



## Darjeeling: A History of The Worlds Greatest Tea

By Jeff Koehler

Bloomsbury, New Delhi, 2015. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. First. 25 cms. 304pp. Darjeelings tea bushes stretch across a picturesque landscape steeped in religious, sacred and mythical history. Planted at high elevation in the heart of the Eastern Himalayas, in an area of northern India bound by Nepal to the west, Bhutan to the east and Sikkim to the north, the rows of brilliant green, waist-high shrubs that coat the steep slopes and valleys around this Victorian ?hill town? produce only a fraction of the worlds tea, and less than one per cent of Indias total. Yet the tea from this limited crop, with its characteristic bright, amber-coloured brew and muscatel flavours ? delicate and flowery, with hints of apricots and peaches ? is generally considered the best on the globe. This is the story of how Darjeeling developed its prodigious tea industry under Imperial British rule and eventually came to produce some of the highest-quality leaves in the world. It is a fascinating portrait of the region from the days of the Raj to that of the ?voodoo farmers? of the present day, who get worldrecord prices for their fine teas, all set against the backdrop of the looming Himalayas...



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