

SARAVANA BHAVAN

A neon sign hangs over the door of this subcontinental haven of vegetarianism just off Karama's main square. It's the perfect post-haggling restaurant; dump those bags of fake designer clobber and grab a cafeteria style table—if you can, it's a popular place. Order yourself some bargain bhajis (Dhs4 for four) and one of the filling and delicious dosas (Dhs4.50) from the amenable waiter and wash them down with fresh juices at Dhs5 a throw. The paneer butter masala is perfect at a paltry Dhs8, and really frugal types can't go wrong with the unlimited thali – you can stuff yourself with roti, daal, rice and sambar for Dhs10. It's a no-frills joint but the Indian fare is simple and satisfying, and the flesh-free menu is extensive enough to keep all but the most avid of carnivores happy.

Saravana Bhavan (04 334 5252).

Taxi: Karama Park square. Open 7.30am-3pm, 5.30pm-11pm Sat-Thurs, 7.30am-11.30am, 1.30pm-3pm, 5.30pm-11.30pm Fri. Credit cards not accepted. Average price of meal for two with soft drinks Dhs30.