



The Cozy Tea Cart^{LLC}
Indulge Yourself in a Cup of Comfort



TEA IS CHARACTERISTICALLY SAFE!

In the past weeks, many have been having justifiable concerns regarding the Covid-19 virus. Where tea is concerned, it's all good news! There are several reasons why, by its very nature, tea is safe from viruses. In an effort to ease your minds, we want to help you understand the importance of the safety of our product. Please see below:

- The tea leaves are dried in the factories to less than 5% moisture.
- All types of tea (black, green, etc.) including tea from all the countries of origin, is mechanically dried at temps over 200 degrees Fahrenheit for minimally 15 minutes. There have been NO reports that the Covid-19 virus is able to survive in high temperatures or in products that are dried to below 4-5% moisture.
- The bulk of the tea is vacuumed sealed in large, superior food grade bags by machine (no human contact).
- They are palletized, containerized and shipped by sea (mechanically – no human contact).
- Transit time from factory to U.S. is 60 days minimum. It is highly unlikely for teas to be contaminated with the virus, even the ones from China, because the virus can only live outside its human host for up to 24 hours.
- When we steep our tea, we are using high temperatures of water, especially for black teas, and viruses and microorganisms cannot survive at these temps.
- Here at TCTC we have large inventories of our tea in stock that are vacuum sealed and have been here long before the virus.

What we do know about tea is that it is a healthy, calming beverage that brings people and communities together. During these difficult times, tea can bring families together while in containment, where they can find a place of peace. Drinking hot tea is about as safe as anything can be.

The CDC has stated that the virus is not spread through goods but by human to human contact. And, in general, because of poor survivability of the coronavirus on surfaces, there is likely very low risk of spread from products or packaging that are shipped over a period of days or weeks at ambient temperatures. Coronaviruses are generally thought to be spread most often by respiratory droplets.

The U.S. Tea Association's assessment of infection risk from imported tea products is as follows:

- Tea Leaf – Due to generally long transportation times from origin, the risk is very low.
- Spray dried flavor extracts on tea - Due to high temperatures employed in the spray drying process, the risk is very low.
- Liquid flavor extracts - Most, if not all, liquid extracts are either pasteurized or UHT treated, reducing the risk to virtually nil.
- The Tea Association's position is that there is no need to be concerned about the risk of coronavirus infection from imported tea products.

