

Saravana Bhavan Janpath

The food: Which is the most popular thali place in Chennai? The answer is Saravana Bhavan. Now, the same people are dishing out the same great fare in the heart of Janpath. The house of Saravana offers three kinds of thalis. The quick lunch menu includes sweet pongal, sambhar rice, curd rice, lemon rice, fried chips, pickle and poriyal (dry vegetable). The fixed thali menu includes a sweet, sambhar, rasam, a gravy called kuzambhu and two poriyals. Also included are another vegetable dish, three small puris or chappatis, rice, papad, chutney, fried chillies, curd and raita. If you have the appetite and are a South Indian food freak, the special Tamil Nadu thali is recommended. This includes everything in the fixed thali menu plus soup, dal, boiled and roasted grams, fresh fruit, sweets and ice cream. It's eat all you can, but no sharing thalis please.

Price: Rs 55 for the quick lunch, Rs 65 for the fixed thali and Rs 110 for the special thali.

Regulars: Ministers from Tamil Nadu.

"The vegetables could be spicier, but the kuzambhu is excellent."

Suparna Trikha, owner of Aaveda, centre for natural beauty care

