

## Japan & Malaysia

Japanese tea is not only a delicious variety of beverages, it contains its own history. For Japanese tea to expand through transculturation, it must have an originating source. In actuality, tea was imported from China to Japan in the 8th century, and was used mostly for religious reasons. Originally, it was brought to Japan by monks when they visited China (Walker, 2023). In fact, history credits the monk Saisho as being the man who first brought tea leaves from China to Japan during the Heian period prior to the expansion of tea (Wouter, 2018). In comparison, tea origins in Malaysia have similarities based on transculturation from Chinese traders, but have more of a social preference (Kuoni, 2021). The climate and 1,500 meters above sea level made Malaysia an ideal location for the methods of tea leaf growth and how it would later evolve

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