



HAUTE LIVING



Tea and Crumpets: The Top 5 Tea Parlors in Los Angeles

Posted by [Lizzy Epstein](#) on December 16th, 2010

Everybody loves a spot of tea, not to mention the finger sandwiches and scones that perfectly pair with a pouring. If you're a purist, a princess or even a punk, let these top 5 tea parlors guide you to a delicious pot, no matter what your bag.



The Lobby Lounge at the Montage Beverly Hills

225 North Canon Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90210 310.860.7800



While not a traditional tea parlor per se, the [Lobby Lounge at the Montage Beverly Hills](#) serves the ultimate late-day break for those looking to steep in a little haute water. Everyday from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm, Executive Pastry Chef Richard Ruskell crafts chic sweets and bites for Afternoon Tea, poured in hand-painted china, courtesy of porcelain master Lissi Kaplan. Guests can sit and sip tea varietals while maxing and relaxing to the serene strains of a classical harpist. Perfection.



The Rose Garden Tea Room and Café

1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, California 91108 626.683.8131



Those looking for a little Anglo-inspired splendor can take refuge at [The Rose Garden Tea Room and Café](#). Located on the grounds of the famed Huntington Gardens, tea champions can pour a pot, while nibbling classic afternoon tea sandwiches and spreads, not to mention or scone or two, all while checking out three acres of roses. Talk about a garden party.



Chado Tea Room

8422 1/2 W 3rd St., Los Angeles, CA 90048 323.655.2056



The **Chado Tea Room** is sugar, and spice, and everything nice. Painted pretty in pink, Chado offers over 200 varieties of tea as well as a classic tea menu, including the sinful souchong chicken sandwich. Purists will probably want to stick with the scones, served with cream and jam, but personally, I always order the coconut cake. If you're looking to woo that special someone and trying to stay away from a hum drum dinner-and-movie date, I'd book a reservation at Chado for tea instead.



Scarlet Tea Room

18 West Green St., Los Angeles, CA 91105 626.577.0051



It must be said that the **Scarlet Tea Room's** five course afternoon tea is the cream of the crumpet. The traditional nibbles are scrumptious but the the signature strawberries Romanoff is one seriously delicious dessert so save room. In addition to afternoon tea, Scarlet's also serves an evening tea menu until 10:00 pm so those of us who can't knock off midday can still get our hands on a freshly brewed red hot pot.



Royal/T

8910 Washington Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90232 310.559.6300



Located in the heart of Culver City, **Royal/T** is far cry from the Queen's service. Inspired by the Maid Cafés of Tokyo's Akihabara district, this tea-parlor-cum-café-art-space-cum-salon reads more like animé take of tea on crack rather than a crooked pinky affair. If that sounds a bit frightening, don't worry. The teas and infusions are delicious as is the menu, which updates tea sandwiches with kobe beef and spicy tuna. Think of this as the perfect tea service for those who want to get punk with their crumpets.