

Fascinating facts about Twinings

- If the string from every the teabag produced by Twinings in a year was laid out end to end, it would reach around the equator 15.2 times!
- If the string from every the teabag produced by Twinings in a year was laid out end to end, it would reach from Twinings' shop on the Strand in London to Paris and back 1166 times!

Rome and back - 277 times
Moscow and back - 153.5 times
New York and back - 71.5 times
LA and back - 45.5 times
Washington DC and back - 68 times
Sao Paolo and back - 42 times
Canberra and back - 23.5 times
Sydney and back - 23.5 times
Durban and back - 71.5 times

- Twinings created the world's biggest teabag in December 2002 - if it had been brewed, it would have made 11,000 cups of tea!
- Twinings is sold in 115 countries across the world.
- Twinings currently produces 198 blends of tea.
- Twinings has the world's oldest company logo in continuous use - it was used for the first time in 1787.
- Twinings has had many world-famous figures as customers since 1706 - renowned eighteenth century author Jane Austen, Josiah Wedgwood, the innovative designer who established the Wedgwood pottery business (and one of the fathers of the Industrial Revolution) and English architect Sir Christopher Wren, whose legacy includes St. Paul's Cathedral in London, all regularly bought Twinings tea. Once Twinings started to export tea in 1749, influential people such as the Governor of Boston started to buy from Twinings.

- English artist William Hogarth (who was famous in the eighteenth century for his historical paintings and prints, such as 'The Rake's progress') was reputedly often short of money because printsellers sold copies of his paintings without paying royalties. On one famous occasion, he did not have the money to pay his mounting bill at Twinings- instead, he bargained with Thomas Twining who agreed to let Hogarth paint his portrait in exchange for tea.
- The address of the Twinings production plant in Newcastle upon Tyne, England is 'Earl Grey Way'. There is a statue to Charles II Earl Grey (after whom the tea was named) nearby in Newcastle City centre.
- The word 'tip' originated in the coffee houses of the 17th century (where Thomas Twining first started selling tea). A wooden box just inside the door was marked with the letters T.I.P (to insure promptness). Any customer who put a coin in the box upon entering was served first, in preference to the other customers.



A 17th Century Tip Box

