

Fodor's 98

Boston

\$\$ **Sonsie.** Café society blossoms along Newbury Street, particularly at the elegant Sonsie, where much of the clientele either sips coffee up front or angles for places at the bar. The restaurant is famous for breakfasts (open daily at 7) that extend into the afternoon for the late risers. During warm weather, the outdoor seating is a lovely spot.

\$\$\$ **Lala Rokh.** This is one of the best South Asian restaurants in the United States, a beautifully detailed and delicious fantasia upon Persian food and art, specifically the Azerbaijanian corner that is now Northwest Iran. The wall art is treasured Persian miniatures and medieval maps. The food includes exotically flavored specialties, and dishes as familiar (but superb here) as eggplant puree, pilaf, kebabs, *fesanjoon* (the classic pomegranate-walnut sauce), and lamb stews. The staff obviously enjoy explaining the menu, and the wine list is well-selected for foods that often defy wine matches.

✉ 97 Mount Vernon St., 617/720-5511. AE, DC, MC, V.
No lunch.

↪ **Miyako.** A very competitive sushi bar amid many at this end of Back Bay, this little spot also offers estimable hot dishes, including *age shumai* (shrimp fritters), *hamachi teriyaki* (yellowtail teriyaki), and *age dashi* (fried bean curd). Ask for one of the tatami rooms if you have a big party. ✉ 279A Newbury St., 617/236-0222. AE, DC, MC, V.

The ★ icon symbolizes FODOR'S special recommendation.