



eco-cha  
TEA CLUB

## Premier Crop Organic Jin Xuan Oolong Tea

Harvest: Premier batch  
Season: Winter 2017

Region: Songbolin, Taiwan  
Elevation: 400m

Oxidation: Light oxidization  
Roast: Unroasted

**Flavor:** *Balanced vegetal aroma. Fresh herbs, artichoke flavor. Lingering, savory, clean finish.*

### BREWING GUIDE:

 9g

 300mL

 95°C

 4 minutes

### GARDEN

This is the first, very minimal harvest from a newly planted plot of organically grown Jin Xuan (Tai Cha #12) cultivar. We've been closely following this farmer for the last 3-4 years, and continue to be impressed by his comprehensive understanding and refined practice of sustainable farming and tea processing methods. This premier harvest of organically grown Jin Xuan Oolong packs a vibrant, fresh, flavorful brew that offers a unique character for the Jin Xuan cultivar.

### TASTING NOTES

These leaves were harvested from young tea trees that were ready for their very first trimming, prompting them to sprout more branches before growing taller. This premier harvest of organically cultivated Jin Xuan Tea plants is what we have chosen to share on the occasion of Chinese New Year with the Eco-Cha Tea Club. The character of this tea conveys the vibrant, nutrient-rich, new growth of

young tea trees growing on an organic farm.

The harvest took place in early December, so these leaves are the most recent growth on plants nearing two years old. This primary trimming of the plants is a necessary stage of their cultivation, and provided a mere 27 kg of cured tea leaves. This newest leaf growth on the young plants at the end of the year produced a batch of tea with a substantial, balanced flavor profile. It's a unique batch of Jin Xuan tea in our experience, offering a fresh, green vegetal base with an amazing combination of floral and herbal overtones.

The aroma coming off the leaves in their first steeping offers garden fresh vegetable notes, followed by an exceptional floral and herbal complexity in the flavor profile. There is a smooth, balanced vegetal character in the body like steamed artichoke with a hint of butter. The lasting finish holds a savory bouquet of fresh herbs. The



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overall character of this tea is especially vibrant, while remaining smooth and balanced throughout the brew, with almost no bitter/astringent edge.

### THE STORY OF THIS TEA

This plot of Jin Xuan Oolong saplings were planted by our friend and respected organic tea farmer, Mr. Xie in February 2016. And in December 2017, the new seasonal growth on these plants was harvested for the very first time, yielding a minimal crop of less than 30 kg of tea. The Eco-Cha Tea Club has the privilege of partaking in this premier batch of organically grown Jin Xuan Oolong Tea.

Mr. Xie made a life-changing decision 20 years ago by committing to transition the tradition he inherited from his father and grandfather before him to organic tea farming. He did this solely by his own conviction that it was the right thing to do. He came close to failing at first, but his farm survived, and through many years of pioneering

experimentation, he succeeded.

He is now a leading representative of organic tea farming in his community, and has formed a co-op of neighboring farms to develop his business. He not only is producing fine crops of organic tea, he is an extraordinary artisan of Oolong Tea who is a model in his community and beyond. In recent years, a younger generation of local farmers are following his example. This is the latest chapter on the local scene that we find truly exciting. Can you tell that we are excited to share this premier crop from his latest farming effort? Oh, and also — it tastes really good!