

RYAN RUSSELL'S

15 REASONS YOU WILL HATE GOING ON A GLOBAL TEA HUT TRIP:

1. *If you have a problem with tea that is drunk leaves in a bowl, this journey may be confusing.*
2. *If you have an aversion to eating fresh wild tea-blossom honeycomb whilst wandering through ancient tea forests, please reconsider.*
3. *If you have a personal limit of making no more than fifteen new friends on a long voyage, you will be sorely disappointed.*
4. *If drinking tea near massive magical waterfalls scares you, avoidance may be prudent.*
5. *If you've been to Jingmai and you find the local practice of adding Crab's Claw to your tea reprehensible, stop reading now.*
6. *If you find Wu De's volcanic dharma-flow to be overwhelming, simplify your life through Zen abstinence.*
7. *If you cannot bear the sound of a guqin strummed expertly to the rhythm of a tea tasting, the trip may not be for you.*
8. *If you find two tea sessions in a single afternoon under ancient tea trees excessive, stay in the comfort of your home and have just one.*
9. *If the wildly hospitable nature of the Chinese people makes you uncomfortable, the Earth is home to many cultures.*
10. *If you demand that your vegetarian meal contain fewer than ten different dishes, this lifestyle could spell DANGER.*
11. *If you can't stand a tea sage such as Master Tsai smiling at you every day in a manner that makes you want to serve with a pure heart, by all means, don't read any further.*
12. *If the sunrise through an ancient wooden oculus over a misty Jingmai mountainscape hurts your eyes, you may find things visually challenging. (Back cover.)*
13. *If tea prepared by a beautifully costumed auntie in the old Ku Chuong method offends your purist sensibilities, there are less exotic places where they won't add things like pine resin to your puerh.*
14. *If manual labor is undesirable and you have balance problems, you probably shouldn't be making tea cakes from old-growth trees and gyrating atop a marble cake press. Right?*
15. *And finally, if excessive hugging causes you discomfort, you are, of course, entering a world of hurt joining a Global Tea Hut trip.*