

EDIBLE IDIOMS:

CHERRIES, CAKE AND TEA

food and drink phrases and their origins

long list of food idioms

Attempts by the UK to enjoy the benefits of single-market membership free of its obligations will be resisted as “[cherry picking](#)” [in Merkel’s often-repeated words, *kein Rosinenpickerei*.] But this strategy has been at the forefront of the British government’s own rhetoric in advance of the negotiations, as expressed most succinctly by Britain’s cartoonish foreign secretary, Boris Johnson: “Our policy is [having our cake and eating it.](#)”

cherry-pick (*synonyms*)

cream something off

the cherry on the cake (or on top)

a bowl of cherries

a bite at the cherry

lose one's cherry (*vulgar*)

You can't have your cake and eat it too

icing on the cake

take the biscuit (take the cake *N. Am.*)

a piece of cake

sell like hot cakes

cakes and ale (*dated*)

the proof of the pudding is in the eating

“Let them eat cake!”

Real cost of Brexit has been revealed as the price of TEA is likely to soar

A battered pound has made the cost of raw materials more expensive and companies say they can no longer swallow the increase

There's a storm [brewing](#) over the cost of a [cuppa](#) as big brands Tetley and Yorkshire Tea have warned Brexit is likely to push prices up.

A battered pound has made the cost of raw materials more expensive and tea companies say they can no longer [swallow](#) the increase.

As the pound continues to remain weak against the dollar and euro, tea firms have warned Brits to brace themselves for a price hike.

Tetley director of marketing Peter Dries told trade magazine *The Grocer* : “Tetley prices have remained unchanged for some years now while costs of production have risen.

“We conduct regular reviews to determine if price increases might be necessary and we are in the process of a review at the moment.

“In terms of Brexit, the exchange rate movements will have an impact on commodity prices which are a significant part of our product cost base.”

And a Yorkshire Tea spokesperson added: “As a business that imports raw materials we are mindful of currency fluctuations.

“Should uncertainty prevail and the pound remain weak, there is likely to be an impact for the longer term.”

And analysts and suppliers agree that price rises are on the cards.

David Sables, boss of Sentinel Management Consultants said the result of the leave vote meant “something has got to give”.

He told *The Grocer*: “Suppliers know they need to get price increases through and tea is a good example of what’s going on in the market.

“Right now Brexit is the [straw that broke the camel’s back](#).”

not one's cup of tea

(just) one's cup of tea

not for all the tea in China (origins)

tea and sympathy

storm in a teacup

“I could murder a cup of tea” (to murder something)

“More tea, vicar?” (vicarage)

Rosie Lee

(the language of tea)

The Mad Hatter's Tea Party (Alice in Wonderland)