Russell House Tavern

Harvard gets a modern tavern

14 JFK Street, at Brattle; Harvard Square; 617.500.3055





O ALLIED LISTING



While you may have the sickest egg timer around, it doesn't compare to the Shwayze Hour iPhone App: pick tunes from your

iPhone/iPod Touch or let the app select a random mix, and every 60 seconds Shwayze'll tell you to drink and shout some words of encouragement. There's also Twitter integration that lets everyone know you're starting an Hour, and by the end, that you'll be taking a day off tomorrow, for personal reasons. Commence the festivities at Shwayze.com

Having a sense of history is just one thing that makes Harvard Square great; all the other things are Beadworks. Giving you a historytinged place to fill your belly, Russell House Tavern, opening Thursday.

Named for the 19th century Harvard furniture dealer that first occupied the building, RHT is a two-floored pub/resto from the owners of Grafton Street/Temple Bar slinging a New England-heavy menu of modern American artisanal fare" and craft beers in the expansive 229-seat former Z Square space, replete w/ a downstairs lounge, U-shaped white granite-top bar, an exposed beige brick dining room with vintage pics and industrial metal light fixtures, as well as a street-level tavern w/ wood slat ceiling and wrought iron gated brick patio, aka wrought iron gated TonyAllenJumpShot patio. Burly entrees include a braised Colorado lamb shank w/ stewed black lentils, mizuna, and smoked lamb breast; Redondo Serrano ham w/ honey torched manchego and pickled pears; and an Ozark heritage pork trio served w/ vinegar sauce, grits, and twenty percent of the door. Other highlights include cast iron seared

arctic char w/ roasted apples, pancetta, and warm wheat salad; crispy soft poached chip-in farm egg with sharp `n creamy Pecorino aioli and toasted brioche; and a crushed potato, chorizo aioli, and crunchy corn crumb "chilled" lobster pot, which spent a little too much time under the reef(er).

To fulfill its tavern obligations, RHT's got an extensive selection of local and craft brews like Goose Island Summer Ale and Six Point Bengali Tiger, wines exclusively from American vintners, and handcrafted cocktails like The Scottish Play (Laphroaig 10yr, Aperol, Drambuie) and the Pikesville Rye and Benedictine'd Harvard Yard, which history has deemed great, despite its relative distance from Beadworks.

MORNING QUICKIE:

 Half-Priced Eats Back Bay's Corner Tavern is
 taking 1/2 off sammies until 3pm, apps until 7pm, and entrees until midnight on Wednesdays. GO!

Shoe Art Vote for your favorite pair of Saucony
Shadow 6000s-turned-art at this South End
Athletic Company event tomorrow from 5-7pm.
GO!

TODAY ON THRILLIST:



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A new shop slinging Brazilian beachwear



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The Land Yacht Yellow Cab karaoke

