



TIME FOR TEA

**Black Opium EDT, £52 for 50ml,
YSL Beauté**

Mention tea and you're more likely to think of the brew in your favourite mug than the one in your fragrance bottle. After all, we Brits drink 165 million cups of the stuff daily. But tea has quickly become the Isabel Marant of the scent world: louche, cool and just a little bit boyish. Viewed as an alternative to citrus scents, tea is made up of larger molecules than lemons or grapefruit – which make a strong initial impact then quickly evaporate – bringing a freshness to the blend, but with greater longevity on the skin. The particular crop in Black Opium EDT is crisper still, thanks to CO₂ extraction. Much like a Nespresso machine uses high-pressure extraction to release the aromas from ground coffee, CO₂ extraction squeezes the tea leaves to obtain their fragrant juice. If you filled the Tetley factory with fresh fruit and flowers, it would embody this scent: jasmine tea, orange blossom and pear warmed with sweeter hints of black coffee. 

