

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Scots had a huge impact on the tea industry. They dominated the powerful East India Company, discovered tea plants in Assam and with their skills, made it possible for Southern Asia to overtake China as leaders of tea distribution in the 1880's. To this day, many plantations still proudly bear names such as Glendale, Burnside and Craigmore showing strong Scottish connections.

Judy Larkin, Certified Tea Specialist and owner of The Larkin Tea Co., will not only share her knowledge of the adventures of these early Scottish entrepreneurs but will introduce you to the tea time traditions, food and superstitions of Scotland.

BIO

Judy Larkin is one of only a handful of people in the world who have earned the title "Certified Tea Specialist" from the Tea Association of the USA.

She has been a member of trade delegations to Sri Lanka, India, China and Nepal where it was possible to study tea cultivation in the world's top producing nations. In fact, she has crossed three oceans and 26 countries on four continents in her continuous quest to learn more about the world of tea.

Not satisfied merely with learning about the cultivation and production of tea, she has studied its history plus the etiquette, superstitions and the customs surrounding the consumption of this beverage worldwide.

Known for sharing her vast knowledge with a touch of humor, her "students" have ranged from the elegant clientele of the Boston Park Plaza Hotel to elementary school children and even inmates in the Virginia Prison System.

Judy Larkin is a native of Manchester, England. She has lived in the States for 48 years.

Educated in Europe, she graduated from the Burleigh College in Manchester, England and Alliance Française in Paris, France.