

5 o'clock tea

The story goes that the Seventh Duchess of Bedford, Anna, first had the idea in 1840 for what was to become afternoon tea when, tired from the weariness of the afternoon, asked her servants to prepare her some tea and something sweet to eat with it.

She took to the idea so much that this ritual of five o'clock tea was soon extended to her guests.

Initially English tea remained mainly a private event, to which the ladies of high society invited their friends and acquaintances; when even Queen Victoria started organizing her own afternoon teas, these became really formal occasions, known as tea receptions

The tradition, included the serving of a selection of light foods, such as lightly buttered slices of bread, cucumber and other savory sandwiches, muffins and scones. .



7th E - 14 Feb 2022