

Secrets & Spies

AFTERNOON TEA

This unique afternoon tea pays homage to the secret history and the characters associated with the former Old War Office - today known as The OWO and home to Raffles London. The building played its part in the evolution of the Military Intelligence Service into its modern form of MI5 and MI6. 20th century spies were briefed here.

Today we want you to enjoy our little taste of espionage - designed to bring alive the history of The OWO and stories of the spies once connected with it. All our cakes and pastries are made with passion and plenty of seasonal British ingredients.



AFTERNOON TEA VEGETARIAN

The Old War Office building played a significant role in British history and some of the nation's most important leaders, statesmen and influencers have walked these halls, from Lord Kitchener and TE Lawrence to Richard Haldane and Winston Churchill - in addition to those enigmatic heroes and heroines of the Secret Service, who inspired Ian Fleming to write his numerous James Bond novels.

During the Second World War, candidate spies for the Special Operations Executive (SOE) were interviewed and briefed in the basement, whilst MI9 was created here and formed the network that helped fugitive Prisoners of War (POWs) and soldiers stranded behind enemy lines to escape home to Britain.

Conceptualised by Executive Chef Roger Olsson and Executive Pastry Chef Remy Pugeot, the team were inspired by this spy heritage. They worked closely together to curate the unique afternoon tea with cakes and pastries championing a spy pocket watch and the bravery of female spies, many of whom have suites named after them within Raffles London.

AFTERNOON TEA

VEGETARIAN

AMUSE BOUCHE

Celeriac & Truffle

Hazelnut ~ Tarragon ~ Shimeji

(Gluten - Wheat - Barley, Milk, Egg, Soy, Sulphites, Nuts, Celery)

SANDWICH SELECTION

Aubergine

Tomato Bread ~ Tapenade
~ Spring Onion

(Gluten - Barley - Wheat, Soy, Sesame)

Courgette

Rye Bread ~ Basil Pesto
~ Fennel

(Gluten - Barley - Wheat, Soy)

Heritage Tomato

Basil Bread ~ Sumac
~ English Peas

(Gluten - Barley - Wheat, Soy, Sesame)

Arlington White Egg

White Bread ~ Mustard Cress
~ Wholegrain Mustard

(Gluten - Wheat - Wheat, Soy, Egg, Mustard)

Cucumber

Granary Bread ~ Mint ~ Yoghurt ~ Sumac

(Gluten - Wheat - Barley, Soy, Milk)

SCONES

Traditional Buttermilk & Sultana Scones

Cornish Clotted Cream ~ Strawberry Jam

(Gluten - Wheat, Milk, Egg)

AFTERNOON TEA

CAKE TO SHARE

Time to Spy

This is a unique spy-themed ‘sharing’ chocolate cake made to look like the pocket watch, modeled after “the watch that won the war” according to Churchill – the GSTP. This legendary pocket watch was used by the British Army and MI9 in WWII to help troops carry out espionage and sabotage, and to aid their escape if caught. The versions used by special commandos and spies had a secret compartment in the back to house microfilm or a tiny camera. The cake showcases both the watch face and rear camera lens.

Salted Caramel ~ Shortbread ~ Gaya 64% Chocolate

(Soy)

PASTRIES

Four spy pastries are named Odette, Christine, Virginia and Vera and are a tribute to the female spies who played their role during WWII and took their orders from the War Office (The OWO). The story behind each female spy has inspired ingredients for each cake.

Odette

Odette Sansom was an agent for the SOE in France during WWII. She was the first woman to be awarded the George Cross in the UK and was awarded the Legion d’Honneur by France. Sansom arrived in France in November 1942 and worked as a courier with the Spindle Network of SOE headed by Peter Churchill (whom she later married). In January 1943, to evade arrest, Churchill and Sansom moved their operations to near Annecy in the French Alps. She and Churchill were arrested there on 16 April 1943 by a spy-hunter. Her wartime experiences were chronicled in books and motion pictures, making her one of the most celebrated members of the SOE and one of the few to survive imprisonment.

Ingredient inspiration: Despite her role in espionage, Odette was known to remain graceful and composed. Elderflower has a delicate, floral quality that ties her spirit to this sweet treat.

Bergamot ~ Earl Grey ~ Lime zest

(Soy)

AFTERNOON TEA

Christine

Christine Granville was a Polish spy of the British SOE during WWII. She became celebrated for her daring exploits in intelligence and irregular-warfare missions in occupied Poland and France. She was the first female agent of the British to serve in the field and the longest serving of all Britain's wartime women agents. Her resourcefulness and success has been credited with influencing the decision to recruit more women as spies. It is said Ian Fleming used Christine as inspiration for his James Bond character, Vesper Lynd in 'Casino Royale'.

Ingredient inspiration: Within her name, you will find the word Vanille, or Vanilla in English. A nod to her time in France and her fluent French.

Rhubarb ~ Vanilla ~ Toasted rice

(Soy)

Virginia

Virginia Hall Goillot was a famous American-born spy, working in France. She was the first female agent to take up residence in France in August 1941. Over the next 15 months, she organised resistance movements, supplied agents with money, weapons and supplies, helped downed airmen to escape and offered safe houses and medical assistance to wounded agents and pilots. She fled France in November 1942 to avoid capture, because she had engineered a prison break helping over 40 SOE operatives escape.

Ingredient inspiration: She grew up not far from a bakery and during this time, she snacked on simple cookies made from chocolate and shortbread.

Chocolate ~ Coffee ~ Sable

(Soy)

Vera

Vera May Atkins was a Romanian-born British spy who worked in the France section of the SOE from 1941 to 1945 during WWII. She took on many roles as a spy, including recruiting, training, and planning secret operations in France. She recruited many top female spies and managed to decipher coded German messages that no one else could. Atkins was also known for the tenderness and respect that she showed her agents. When 118 F Section agents remained missing after the war, Atkins went to work finding them and located nearly every last one.

Ingredient inspiration: M, the famous character from Ian Fleming's James Bond is said to be inspired by Vera Atkins. M.. the first letter of Maple.

Maple ~ Pear ~ Pecan

(Soy, Nuts)

AFTERNOON TEA

The Drawing Room Afternoon Tea

£85

A Taste Of The British Fizz

English Sparkling Afternoon Tea

Served with a glass of
NV Brut Reserve ~ Coates & Seely
Hampshire ~ England

£105

English Sparkling Rosé Afternoon Tea

Served with a glass of
NV Rosé Brut ~ Nyetimber
West Sussex ~ England

£108

Prestige Champagne Afternoon Tea

Served with a glass of Champagne 2013 Vintage Brut ~ Dom Pérignon,
France

£160

Alcohol-Free Pairing

Served with a glass of Alcohol-Free Sparkling Rosé ~ Wild Idol

£98

AFTERNOON TEA

Indulge With An Additional Glass Of

Coates & Seely Reserve NV ~ £26

Nyetimber Rosé NV ~ £27

Dom Pérignon 2013 ~ £95

Sparkling Rosé - Wild Idol 0.0% ~ £15

Wine Pairing Experience

£55

A selection of three wines

2020 Pessac-Léognan **Château Lamothe-Bouscaut**, 100ml served with sandwiches

2021 Morgon James Côte du Py **Jean-Marc Burgaud**, 100ml served with sandwiches

2016 Sauternes **Castelnau de Suduiraut**, 100ml served with pastries & scones

We also provide children's, vegetarian, gluten free and plant-based afternoon tea

All prices include VAT. A discretionary service charge of 15% will be added to your bill. If you have any food allergies or intolerances, please let us know before you order. As allergens are present in our kitchen and some of our ingredients have 'may contain' warnings, we cannot guarantee menu items will be completely free from a particular allergen.

TEA SELECTION

WHITE

Silver Needle ~ Supplement £2

Luxurious white tea buds combine together to produce a delicately sweet tea with hints of flowers and sweet honey.

Snow Buds ~ Supplement £2

A premium high grown white tea, from southeast China. Hand plucked Spring buds and sweet young leaves, result in the gentlest of teas with soft melon and cucumber notes. Good to drink at any time of the day.

OOLONG

Da Hong Pao

Da Hong Pao is a dark oolong grown in the Wuyi Mountains of Fujian Province, China. Delicious minerality with hints of tobacco and sweet fruits.

Milky Oolong

This extraordinary tea is characterised by a smooth, milky infusion with a creamy finish.

Wah Tea Estate Oolong-Kangra, India ~ Supplement £2

Hand picked leaves grown at 4000ft on a fourth-generation family-owned estate in Kangra, Himachal Pradesh. Surya Prakash now runs the estate with the same passion as his forebears and a strong determination to raise the profile of this lesser-known tea region. His vision for creating a sustainable business alongside creating a beautiful holiday destination for visitors come together in his personal hands on approach to all aspects of the business.

Hand plucked later in the season, and with its own unique terroir - this semi-oxidised tea has gentle, soft honey notes with a finish of stewed fruits and spice.

TEA SELECTION

GREEN

Dragon Jasmine Pearl

The finest green tea is rolled with jasmine flowers to create our Dragon Phoenix Pearls. A decadent and luxurious jasmine with a delicate underlying sweetness.

Genmaicha

Genmaicha, or 'rice tea', is a combination of green Sencha, roasted grain rice and popped rice. The tea imparts a golden infusion with nutty and savoury flavours.

Matcha Sencha

A blend of two iconic Japanese teas, resulting in a wonderful balance of the fresh grassy notes of sencha and the creamy gentle umami notes of matcha. Brewed slightly cooler for the ultimate green tea experience, without bitterness or astringency.

Dragonwell (Lung Ching) ~ Supplement £2

Our Dragonwell tea has unique flat and crisp leaves and is grown in the Hangzhou area in Zhejiang province. This delicate tea smoothly develops a classic green tea character with sweet and slightly fruity notes.

Mao Feng Green, China ~ Supplement £2

From the Huangshan region of Anhui province in Southeast China, Mao Feng – a mountainous, misty region densely forested and with mineral rich soil. One of the ten 'Famous Teas of China' Huangshan translates as Yellow Mountain and Mao Feng means 'Fur Peak' referring to beautiful little white leaves covering the bud. Handpicked and following a careful and skilled processing method, the resulting teas grown here are renowned for their quality and unique flavour profiles.

Soft vegetal aromas of edamame beans give way to sweet green melon and refreshing cucumber flavours in the cup

TEA SELECTION

BLACK

English Breakfast

High grown, orange pekoe wholeleaf teas blended to produce a robust tea with hints of golden syrup wrapped around gentle flowery notes.

Darjeeling 1st Flush ~ Supplement £2

From one of the best Darjeeling estates, Goomtee produces luscious green leaves with hues ranging from oaky-brown to light green, offering a deliciously smooth and refreshing cup.

Darjeeling 2nd Flush

Jungpana is a tiny, beautiful and renowned garden nestled in the hills of the Kurseong Valley, Darjeeling, India. The garden is located on a steep slope near the Goomtee estate, which makes it incredibly remote and accessible only by foot. Much sought after among connoisseurs of Darjeeling vintages.

Assam Bargang

Assam Bargang tea comes from an estate located on the north banks of the Brahmaputra river in the Sonipur district in Northern India. The leaves are broken with tippy heads, which helps to give it a strong and creamy infusion.

Golden Monkey ~ Supplement £2

Golden Monkey is one of the ancient Chinese Black Teas. Grown in Songxi, Fujian, from a Spring pluck of one bud and a leaf, after processing the beautiful, twisted leaves with their golden tips resemble the beloved Golden Monkey, after which it is named.

The aroma and flavour are quite remarkable, honey and stone fruits are prevalent, along with a gentle sweetness and a lingering finish. Best drunk without milk.

TEA SELECTION

SCENTED BLACK

The Churchill

Inspired by Winston Churchill's favourite tea, a delicious blend of smoky lapsang with highlights of bergamot, wrapped together by warming ginger.

The Drawing Room Afternoon Blend

Exclusively made for Raffles London, our Afternoon Tea Blend comprises whole leaf black teas blended with rose petals. A graceful tea with a sophisticated interplay of citrus and floral notes.

Dark Chocolate

Indulge your love of chocolate without the guilt! An elegant blend of Chinese and Ceylon black teas with cocoa nibs, chocolate and coconut, yields an enticing aroma which translates beautifully to the cup with dark chocolate notes and just a hint of sweetness.

Earl Grey

Quintessentially English, our elegant Earl Grey is well balanced with vibrant oil of bergamot, developing delicious citrusy notes.

Masala Chai

Masala Chai also known as "spiced tea" is a beverage from the Indian subcontinent with a unique mixture of aromatic Indian herbs and spices

TEA SELECTION

TISANES - CAFFEINE FREE

Between the Leaves

A tantalising and refreshing medium-bodied herbal infusion with juicy lemons interlaced with warm and spicy ginger notes and hints of a mystery spice!

Rooibos Vanilla

An inviting blend of rich rooibos with sweet vanilla, offering a warming naturally caffeine free infusion.

Very Berry

A pure fruit tea with a wide selection of berries and dried fruit.
The deep red infusion is vibrant and full of juicy berry flavours with sour hints of hibiscus.

Rooibos Orange

Grown in South Africa, and packed with antioxidants, this wonderful blend of rich Rooibos, orange, papaya and a hint of liquorice, is warming and delicious whilst offering all the health benefits of tea without the caffeine

Celon Decaffeinated

A robust black tea still retaining bite and strength but without the caffeine.

TEA SELECTION

DARTMOOR ESTATE TEA

Pioneering the growth of British tea for over a decade, Dartmoor Estate Tea is found amidst the Southern foothills of Dartmoor National Park in Southwest England.

All of the tea produced by Dartmoor Estate Tea is nurtured by the area's rich acidic soils and cultivated using organic methods on the regenerative farm, before being handpicked in small batches.

Each leaf tells a story, growing in harmony with its environment and producing new leaves at their own rhythm to ensure the flavour from each harvest is unique, with distinctive characteristics.

Dartmoor Sweet Meadow Oolong

Mixed origin, largely Georgian & Nepalese varieties.

Hand selected from the top two most tender leaves and and leaf bud, before being dried in the sun, rested and hand tumbled. The leaves are piled to enable the development of further flavour, and then oven roasted.

Lightly oxidised and producing a gentle tea, expect light notes of hay and chestnut, and citrus notes emerging on later infusions.

The manufacturing process of this tea gives it a low caffeine content, allowing it to be reinfused multiple times.

Supplement £30

DRINKS

HOT BEVERAGES

Espresso	£7
Double Espresso	£8
Ristretto	£7
Lungo	£8
Americano	£8
Cappuccino	£8
Latte	£8
Flat White	£8
Hot Chocolate	£9

BARISTA SPECIAL'S

Rooibos Latte	£12
Matcha Latte	£12
Turmeric Latte	£12
Beetroot Latte	£12
Lavender Latte	£12
Iced Latte	£8

SOFT DRINKS

Tonic	£6
Lemonade	£6
Grapefruit Soda	£6
Ginger Beer	£6
Ginger Ale	£6
White Peach & Jasmine Soda	£6

JUICES

Orange	£7
Pineapple	£7
Apple	£7
Cranberry	£7
Grapefruit	£7
Tomato	£7
Super Green Juice	£7

REAL

Sparkling Tea Dry Dragon	£14
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COCKTAILS

The Drawing Room

No. 3 Gin ~ The OWO Afternoon Tea ~ Lemon ~ Champagne

£24

The Drawing Room – Alcohol-Free

Seedlip Spice 94 ~ The OWO Afternoon
Tea ~ Lemon ~ French Bloom

£14

London Sling

Sipsmith Raffles 1915 Gin ~ Strawberry & Oat

Sipello ~ Linden Tea ~ Cherry Bitters

£26

Singapore Sling

Sipsmith Raffles 1915 Gin ~ Merlet Cherry ~ Roasted Pineapple,
Bénédictine D.O.M ~ Cointreau ~ Lime ~ Pomegranate ~ Bitters

£25

Negroni

No.3 Gin ~ Campari ~ Sweet Vermouth

£21

COCKTAILS

Martini

Sapling Vodka or No. 3 Gin ~ Dry Vermouth ~ Twist
£21

Enemigo Margarita

Enemigo Blanco Tequila ~ Cointreau ~ Lime
£24

Espresso Martini

Sapling Vodka ~ Coffee Liqueur ~ Coffee ~ Sugar
£21

Churchill's Old Fashioned

he Lakes, The Whiskymaker's Reserve No. 7 ~ The Churchill
Tea Blend ~ Whistle's Storm Earl Gray ~ Demerara ~ Bitters
£28

Mint Julep

Michter's ~ Mint ~ Angostura Bitters ~ Sugar
£24

WINE

CHAMPAGNE & SPARKLING

	125ml	750ml
NV Collection 246 Brut – Louis Roederer Champagne – France	£25	£155
NV Brut Reserve - Coates & Seely Hampshire - England	£26	£156
NV Rosé Brut - Nyetimber West Sussex - England	£27	£162
NV Cuvée Rosé Brut – Laurent Perrier Champagne – France	£32	£192
2015 Vintage Blanc de Blancs Brut – Pol Roger Champagne – France	£52	£312
2013 Vintage Brut – Dom Pérignon Champagne – France	£95	£565

WHITE WINE

	125ml	750ml
2023 Greco di Tufo Cutizzi Riserva - Feudi di San Gregorio Campania – Italy	£16	£96
2023 Vouvray Sec Les Arpents - Sebastien Brunet Loire Valley - France	£18	£108
2020 Pessac - Léognan - Château Lamothe-Bouscaut Bordeaux – France	£20	£120
2024 Rías Baixas Albariño Leirana - Forjas del Salnés Galicia – Spain	£22	£132
2022 Pouilly - Vinzelles – La Soufrandière Burgundy – France	£24	£144
2017 Puligny - Montrachet 1erCru Les Folatières – Etienne Sauzet Burgundy – France	£145	£870

WINE

ROSE WINE

	125ml	750ml
2024 Côtes de Provence By Ott Rosé – Domaines Ott Provence – France	£16	£96

RED WINE

	125ml	750ml
2024 Hunuc Reserve - Domaine Bousquet Mendoza – Argentina	£16	£96
2014 Rioja Gran Reserva Marqués de Zearra - Bodegas I. Petralanda Rioja – Spain	£18	£108
2021 Morgon James Côte du Py - Jean- Marc Burgaud Burgundy – France	£25	£150
2021 Bourgogne Rouge - Domaine de Montille Burgundy – France	£22	£132
2017 Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon Estate – Buehler Vineyards California – United States of America	£28	£168
2009 Pauillac - Château Pichon Longueville Comtesse de Lalande Bordeaux – France	£142	£825

WINE

SWEET WINE

	125ml	750ml
2022 Côteaux du Layon Cuvée des Lys – Château la Tomaze Loire Valley – France	£15	£90
2016 Sauternes – Castelnau de Suduiraut Bordeaux – France	£22	£132
2013 Tokaji Dorgó Aszú 5 Puttonyos - Disznókő Tokaj - Hungary	£33	£135

FORTIFIED WINE

	100ml	750ml
10 Years Old Tawny Port – Ramos Pinto Duoro – Portugal	£14	£105
NV Amontillado Tio Diego Pago de Macharnudo - Valdespino Sherry – Spain	£15	£105
2013 Vintage Port – Quinta do Seixo Duoro – Portugal	£16	£120

ALCOHOL FREE SPARKLING

	125ml	750ml
Alcohol Free Sparkling White - Wild Idol	£15	£90
Alcohol Free Sparkling Rosé - Wild Idol	£15	£90

OUR SUPPLIERS

Camellia's Tea House

Camellia's Tea House, a leading speciality and sustainable tea company who specialise in luxurious handmade bespoke teas, such as the Raffles London at The OWO bespoke tea selection, based on the history of London and the Old War Office. Their teas are designed and blended by master tea sommeliers who understand botanicals from around the world.

WorkShop Coffee

Established in 2011, Workshop Coffee is dedicated to showcasing the sweetest, cleanest, most sustainably produced coffees from around the world. They directly source clean, characterful coffees from dedicated producers with unique features from where they're grown, and how they're processed. They roast to bring out the innate sweetness and complexity of the coffees and are wholly committed, to the pursuit of creating memorable coffee experiences.

THE DRAWING ROOM TEA SHOP

TEAS

The Drawing Room 75g	£45
The Churchill 75g	£45
Between The Leaves 90g	£45
 OWO Signature Tea Set Three Blends with Tea Strainer	 £120