

Resto review

MORTIMER'S, NYC

Style: Casual-elegant; simple dishes: rack of lamb, grilled salmon and grilled quail  
Dinner for two with wine, tip and tax: \$100

Complaints: Although officially the restaurant does not take reservations, nonregulars get stuck with unswerving regularity at the small bar while tables sit empty awaiting the arrival of such regulars as Bill Blass, Malcolm Forbes and Gloria Vanderbilt.

"When I called, they told me that we'd have no trouble at 7:30," recalls lawyer Mathea Falco. "We were sent to the bar for an hour and 45 minutes. There were plenty of tables but when we asked repeatedly, we were told they were being held for special people. It was an enraging experience." The coup de grace: when they were finally seated, a basket with one piece of bread was placed on the table. "They said they were out," says Falco.

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