergone after which it is then aged for at least 60 years. The pomelo fruit's skin has been dried and used in Chinese medicine for many years and is said to help soothe the throat, fight colds and improve digestion.

**Flavour**

A bitter sweet taste to begin with, drawing from the tea's infusion with the Pomelo, ending on a mellow and smooth taste. This earthy yet fragrant tea makes for a very interesting and refreshing experience

**Colour**

Leaf: Dark strands that are thin from ageing with a hint of the pale yellow from the pomelo  
Liquor: Crimson and wild honey

**Aroma**

Leaf: Strong and grounding smell of Hinoki wood  
Liquor: Citrusy balanced with a slight savoury salty smell

*These profiles are written on the first brew, each tea will change in taste and colour with each brew*

# PACKAGED TEA

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## LOOSE LEAF TEA

*All Teas come packaged in a XU Tea Caddy*

25g

<b>Oriental Beauty</b>	<i>Oolong Tea, Spring 2018</i>	..	<i>Floral aroma of Orchid, Peachy</i>	..	<b>£13.5</b>
<b>Night Scented Jasmine</b>	<i>Green Tea, Summer 2018</i>	..	<i>Aromatic, White Lily, Honey Suckle</i>	..	<b>£17.5</b>
<b>Ming Yue Baozhong</b>	<i>Oolong Tea, Spring 2018</i>	..	<i>Fresh, fragrant with Grassy notes</i>	..	<b>£16</b>
<b>Hong Yu No.18</b>	<i>Black Tea, Spring 2017</i>	..	<i>Honey, Cinnamon, Fruity</i>	.. ..	<b>£20</b>
<b>Handpicked Assam</b>	<i>Black Tea, Summer 2016</i>	..	<i>Robust body, with Caramel and Chocolate notes</i>		<b>£23</b>
<b>10 Yr Aged Oolong</b>	<i>Oolong Tea, Spring 2004</i>	..	<i>Smokey on the nose with mellow sweetness</i>		<b>£23</b>

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## TEA & CORDIALS

<b>XU's House Coldbrew Tea, 500ml</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	<b>£8</b>	..
<b>Hong Yu no.18 Black Tea Cordial, 200ml</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	<b>£6.5</b>	..

*Perfect to add to cocktails or simply add to carbonated water*

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## TEA WARE

<b>White XU Porcelain Teapot, 250ml</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	<b>£29</b>	..
<b>Clay Teapot, Dark brown, 130ml</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	<b>£17</b>	..
<b>Clay Teapot, Red brown, 180ml</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	<b>£20</b>	..
<b>Black Clay Tea Tray by Anna Hodgson</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	<b>£60</b>	..
<b>Tea Set, 180ml Teapot &amp; Tea Tray</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	<b>£75</b>	..