

# Africa



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**phrasebooks**

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## Africa phrasebook

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## africa – at a glance

In addition to its many other attractions, Africa offers incredible linguistic diversity. Most African languages belong to one of the following four language families: Afro-Asiatic, Nilo-Saharan, Niger-Congo (with the Bantu languages as the major branch) and Khoisan. In addition, the languages of Madagascar belong to the Austronesian language family. Even though the number of languages spoken in Africa is huge (around 1000), most of them have less than a million speakers. On the other hand, more prominent languages usually also serve as regional lingua francas – such as Swahili in East Africa. Luckily for English speakers, most African languages use Roman script and there's a general correspondence between the pronunciation and the written form of words.

Arabic has a particularly important status in the north and northeast of the continent, due to its proximity to the Middle East and the Arab conquests of North Africa from the 7th century. Among the African languages, Amharic is linguistically closest to Arabic, as they both belong to the Semitic group of the Afro-Asiatic family. In addition, they're both script languages, but the two scripts are quite different.

Due to the 19th-century European colonisation of Africa, a few European languages (particularly English, French and Portuguese) are still influential in various African countries and even share official status with native African languages. English is predominantly represented in the east and the south, French in the north and the west, and Portuguese in the east and the west of the continent.

A unique linguistic feature of Africa is Afrikaans, which belongs to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European language family. It was created as a result of the 17th-century Dutch colonisation of the south of the continent. Although still very similar to Dutch, Afrikaans is now considered a language in its own right.

### did you know?

- The African Union (AU) was established in 2000 by the adoption of the Constitutive Act at the Lome Summit (Togo). It developed from the African Economic Community and the Organisation of African Unity. It has 53 member states, covering the entire continent except for Morocco. The AU is governed by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government and the Pan-African Parliament.
- The home of the AU is Addis Ababa in Ethiopia. The AU anthem is the song 'Let Us All Unite and Celebrate Together'. The AU flag combines green, yellow and gold colours, with the emblem showing the African continent in the middle.
- The official languages of the AU are all African languages, as well as Arabic, English, French and Portuguese. The African Academy of Languages (founded in 2001) strives to preserve African languages and promote their use among the African people.

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# Afrikaans



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	run	b	bed
aa	father	ch	cheat
ai	aisle	d	dog
aw	law	f	fun
ay	say	g	go
e	bet	h	hat
ee	see	k	kit
eu	nurse	kh	as the 'ch' in the Scottish <i>loch</i>
ew	ee with rounded lips	l	lot
ey	as in bet, but longer	m	man
i	hit	n	not
o	pot	ng	ring
oh	cold	p	pet
oo	poor	r	run (trilled)
oy	toy	s	sun
u	put	sh	shot
uh	ago	t	top
In this chapter, the Afrikaans pronunciation is given in blue after each phrase.		v	very
Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised. For example:		w	win
<i>Dankie.</i>		y	yes
		z	zero
		zh	pleasure

# AFRIKAANS afrikaans

## introduction

You don't need to look hard for evidence of Afrikaans in English: *aardvark*, the name of a termite-eating mammal native to Africa, is one of the first words in any English dictionary. English has also borrowed the Afrikaans words *commando* and *trek*, among others. Afrikaans (*Afrikaans a-free-kans*) belongs to the Germanic branch of the Indo-European language family – just like English. It's closely related to the 17th-century Dutch brought to South Africa from 1652 onward, when The Dutch East India Company established the first European settlement at the Cape of Good Hope. Afrikaans derives from the dialect that developed among these settlers, most of whom were from the Netherlands. Until the late 19th century, Afrikaans was considered a Dutch dialect and was known as 'Cape Dutch' – in fact, it wasn't until 1925 that it became one of the official languages of South Africa. Today, it's the first language of some six million people, and is spoken in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia and Zambia as well as South Africa.

 afrikaans (native language)

 afrikaans (generally understood)



# language difficulties

## Do you speak English?

Praat jy Engels?

praat yay eng-ils

## Do you understand?

Verstaan jy?

vir-staan yay

## I (don't) understand.

Ek verstaan (nie).

ek vir-staan (nee)

## Could you please ...?

repeat that

Kan jy asseblief ...?

dit herhaal

kan yay a-si-bleef ...

dit her-haal

speak more slowly

stadiger praat

staa-di-khir praat

write it down

dit neerskryf

dit neyr-skryf

# time, dates & numbers

What time is it?

Hoe laat is dit?

hu laat is dit

It's one o'clock.

Dis een-uur.

dis eyn-ewr

It's (two) o'clock.

Dis (twee)-uur.

dis (twey-)ewr

Quarter past (one).

Kwart oor (een).

kwart oor (eyn)

Half past (one).

Half (twee).

half (twey)

Quarter to (eight).

Kwart voor (agt).

kwart voor (akht)

At what time ...?

Hoe laat ...?

hu laat ...

At ...

Om ...

om ...

It's (15 December).

Dis (vyftien Desember).

dis (fayf-teen dey-sem-bir)

yesterday

gister

khis-tir

today

vandag

fin-dakh

tomorrow

môre

mo-ri

Monday

Maandag

maan-dakh

Tuesday

Dinsdag

dins-dakh

Wednesday

Woensdag

wuns-dakh

Thursday

Donderdag

don-ir-dakh

Friday

Vrydag

vray-dakh

Saturday

Saterdag

sa-tir-dakh

Sunday

Sondag

son-dakh

## numbers

0	<i>nul</i>	neul	16	<i>sestien</i>	ses-teen
1	<i>een</i>	eyn	17	<i>sewentien</i>	sey-vin-teen
2	<i>twee</i>	twey	18	<i>agtien</i>	akh-teen
3	<i>drie</i>	dree	19	<i>negentien</i>	ney-khin-teen
4	<i>vier</i>	feer	20	<i>twintig</i>	twin-tikh
5	<i>vyf</i>	fayf	21	<i>een en twintig</i>	eyn en twin-tikh
6	<i>ses</i>	ses	22	<i>twee en twintig</i>	twey en twin-tikh
7	<i>sewe</i>	see-vi	30	<i>dertig</i>	der-tikh
8	<i>agt</i>	akht	40	<i>veertig</i>	feyr-tikh
9	<i>nege</i>	ney-khi	50	<i>vyftig</i>	fayf-tikh
10	<i>tien</i>	teen	60	<i>sestig</i>	ses-tikh
11	<i>elf</i>	elf	70	<i>sewentig</i>	sey-vin-tikh
12	<i>twaalf</i>	twaalf	80	<i>tagtig</i>	takh-tikh
13	<i>dertien</i>	der-teen	90	<i>negentig</i>	ney-khin-tikh
14	<i>veertien</i>	feyr-teen	100	<i>honderd</i>	hon-dirt
15	<i>vyftien</i>	fayf-teen	1000	<i>duisend</i>	day-sint



# border crossing

I'm here ...

in transit

on business

on holiday

*Ek is hier ...*

*onderweg*

*vir besigheid*

*met vakansie*

ek is heer ...

on-dir-wekh

fir bey-sikh-hayt

met fi-kan-see

I'm here for ...

(10) days

(three) weeks

(two) months

*Ek is hier vir ...*

*(tien) dae*

*(drie) weke*

*(twee) maande*

ek is heer fir ...

(teen) daa-i

(drei) vey-ki

(twey) maan-di

I'm going to (Johannesburg).

*Ek gaan na (Johannesburg).*

ek khaan naa (yu-ha-nis-birkh)

I'm staying at the (Ritz).

*Ek bly in die (Ritz).*

ek blay in dee (rits)

## tickets

A ... ticket (to Cape Town), please.	Een ... kaartjie (na Kaapstad), asseblief.	eyn ... kaar-kee (naa kaap-stat) a-si-bleef
one-way return	eenrigting retoer	eyn-rikh-ting ri-tur
I'd like to ... my ticket, please.	Ek wil my kaartjie, asseblief ...	ek vil may kaar-kee a-si-bleef ...
cancel	kanselleer	kan-si-leyr
change	verander	fir-an-dir
collect	aphaal	af-haal
I'd like a (non)smoking seat, please.		
Is there a toilet/air conditioning?		
How long does the trip take?		
Is it a direct route?		

## transport

Where does flight (MN367) arrive?	Waar kom vlug (MN367) aan?	vaar kom flikh (em en dree ses sey-vi) aan
Where does flight (MN367) depart?	Waar vertrek vlug (MN367)?	vaar fir-trek flikh (em en dree ses see-vi)
How long will it be delayed?	Hoe lank sal dit vertraag word?	hu langk sal dit fir-traakh vort
Is this the ... to (Durban)?	Is dit die ... na (Durban)?	is dit dee ... naa (dir·ban)
boat	boot	boot
bus	bus	bis
plane	vliegtuig	flikh-tayg
train	trein	trayn

## How much is it to ...?

Hoeveel kos dit na ...? hu-fil kos dit naa ...

## Please take me to (this address).

Neem my asseblief na (hierdie adres). neym may a-si-bleef naa (heer-dee a-dres)

## I'd like to hire a car/4WD (with air conditioning).

Ek wil 'n motor/4-by-4  
(met lugreëling) huur. ek vil i moo-tir/feer-bay-feer  
(met likh-rey-ling) hewr

## How much is it for (three) days/weeks?

Hoeveel kos dit vir (drie) dae/weke? hu-fil kos dit fir (dree) daa-i/vey-ki

## directions

Where's the (nearest) ...?	Waar's die (naaste) ...?	vaars dee (naas-ti) ...
internet café	Internet-kafee	in-tir-net-ka-fey
market	mark	mark

## Is this the road to (Cape Town)?

Is dit die pad na (Kaapstad)? is dit dee pat naa (kaap-stat)

## Can you show me (on the map)?

Kan jy my (op die kaart) wys? kan yay may (op dee kaart) vays

## What's the address?

Wat is die adres? vat is dee a-dres

## How far is it?

Hoe ver is dit? hu fer is dit

## How do I get there?

Hoe kom ek daar? hu kom ek daar

## Turn left/right.

Draai links/regts. drai lings/rekhs

It's ...	Dis ...	dis ...
behind ...	agtter ...	akh-tir ...
in front of ...	voor ...	foor ...
near (to) ...	naby ...	naa-bay ...
next to ...	langs ...	langs ...
on the corner	op die hoek	op dee huk
opposite ...	oorkant ...	oor-kant ...
straight ahead	reguit aan	rekh-ayt aan
there	daar	daar

## accommodation

Where's a ...?

camping ground  
guesthouse  
hotel  
youth hostel

Waar's 'n ...?

kampeerplek  
gastehuis  
hotel  
jeugtuisie

vaars i ...

kam-peyr-plek  
khas-ti-hays  
hu-tel  
yeykh-tays-ti

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

Kan jy 'n goedkoop/goeie  
plek aanbeveel?

kan yay i khut-koop/khoy-i  
plek aan-bi-feyl

I'd like to book a room, please.

*Ek wil 'n kamer bespreek, asseblief.*

ek vil i kaa-mir bi-spreyk a-si-bleef

I have a reservation.

*Ek het 'n bespreking.*

ek het i bi-sprey-king

Do you have  
a ... room?

single  
double  
twin

Het jy  
'n ... kamer?

enkel  
dubbel  
dubbekamer met  
twee enkelbeddens

het yay  
i ... kaa-mir

eng-kil  
di-bil  
di-bil-kaa-mir met  
twey eng-kil-be-dins



How much is it per night/person?

*Hoeveel kos dit per nag/  
persoon?*

hu-fil kos dit pir nakh/  
pir-soon

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

*Ek wil vir (twee) nagte bly.*

ek vil fir (twey) nakh-ti blay

What time is check-out?

*Hoe laat moet ek uit my  
kamer wees?*

hu laat mut ek ayt may  
kaa-mir veys

Am I allowed to camp here?

*Mag ek hier kampeer?*

makh ek heer kam-peyr

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...

arrange a transfer  
cash a cheque  
change a travellers  
cheque  
change money  
withdraw money

Ek wil asseblief ...

'n oorplasing reël  
'n tjek wissel  
'n reisigerstjek wissel  
geld ruil  
geld trek

ek vil a-si-bleef ...

i oor-plaa-sing reyl  
i chek vi-sil  
i ray-si-khirs-chech vi-sil  
khelt rayl  
khelt trek

I want to ...

buy a phonecard  
call (Singapore)  
reverse the  
charges  
use a printer  
use the internet

Ek wil asseblief ...

'nfoonkaart koop  
(Singapoer) skakel  
'n kollekeeroproep  
maak  
'n drukker gebruik  
die Internet gebruik

ek vil a-si-bleef ...

i foon-kaart koop  
(seeng-ga-pur) skaa-kil  
i ko-lek-teyr-op-rup  
maak  
i dri-kir khi-brayk  
dee in-tir-net khi-brayk

How much is it per hour?

*Hoeveel kos dit per uur?*

hu-fil kos dit pir ewr

How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

*Hoeveel kos 'n oproep (van drie minute)?*

hu-fil kos i op-rup (fan dree mi-nee-ti)

(One rand/cent) per minute/hour.

*(Een rand/sent) per minuut/uur.*

(eyn rant/sent) pir mi-newt/ewr

## tours

When's the

next ...?  
day trip  
tour

Wanneer is die

volgende ...?  
dagrit  
toer

va-nir is dee

fol-khin-di ...  
dakh-rit  
tur

Is ... included?

accommodation  
the admission  
charge  
food  
transport

Is ... ingesluit?

verblyf  
die toegangsgeld  
kos  
vervoer

is ... in-khi-slayt

fir-blayf  
dee tu-khangs-khelt  
kos  
fir-fur

How long is the tour? <i>Hoe lank is die toer?</i>	hu langk is dee tur
What time should we be back? <i>Hoe laat sal ons terug wees?</i>	hu laat sal ons trig veys

## shopping

I'm looking for ... <i>Ek soek na ...</i>	ek suk naa ...	
I need film for this camera. <i>Ek het film vir my kamera nodig.</i>	ek het fi-lim vir may ka-mi-ra noo-dikh	
Can I listen to this? <i>Kan ek hierna luister?</i>	kan ek heer-naa lays-tir	
Can I have my ... repaired? <i>Kan ek my ... laat regmaak?</i>	kan ek may ... laat rekh-maak	
When will it be ready? <i>Wanneer sal dit rekh wees?</i>	va-nir sal dit rekh veys	
How much is it? <i>Hoeveel kos dit?</i>	hu-fil kos dit	
What's your lowest price? <i>Wat is jou laagste prys?</i>	vat is yoh laakh-sti prays	
I'll give you (five) rand. <i>Ek sal jou (vyf) rand gee.</i>	ek sal yoh (fayf) rant khey	
There's a mistake in the bill. <i>Daar's 'n fout op die rekening.</i>	daars i foht op dee rey-ki-ning	
It's faulty. <i>Dis stukkend.</i>	dis sti-kint	
I'd like a ..., please. receipt refund	<i>Ek wil asseblief 'n ...</i> kwitansie hê my geld terug hê	ek vil a-si-bleef i ... kwi-tan-see he may khelt trikh he
Do you accept ...? credit cards debit cards travellers cheques	Aanvaar jy ...? kredietkaarte debitkaarte reisigerstjeks	aan-faar yay ... kri-deet-kaar-ti di-beet-kaar-ti ray-si-khirs-cheiks

Could you ...? burn a CD from my memory card	Kan jy ...? 'n CD van my geheuekaart brand	kan yay ... i sey-dey fan may khi-hee-i-kaart brant
develop this film	hierdie film ontwikkel	heer-dee fi-lim ont-vi-kil

## making conversation

Hello.	Hallo.	ha-loh
Good night.	Goeienag.	khoy-i-nakh
Goodbye.	Totsiens.	tot-seens
Mr	Meneer	mi-neyr
Mrs	Mevrou	mi-froh
Miss	Juffrou	yi-froh
How are you? <i>Hoe gaan dit?</i>		hu khaan dit
Fine, and you? <i>Goed dankie, en jy?</i>		khut dang-kee en yay
What's your name? <i>Wat is jou naam?</i>		vats yoh naam
My name's ... <i>My naam is ...</i>		may naam is ...
I'm pleased to meet you. <i>Bly te kenne.</i>		blay ti ke-ni
This is my ... boyfriend brother daughter father friend	Dit is my ... kêrel broer dogter pa vriend <b>m</b> vriendin <b>f</b>	dit is may ... ke-rl brur dokh-tir paa freend freen-din
girlfriend husband mother partner sister son wife	meisie man ma maat suster seun vrouw	may-see man maa maat sis-tir seyn froh

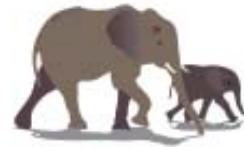
Here's my ...	Hier's my ...	heers may ...
What's your ...?	Wat's jou ...?	vats yoh ...
address	adres	a-dres
email address	e-posadres	ey-paws-a-dres
phone number	foonnommer	foon-no-mir
Where are you from?		
Waarvandaan kom jy?	vaar-fan-daan kom yay	
I'm from ...	Ek kom van ...	ek kom fan ...
Australia	Australië	oh-stra-lee-i
Canada	Kanada	ka-na-da
New Zealand	Nieu-Seeland	new-sey-lant
the UK	Brittanje	bri-tan-yi
the USA	die VSA	dee fey-es-aa
I'm (not) married.		
Ek's (nie) getroud (nie).	eks (nee) khi-troht (nee)	
Can I take a photo (of you)?		
Kan ek 'n foto (van jou) neem?	kan ek i foo-tu (fan yoh) neym	



## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	Kan jy 'n... aanbeveel?	kan yay i... aan-bi-feyl
bar	kroeg	kruk
dish	gereg	khi-rekh
place to eat	eetplek	eyt-plek
I'd like ..., please.	Ek wil asseblief ... hé.	ek vil a-si-bleef ... he
the bill	die rekening	dee rey-ki-ning
the menu	die spyskaart	dee spays-kaart
a table for (two)	'n tafel vir (twee)	i taa-fil fir (twey)
that dish	daardie gereg	daar-dee khi-rekh
Do you have vegetarian food?	Het julle vegetariese kos?	het yi-li fe-gee-taa-ree-si kos

Could you prepare a meal without ...?	Kan julle 'n maaltyd sonder ... bedien?	kan yi-li i maal-tayt son-dir ... bi-deen
eggs	eiers	ay-irs
meat stock	vleisaftreksel	flays-af-trek-sil
(cup of) coffee ...	(koppie) koffie ...	(ko-pee) ko-fie ...
(cup of) tea ...	(koppie) tee ...	(ko-pee) tey ...
with milk	met melk	met melk
without sugar	sonder suiker	son-dir say-kir
boiled water	kookwater	kook-vaa-tir



## emergencies

Help!	Help!	help
Call ...!	Kry ...!	kray ...
an ambulance	'n ambulans	i am-bew-lans
a doctor	'n dokter	i dok-tir
the police	die polisie	dee pu-lee-see

Could you help me, please?	Kan jy my help, asseblief?	kan yay may help a-si-bleef
I'm lost.	Ek is verdwaal.	ek is fir-dwaal
Where are the toilets?	Waar is die toilette?	vaar is dee toy-le-ti
I want to report an offence.	Ek wil 'n misdaad aanmeld.	ek vil i mis-daat aan-melt
I have insurance.	Ek het versekering.	ek het fir-sey-ki-ring
I want to contact my consulate/embassy.	Ek wil my konsulaat/ambassade kontak.	ek vil may kon-sew-laat/am-ba-saa-di kon-tak

I've been ...	<i>Ek is ...</i>	ek is ...
assaulted	<i>aangerand</i>	<i>aan·khi·rant</i>
raped	<i>verkrug</i>	<i>fir·krakh</i>
robbed	<i>beroof</i>	<i>bi·roof</i>
I've lost my ...	<i>Ek het my ... verloor.</i>	ek het may ... vir·loo·r
My ... was/were stolen.	<i>My ... is gesteel.</i>	may ... is khi·steyl
bags	<i>bagasie</i>	<i>bi·khaa·see</i>
credit card	<i>kredietkaart</i>	<i>kri·deet·kaart</i>
handbag	<i>handsak</i>	<i>hant·sak</i>
jewellery	<i>juwele</i>	<i>yu·vee·li</i>
money	<i>geld</i>	<i>khelt</i>
passport	<i>paspoort</i>	<i>pas·poort</i>
travellers	<i>reisigerstjeks</i>	<i>ray·si·khirs·cheoks</i>
cheques		
wallet	<i>beursie</i>	<i>beyr·see</i>

# **medical needs**

Where's the nearest ...?	Waar's die naaste ...?	vaars dee naas-ti ...
dentist	tandarts	tant-arts
doctor	dokter	dok-tir
hospital	hospitaal	hos-pee-taal
pharmacy	apteek	ap-teyk

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Ek het 'n dokter nodig (wat Engels praat).*                    *ek het i dok·tir noo·dikh (vat eng·ils praat)*

Could I see a female doctor?

*Kan ek 'n vroulike dokter sien?*      kan ek j froh-li-ki dok-tir see?

It hurts here.

*Dis hier seer.* dis heer sev

I'm allergic to (penicillin).

Eks allergies vir (penisillien). eks a:ler:khees fir (pi:ni:si:leen')

# **english–afrikaans dictionary**

In this dictionary, words are marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular), pl (plural), inf (informal) and pol (polite) where necessary.

A

<b>accommodation</b>	<i>akkommodasie a-kaw-maw-daa-see</i>
<b>adaptor</b>	<i>adaptor i-dep-tir</i>
<b>after</b>	<i>na naa</i>
<b>airport</b>	<i>lughawe leukh-haa-vi</i>
<b>alcohol</b>	<i>alkohol al-ku-hawl</i>
<b>all</b>	<i>alle a-li</i>
<b>allergy</b>	<i>allergie a-ler-khee</i>
<b>and</b>	<i>en en</i>
<b>ankle</b>	<i>enkel eng-kil</i>
<b>antibiotics</b>	<i>antibiotika an-tee-bee-oo-tee-ka</i>
<b>anti-inflammatory</b>	<i>anti-inflammatorye middels an-tee-in-fla-ma-too-re-si mi-dils</i>
<b>arm</b>	<i>arm arm a-rim</i>
<b>aspirin</b>	<i>aspirin as-pi-reen</i>
<b>asthma</b>	<i>asma as-ma</i>
<b>ATM</b>	<i>OTM oo-tey-em</i>

B

baby	<i>baba baa-ba</i>	cold	<i>a koud kont</i>
back (body)	<i>rug reukh</i>	collect	<i>call kollekteeroop kaw-lek-teyr-awp-rup</i>
backpack	<i>rugsak reukh-sak</i>	condom	<i>kondoom kawn-doom</i>
bad	<i>sleg slekh</i>	constipation	<i>hardlywigheid hart-lay-vikh-hayt</i>
baggage	<i>claim bagasiebewys bi-khaa-see-bi-vays</i>	contact lenses	<i>kontaklense kawn-tak-len-si</i>
bank	<i>bank bank bank</i>	cough	<i>n hoes hus</i>
bathroom	<i>badkamer bat-kaa-mir</i>	currency exchange	<i>valutawinkel va-lew-ta-ving-kil</i>
battens	<i>battens battens</i>	customs (immigration)	<i>doeane du-haa-ni</i>

D

**dairy products** *suiwelprodukte* soy-vil-pru-dik-ti  
**dangerous** *gevaarlik* khi-faar-lik  
**date (time)** *datum* daa-tim  
**day** *dag* dakh  
**diaper** *doek* duk  
**diarrhoea** *diarree* dee-ha-rey  
**dinner** *aandete* aant-ey-ti  
**dirty** *vuil* vayl  
**disabled** *gestremd* khi-stretemt  
**double bed** *dubbelbed* di-bil-bet

drink **n** *drankie drang-kee*  
 drivers licence *bestuurderslisensie bi-stewr-dirs-li-sen-see*  
 drug (illicit) *dwelm dwe-lim*

**E**

ear *oor oor*  
 east *oos oos*  
 economy class *ekonomiese klas e-ku-noo-mee-si klas*  
 elevator *hysbak hays-bak*  
 email **n** *e-pos ey-paws*  
 English (language) *Engels eng-ils*  
 exchange rate *wisselkoers vi-sil-kurs*  
 exit **n** *uitgang ayt-khang*  
 expensive *duur dewr*  
 eye *oog ookh*

**F**

fast *vinnig fi-nikh*  
 fever *koors koors*  
 finger *vinger fing-ir*  
 first-aid kit *noothulpkissie noot-hilp-ki-see*  
 first class *eerste klas eyr-sti klas*  
 fish **n** *vis fis*  
 food *kos kaws*  
 foot *voet fut*  
 fork *vurk firk*  
 free (of charge) *gratis khra-tis*  
 fruit *vrugte frikh-ti*  
 funny *snaaks snaaks*

**G**

game park *wildtuin vil-tayn*  
 gift *geskenk khi-skengk*  
 girl *meisje may-see*  
 glass (drinking) *glas khlas*  
 glasses *bril bril*  
 gluten *gluten glu-tin*  
 good *goed khut*  
 gram *gram khram*  
 guide **n** *gids khits*

**H**

hand *hand hant*  
 happy *gelukkig khi-leu-kikh*

have *het het*  
 he *hy hay*  
 head *kop kawp*  
 headache *hoofpyn hoof-payn*  
 heart *hart hart*  
 heart condition *harttoestand hart-tu-stant*  
 heat **n** *hitte hi-ti*  
 here *hier heer*  
 high *hoog hookh*  
 highway *hoofpad hoof-pat*  
 homosexual **n** *homoseksuel hoo-mu-sek-see-heyl*  
 homosexual **a** *homoseksuele hoo-mu-sek-see-hey-li*  
 hot *warm va-rim*  
 hungry *honger hawn-gir*

**I**

I *ek ek*  
 identification (card) *identifikasie ee-den-ti-fee-kaa-see*  
 ill *siek seek*  
 important *belangrik bi-lang-rik*  
 internet *Internet in-tir-net*  
 interpreter *tolk tawlk*

**J**

job *werk verk*

**K**

key *sleutel sley-til*  
 kilogram *kilogram kee-lu-khram*  
 kitchen *kombuis kom-bays*  
 knife *mes mes*

**L**

laundry (place) *wassery va-si-ray*  
 lawyer *prokureur praw-keu-rewr*  
 left-luggage office *bagasiekantoor ba-kha-see-kan-toor*  
 leg *been beyn*  
 lesbian **n** *lesbiër les-bee-ir*  
 lesbian **a** *lesbies les-bees*  
 less *minder min-dir*  
 letter (mail) *brief bref*  
 like **v** *hou van hoh fan*  
 lost-property office *verlore goedere kantoor*  
*vir-loo-ri khu-di-ri kan-toor*

love (romantic) **v** *lief hê leef he*  
 lunch *middagete mi-dakh-ey-ty*

**M**

man *man man*  
 matches *vuurhoutjes vewr-hoh-kees*  
 meat *vleis vlays*  
 medicine *medisyne mi-di-say-ni*  
 message *boodskap boot-skap*  
 mobile phone *selffoon sel-foon*  
 month *maand maant*  
 morning *oggend aw-khint*  
 motorcycle *motorfiets moo-tir-feets*  
 mouth *mond mawnt*  
 movie *flik fleek*  
 MSG *MSG em es khey*  
 museum *museum mee-zeym*  
 music *musiek meu-seek*

**N**

name *naam naam*  
 napkin *servet sir-vet*  
 nappy *doek duk*  
 national park *nasionale park na-shu-naa-li park*  
 nausea *naarheid naar-hayt*  
 neck *nek nek*  
 new *nuut newt*  
 news *nuus news*  
 newspaper *koerant ku-rant*  
 night *nag nakh*  
 nightclub *naklub nakh-kleup*  
 noisy *raserig raa-si-rikh*  
 nonsmoking *nie-rook nee-rook*  
 north *noord noort*  
 nose *neus neys*  
 now *nou noh*  
 number *nommer naw-mir*  
 nuts *neute ney-ty*

**O**

oil (engine) *olie oo-lee*  
 OK *goed khut*  
 old *oud oht*  
 open *a op oop*  
 outside *buite bay-te*

**P**

package *pakkie pa-kee*  
 pain *pyn payn*  
 paper *papier pa-peer*  
 park (car) **v** *parkeer par-keyr*  
 passport *paspoort pas-poort*  
 pay *betaal bi-taal*  
 pen *pen pen*  
 petrol *petrol pe-trawl*  
 pharmacy *apteek ap-teyk*  
 plate *plaat plaat*  
 postcard *poskaart paws-kaart*  
 post office *poskantoor paws-kan-toor*  
 pregnant *swanger swang-ger*

**Q**

quiet *stil stil*

**R**

rain **n** *reën reyn*  
 razor *skeermes skeyr-mes*  
 registered mail *geregistreerde pos*  
*ksi-re-ksi-streyr-di paws*  
 rent **v** *huur hewr*  
 repair **v** *herstel her-stel*  
 reservation *bespreking bi-sprey-king*  
 restaurant *restaurant res-toh-rant*  
 return **v** *terugkeer ti-reukh-keyr*  
 road *pad pat*  
 room *kamer kaa-mir*

**S**

sad *hartseer hart-seyr*  
 safe **a** *veilig fay-likh*  
 sanitary napkin *sanitäre doekie sa-nee-te-ri du-kee*  
 seafood *seekos sey-kaws*  
 seat *sitplek sit-plek*  
 send *stuur stewr*  
 sex *seks sekss*  
 shampoo *sjampoe sham-pu*  
 share (a dorm, etc) *deel deyl*  
 shaving cream *skeerroom skeyr-room*  
 she *sy say*  
 sheet (bed) *laken laa-kin*

shirt *hemp hemp*  
 shoes *skoene sku-ni*  
 shop **n** *winkel ving-kil*  
 shower **n** *stort stawrt*  
 skin *vel fel*  
 skirt *romp rawmp*  
 sleep **v** *slaap slaap*  
 small *klein klayn*  
 smoke (cigarettes) **v** *rook rook*  
 soap *seep seyp*  
 some 'n paar i paar  
 soon *gou khoh*  
 sore throat *seer keel seyr keyl*  
 south *suid sayt*  
 souvenir shop *soewenierwinkel su-vi-neer-ving-kil*  
 speak *praat praat*  
 spoon *lepel ley-pil*  
 stamp *seel seyl*  
 stand-by ticket *bystandkaartje bay-stant-kaar-kee*  
 station (train) *stasie staa-see*  
 stomach *maag maakh*  
 stop **v** *stop stawp*  
 stop (bus) **n** *halte hal-ti*  
 street *straat straat*  
 student *student stu-dent*  
 sunscreen *sonskerm sawn-ske-rim*  
 swim **V** *swem swem*

tampons *tampons tam-pawns*  
 teeth *tande tan-di*  
 telephone **n** *telefoon te-li-foon*  
 television *televisie te-li-vee-see*  
 temperature (weather) *temperatuur tem-pi-ra-teur*  
 tent *tent tent*  
 that (one) *daardie daar-dee*  
 they *hulle heu-li*  
 thirsty *dors dawrs*  
 this (one) *hierdie heer-dee*  
 throat *keel keyl*  
 ticket *kaartjie kaar-kee*  
 time **n** *tyd tayt*  
 tired *moeg mukh*  
 tissues *tissues tee-shus*  
 today *vandag van-dakh*  
 toilet *toilet toy-set*  
 tonight *vanaand vi-naant*  
 toothache *tandpyn tant-payn*  
 toothbrush *tandeboersel tan-di-bawr-sil*  
 toothpaste *tandepasta tan-di-pas-ta*  
 torch (flashlight) *flits flits*

tourist office *toeristekantoor tu-ris-ti-kan-toor*  
 towel *handdoek han-duk*  
 translate *vertaal fir-taal*  
 travel agency *reisagentskap rays-a-khent-skap*  
 travellers cheque *reisigerstjek ray-si-khirs-chek*  
 trousers *broek bruk*  
 twin beds *twee beddens twey be-dins*  
 tyre *band bant*

underwear *onderklere on-dir-kley-ri*  
 urgent *dringend dring-int*

vacant *leeg leykh*  
 vegetable **n** *groente khrun-ti*  
 vegetarian **n** *vegetariér fe-khee-ta-ree-ir*  
 visa *visa vee-sa*

waiter *kelner kel-nir*  
 walk **v** *loop loop*  
 wallet *beursie beyr-see*  
 warm **a** *warm va-rem*  
 wash (something) *was vas*  
 watch **n** *horlosie oor-loo-see*  
 water *water va-tir*  
 we ons awns  
 weekend *naweek naa-veyk*  
 west *wes ves*  
 wheelchair *rolstoel rawl-stul*  
 when *wanneer va-nir*  
 where *waar vaar*  
 who *wie vee*  
 why *waarom vaar-awm*  
 window *venster fens-tir*  
 wine *wyn vayn*  
 with *met met*  
 without *sonder sawn-dir*  
 woman *vrou froh*  
 write *skryf skrayf*

you sg inf/pol *jy/u yay/ew*  
 you pl inf/pol *julle/u yeu-li/ew*

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# Amharic



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	run	b	bed
ai	aisle	ch	cheat
e	bet	ch'	strong ch
ee	see	d	dog
i	hit	f	fun
o	pot	g	go
ow	now	h	hat
u	put	j	jar
uh	ago	k	kit
,	like the pause in 'uh-oh' (comes before a vowel)	k'	strong k
		l	lot
		m	man
		n	not
		ny	canyon
		p	pet
		p'	popping p
		r	run (trilled)
		s	sun
		s'	hissing s
		sh	shot
		t	top
		t'	spitting t
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero
		zh	pleasure

In this chapter,  
the Amharic pronunciation  
is given in light blue after each phrase.

Each syllable is separated  
by a dot. For example:

*የኢትዮ* yi-k'ir-ta

Amharic's glottalised consonants,  
simplified as ch', k', p', s' and t'  
in our pronunciation guide,  
are made by tightening and releasing  
the space between the vocal cords  
when you pronounce the sound,  
a bit like combining it with  
the 't' sound listed above.

# AMHARIC

አማርኛ

## introduction

If you're a reggae fan, you already know at least one phrase from Amharic (አማርኛ a-mar-nya), courtesy of Bob Marley and the Wailers' anthem 'One Love/People Get Ready' – *Fiqir bandinet fi-k'ir band-nuht* (one love) expresses the idea of unity or oneness central to Rastafarianism. Bob Marley wasn't the first to use Amharic for artistic purposes, of course: it's been used to create works of art for centuries. In fact, the earliest known Amharic writings are poems in praise of an emperor dating back to the 14th century AD. A Semitic language belonging to the Afro-Asiatic family, Amharic began to spread in the 10th to 12th centuries, when power shifted to the present Amhara region after the decline of the Aksumite Empire. Most of the world's 27 million Amharic speakers live in Ethiopia, where it's the official language and the most widely used of the more than 80 indigenous Ethiopian languages. Learning just a few basic phrases will smooth your way through this fascinating country.

  amharic (native language)

  amharic (generally understood)





# tickets

A ... ticket (to Bahir Dar), please.	አንድ ... ቴኩት (ወቃድሁር ዘር)	and ... ti-ket (wuh-duh ba-hir dar)
one-way (going)	አባኩ ገዢ (መግለጫ) በታ	'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish m/f yuh-and gu-zo (muh-he-ja) bi-cha
one-way (returning)	የአባኩ ገዢ (መመላች) በታ	yuh-and gu-zo (muh-muh-luh-sha) bi-cha
return	ደርሱ መልስ	duhr-so muh-lis
I'd like to ... my ticket, please.	... እኩል ነበር አባኩ ገዢ-ቴን ስጋብ	... 'i-fuh-lig nuh-buhr 'i-ba-kih ti-ke-ten si-t'uhny m
cancel	... እኩል ነበር አባኩ ገዢ-ቴን ስጋብ	... 'i-fuh-lig nuh-buhr 'i-ba-kish ti-ke-ten si-ch'eeny f
change	መሰረዝ	muh-suh-ruhz
collect	መቀበል	muh-k'uh-yuh muhw-suhd
I'd like a smoking/nonsmoking seat, please.	መቀመጥ የሚጠበቅበት/ የማይጠበቅበት በታ ይ	muh-k'uh-muh-ch'a yuh-mee-ch'uhhs-buht/ yuh-mai-ch'uhs-buht bo-ta ga
Is there a toilet?	እኩት በታ አለው?	'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu
Is there air conditioning?	ስተምሳታዊ አለው?	shint bet 'a-luhw
How long does the trip take?	ገዢው የዚያ የሀገር ደረጃ?	vent-le-tuhr 'a-luhw
Is it a direct route?	ይህ የፍዴ መንገዶች ነው?	gu-zo-wi min ya-hil yi-fuh-jal
		yi-he wa-now muhn-guhd nuhw

# transport

Where does the flight (to Addis Ababa) arrive/depart?	(የኢትዮ አበባ) በረራ መደብ ይደርሳል/ይደሳል?	(yuh-'a-dees 'a-buh-ba) buh-ruh-ra muh-che yi-duhr-sal/yi-nuh-sal
How long will it be delayed?	የዚያ የሀገር ደረጃ?	min ya-hil yi-zuh-guh-yal

Is this the ... to (Dire Dawa)?	ይህ ... ወጪ (ድሬዳዋ)?	yih ... wuh-duh (di-re da-wa) yuh-mee-he-duhw nuhw
boat	ቍል	juhl-ba
bus	አው-ቁል	'ow-to-bees
plane	አው-ሪፕላን	ow-rop-lan
train	ባቡር	ba-bur
I'd like to hire a ... (with air conditioning).	አባኩ/አባኩ (አየር) ከደርሻር ያለው ... መከራየት	'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ('e-yuhrr kon-dee-shi-nuhr ya-luhw) ... muh-kuh-ra-yuht
car	እኩል/ቃለ	'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu m/f
4WD	መከና	muh-kee-na
	ይ.ኤ. የፋይ-ይ.ኤ.	for weel di-ra-yiv
How much is it to ...?	ውጪ ... ለመገኘ የጋዥ ስተምሳት ነው?	wuh-duh ... luh-muh-hed wa-gow sint nuhw
Please take me to (the museum).	አባኩ/አባኩ ወጪ (መ-ዘ.የም)	'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish wuh-duh (mu-zee-yuhm)
	መ-ስራሽ/መ-ሰራሽ	wi-suh-duhny/wi-suh-jeeny m/f
How much is it for (three) days/weeks?	ለ(ስራት) ቅን/ስምንት የጋዥ ሲንት ነው?	luh-(sost) k'uhn/sa-mint wa-gow sint nuhw

# directions

Where's the (nearest) ...?	የቅርብ ያለ ... የተ ነው?	(k'irb) ya-luh ... yuhnt nuhw
internet café	እንተርኩት ካኔ	'een-tuhr-net ka-fe
market	ባቢያ	guh-buh-ya
Is this the road to the museum?	ይህ መንገዶች ወጪ መ-ዘ.የም ይመለከል?	yih muhn-guhd wuh-duh mu-zee-yuhm yi-wuhs-dal
Can you show me (on the map)?	(ካርታ አይ) ላታ-ሳያ ት-ቻለሁ/ት-ቻለሽ?	(kar-ta lai) li-ta-sa-yuhny ti-chi-la-luh/ti-chi-ya-luhsh m/f
What's the address?	እድራሻው የተ ነው?	'ad-ra-show yuht nuhw

How far is it?

የመ? የዕድል ደርቃል?

min yahl yir-k'al

How do I get there?

እነዚህ አገልግሎት መሸሪያ ይችላል?

'i-zee-ya 'in-det muh-hed yi-cha-lal

Turn left/right.

ወደ ጥራ/ቀኑ ቢሮና

wuh-duh gi-ra/k'uhny ta-t'uhf

It's ...

behind ...

... ነው

... ካይርባ

... ነው

... kuh-juhr-ba

in front of ...

... ፊት ለፊት

... feet

luh-feet

near ...

... አጠንብ

... 'a-t'uh-

guhb

next to ...

... ቅጥለ

... kuh-t'i-lo

on the corner

መታወሻ/ወው አይ

muh-ta-t'uh-fee-yow lai

opposite ...

... ታይቶ

... ti-yi-yu

straight ahead

ቀጥታ

k'uh-t'i-ta

there

እነዚህ

'i-zee-ya

## accommodation

Where's a ...?

camping ground

... የት ነው?

የደንብ-ዋጥት በታ

... yuht nuhw

yuh-din-ku-wa-nu bo-ta

guesthouse

የእንቅስ ማረዳዎች

yuh-'in-gi-da ma-ruh-fee-ya

hotel

ሁቴል

ho-te-lu

youth hostel

ሁስቴል

hos-te-lu

Can you recommend somewhere (cheap/good)?

(ርካሽ/ጥሩ) በታ ላት ለተመቀመሪ

(ri-kash/t'i-ru) bo-ta li-ti-t'uh-k'u-muhny

ትቻለሁ/ትቻላለሁ?

ti-chi-la-luh-hi/ti-chi-ya-luhsh m/f

I'd like to book a room, please.

አባሁ/አባክኩ ከፍል በት

'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ki-fil buk

ማድረግ ልዘን ንበ?

mad-ruhg fuh-li-ge nuh-buhr m/f

I have a reservation.

ከፍል በት ከድርሻ ንበ

ki-fil buk 'ad-ri-ge nuh-buhr

Do you have a ... room?

single

... ከፍል አገኘሁ?

... ki-fil 'a-la-chi-hu

double

አገኘ

and

twin

ሁልት

hu-luht

ሁልት አላጊ የለዎ

hu-luht 'al-ga ya-luhw

How much is it per night/person?

በቅን/በሰው ወጪው ስት ነው?

buh-k'uhn/buh-suhw wa-gow sint nuhw

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

(ሁሉት) ቁን መቆየት

እፈልጋለሁ

(hu-luht) k'uhn muh-k'o-yuht

'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu

What time is check-out?

ከናል መፈቻቂያው

ስንት ለእት ነው?

ki-fil muhl-k'uh-k'ee-yow

sint suh-'at nuhw

Am I allowed to camp here?

እነዚህ ዘዴ ድንብ-ዋጥት

መተካል እችለሁ?

'i-zeeh gi-bee din-ku-wan

muht-kuhl 'i-chi-la-luh-hu

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...

አባሁ/አባክኩ ...

እፈልጋለሁ

i-ba-kih/"i-ba-kish ...

'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu m/f

arrange a transfer

ገንዘብ ማዣወር

guhn-zuhb ma-za-wuhr

cash a cheque

ቋዷ መመዝገብ

chek muh-muhn-zuhr

change a travellers

ተራ-ስለርስ ቋዷ

ti-rav-luhrs chek

cheque

መመዝገብ

muh-muhn-zuhr

change money

ገንዘብ

guhn-zuhb

withdraw money

ገንዘብ ማውጣት

muh-muhn-zuhr guhn-zuhb mow-t'at

I want to ...

... ከፍል ንርድ

የሰሳት ንርድ መማግኘት

... 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu

yuh-silk kard muhg-zat

buy a phonecard

(አውሳኔ-ኤሌክትሬ)

('owst-ra-lee-ya)

call (Australia)

መፈወል

muh-duh-wuwl

reverse the charges

በተዘዋዋሪ

buh-tuh-zuh-wa-wa-ree

use a printer

መፈወል

muh-duh-wuwl

use the internet

የፕሮቴኬት

pi-reen-tuhr

use the telephone

መጠቀም

muh-tuh-k'uhm

use the computer

አንተርኬት

'een-tuhr-net

use the fax machine

መጠቀም

muh-tuh-k'uhm

How much is it per hour?

በስተት ስት ነው?

buh-suh-'at sint nuhw

How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

የ(ስተት ወጪው)

yuh-(sost duh-k'ee-k'a)

የ(ት ወጪው)

t'i-ree wa-gow sint nuhw

(One birr) per minute/hour.

(አንድ ወጪ) በስተት ስት

(and bir) buh-duh-k'ee-k'a/buh-suh-'at

## tours

When's the next ...?	የመቻቸው ነው? ...	yuh-mee-k'uh-t'i-luhw ...
day trip tour	ወ-ልው ገብ ገብ ወርሱር	muh-che nuhw wi-lo guh·ba gu·zo shi-ri-shir
Is ... included?	... ይመጣል?	... yi-ch'uh-mi·ral
accommodation	ሙናትን	muh-nyi·tan
the admission charge	የአገልግሎት ተጋን	yuh·a-guhl·gi·lot wa-gan
food	ምግብን	mi-gib·n
transport	ተራንስፖርትን	ti-trans·por·tin

How long is the tour?  
ሻርሻና የሚያስፈልጉትን የገዢ ስለመለከት? shi-ri-shi·ru min ya-hil gee·ze yi-fuh·jal

What time should we be back?  
በስተት ስለተት እንመለከት? buh-sint suh·at 'in-muh-luh·sa-luhn

## shopping

I'm looking for ...	... አረጋግጣሁ.	... 'i-fuh-li·ga-luh·hu
I need film for this camera.	ለዚህ ካሜራ የሚሆን ፈልም አረጋግጣሁ.	luh-zeeh ka-me·ra yuh-mee·hon feelm 'i-fuh-li·ga-luh·hu
Can I listen to this?	ይህንን ማቅረብ እችላለሁ?	yi-hi-nin ma-da-muht' 'i-chi-la-luh·hu
Can I have my ... repaired?	... እሳዣበት እችላለሁ?	... mas-t'uuh·guhn 'i-chi-la-luh·hu
When will it be ready?	መቻቸው ነው?	muh-che yi-duhr·sal
How much is it?	ዋጋው ላንት ነው?	wa-gow sint nuhw
Can you write down the price?	ዋጋውን ለተተቀጠኝ እችላለሁ?	wa-gown li-ti-s'if·liny ti-chi-la-luh
What's your lowest price?	መጨረሻውን ላንት እችላለሁ?	muh-ch'uh-ruh-sha-win sint ti-luh-wa-luh-hi

I'll give you (five) birr.

(አምስት) ንብር እኩፋለሁ.

('am-mist) bir 'i-kuhf·la-luh-hu

There's a mistake in the bill.

በሉ ስහተት እለ

bee-lu lai sih·tuht 'a-luh

It's faulty.

የተሰጠውን ነው

yuh-tuh·buh·la-shuh nuhw

I'd like a receipt/refund, please.

አባክሁ/አባክኩ ይረሰኝ/

ገዢነው እንዲመለከት

እኩለሁ.

i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish duh·ruh·suhny/

guhn-zuh·be 'in-dee-muh-luhs-liny

'i-fuh-li·ga-luh-hu m/f

Do you accept ...?

credit cards

debit cards

travellers cheques

... ተተክበለቸው?

ክি-ረ-ደት

kard

ደ-ብ-ኤት

ti-rav-luhrs chek

Could you ...?

burn a CD from

my memory card

develop this film

... ተቻለሁ?

ሰ-ዲ-

kuh yu 'es bee

ko-peē

yi-hi-nin feelm

li-ta-t'ib-liny

## making conversation

Hello.

ሰላም

suh-lam

Good night.

ደህና እኩር/እኩድ

duh-na 'i-duhr/'i-duh·ree m/f

Goodbye.

ደህና ሁ-ን/ ሁ-ን

duh-na hun/hun-yee m/f

Mr

አቶ

'a-to

Mrs

ወይዘኖ

wuh·zuh·ro

Ms/Miss

ወይዘኛ

wuh·zuh·reet

How are you?

እንደት ስህ/ሽሽ?

'in-det nuh·hi/nuhsh m/f

Fine, and you?

ይመሰማው እንተው/እንችለው?

yi-muhs·guh-nuhw 'an·tuhs/"an·chees m/f

What's your name?

ምን ተካላለሁ?/ት-ዳደሪያ?

man ti·ba·la-luh/ti·ba·ya·luhsh m/f

My name's ...

... ንዝ

... nuhny

I'm pleased to meet you.	በመተዋወቻን ይሰ በለኝል	buh-muh-tuh-wa-wuh-k'a-chin duhs bi-lon-yal
This is my ...	እስ ...-ው ንዑስ-	'i-su ...-ye nuhw
boyfriend	የወጪ ጥያቄ	yuh-wuhnd gu-wa-duhn-ya
brother	ወንድም	wuhn-dim
daughter	ልት ልጅ	set lij
father	አባት	'a-bat
friend	ገዢዳች	gu-wa-duh-nya
girlfriend	የሰት ጥያቄ	yuh-set gu-wa-duh-nya
husband	ባል	bal
mother	እናት	'i-nat
partner	ባልንጀራ/ሽርክ	bal-ni-juh-ra/shi-ri-ka m/f
sister	እህት	'i-hit
son	ልጅ	lij
wife	ማሳት	mist
Here's my ...	... ደኩዎ-	... yi-huh-wi
What's your ...?	... ላትነውን ትቃላሁ?	... li-ti-suh-t'uuhny ti-chi-la-luh
address	አድራሻኞ	'ad-ra-sha-hin
email address	ኢሜልኞ	'ee-me-li-hin
phone number	ስልክ ቁጥርኞ	silk k'u-t'ir-hin
Where are you from?	ከደት ነው?	kuh-yuht nuh-hi
I'm from ...	እኔ ከ ... ነኝ	'i-ne kuh... nuhny
Australia	አውስትራሊያ	'owst-ra-lee-ya
New Zealand	ጀዚ ሚኒስቴር	neew zi-land
the UK	እንግሊዝ	'in-gleez
the USA	አሜሪካ	'a-me-ree-ka
I'm married.	እንዲሸጠው	'ag-bi-cha-luh-hu
I'm not married.	እንዲሸጠም	'a-la-guh-ba-hum
Can I take a photo (of you)?	ይችል እናሳ(ሁ)/እናሳ(ሽ)	fo-to la-nuh-sa(h)/la-nuh-sa(sh)
	እናሳለሁ?	'i-chi-la-luh-hu m/f

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	የሩ ... ላትመሙኝ ትቃላሁ?	t'i-ru ... li-ti-t'uuh-k'u-muhny ti-chi-la-luh
bar	ቦና ቤት	bu-na bet
dish	ምግብ	mi-gib
place to eat	ምግብ ቤት	mi-gib bet

I'd like ..., please.	እባክሁ/እባክኩ ...	'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ...
the bill	እራስ, ታለሁ	'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu m/f
the menu	ቢል	beel
a table for ...	መረጃ	me-nu
(two)	እሁ·እሁ ስወ	t'uuh-ruh-p'e-za
that dish	ምግብ ሙግብ	(luh-hu-luht) suhw
Do you have vegetarian food?	የፋይ ምግብ	ya-nin mi-gib
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	እለዱ የፈልጊዜ ትቃላሁ?	yuh-s'om mi-gib
eggs	የምግብ የፈልጊዜ	'a-la-chi-hu
meat stock	እንቅስላል	mi-gib ya-luh ...
(cup of) coffee ...	(እንደ) ብና ...	li-ta-zuh-ga-jee-lin ti-chi-ya-luhsh f
(cup of) tea ...	(እንደ) ገብ ...	mi-gib ya-luh ...
with milk	በወጥት	li-ta-zuh-gaj-lin ti-chi-la-luh-hi m
without sugar	የፈ ስት-ዋር	'in-k'u-lal si-ga
(boiled) water	(የፈ) ወ-ሂ	(and si-nee) bu-na ...
		(and si-nee) shai ...
		buh-wuh-tuht
		ya-luh si-ku-war
		(yuh-fuh-la) wi-ha

## emergencies

Help!	እርዳታ እርዳታ	'ir-da-ta 'ir-da-ta
I'm lost.	መቀበል	t'uuh-fa-biny
Call ...!	... ተራል/ጥራል	... t'i-ra-liny/t'i-ree-liny m/f
an ambulance	እምበራንስ	'am-bu-lans
a doctor	ዶክተር	dok-tuhr
the police	ፖ.ስና	po-lees
Could you help me, please?	እትራክኩ ትቃላሁ?	lit-ruh-dany ti-chi-la-luh m
	እትራክኩ ትቃላሁ?	lit-ruh-jeeny ti-chi-ya-luhsh f
Where are the toilets?	ሽንት ቤት የተ የወ?	shint bet yuht nuhw
I want to report an offence.	ጥቃትን ሪፖርት ማገኘ	t'i-k'a-tun ree-port mad-ruhg
	እራስ, ታለሁ	'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu



double bed ቤት አልጋ በእንደ ክፍል  
    hu-luh-al-ga buh-an-id ki-fil  
drink እምበጥ muh-t'uh'  
drivers licence መንገድ ፊቃድ muhn-ja fuh-k'ad  
drugs (illicit) እግዚያዢ ደግ 'a-duhn-zazh 'is'

<b>E</b>	ear <b>ԷՐ</b> jo-ro
east <b>ԹՈՆՀ-Ք</b>	mis-rak'
email <b>Է-ՄԵ-ՅԼ</b>	'ee-me-yil
English (language) <b>ՀԱՐԿԱԾ</b>	'ing-lee-zuhn-ya
exchange rate <b>ՔՈ-ՔԲ ԳՈՒԽ ՔՇ</b>	
yuh-wich' min-za-ree wa-ga	
exit <b>ԷՄԱՅԻ</b>	muh-wi-ch'a
expensive <b>ՎՏ-Ք</b>	wid
eye <b>ՀԵՇ</b>	'ain

fast **ፈ.ማን** fuh-t'an  
 fever **ት.ከ.አ.ት** ti-ku-sat  
 finger **ጥ.ት** 't-at  
 first class **እ.ኋደኛ** 'ay-ah-dey-ay  
     'an-duh-nya ma-'i-ruhgh  
 fish **በ.አ** 'a-sa  
 food **ሙ.ቃ.ለ** mi-gib  
 foot **እ.ቃ.ር** 'i-gir  
 fork **ጥ.ኩ** shu-ka  
 free (of charge) **ነ.ዘ** nuh-s'a  
 fruit **ጥ.ራ.ፍ.ራ** fi-ra-fi-re  
 funny **እ.ስ.ቃ.ቃ** 'as-k'eeny

game park	<b>TCH</b>	park
gift	<b>ΛΜΖ</b>	si-t-o-ta
girl	<b>ΛΓΙΖ</b>	li-ja-guh-ruhd
glass (drinking)	<b>ΛΙΣ</b>	bir-ch'i-k'o
glasses	<b>ΜΗΖ</b>	muh-nuh-s'ir
gluten	<b>ΛΛΙΖ</b>	'an-s'uh-ba-ra-k'ee
good	<b>ΤΓ</b>	t'iru
guide	<b>ΜΗΖ</b>	muh-re

**H**  
hand ካኝ 'ij  
happy ደሰታ duh-si-ta  
haw አለው/አላት ሂ/ታ 'a-luhw/a-lat

he <b>እ</b> ስ • 'i-su
head <b>እ</b> ራ ras
headache <b>እ</b> ና ጥብጥ ras mi-tat
heart <b>እ</b> ብ lib
heart condition <b>የእ</b> ብ ህ-ና-ት yuh-lib hu-na-te
heat <b>ሁ</b> ሙ-ቃ-ት mu-k'uhrt
here <b>እ</b> ዘዴ i-zeeh
high <b>እ</b> ቅ የለ kuhf ya-luh
highway <b>የእ</b> ዋዴት መንገድ
yuh-k'uh-luh-buht muhn-guhd
homosexual <b>ሁ</b> & <b>ወ</b> ቤም ho-mo
hot <b>ሙ-ቃ</b> muk'
hungry <b>እ</b> ህብ ruh-hab

**IՆԵ** 'i-ne  
identification (card) **ԹԱՎՈՓՔԾ** muh-ta-wuh-k'ee-ya  
ill **ՑՈՄՈ** ta-muh-muh  
important **ՀԱՆՁԱՇ**, 'as-fuh-la-gee  
internet **ՀԱՅՏԱՆԵՐ**, 'een-tuhr-net  
interpreter **ՀԱՅՐԱԿԴՔՄՈՒ**, 'as-tuhr-qu-wa-mee

J

**K**  
key **ՔԱԳ** k'u-lif  
kilogram **ԿՈՐԱԳԻ** kee-lo gi-ram  
kitchen **ՊԵՏԱԿԱՆ** mad bet  
knife **ՋԱՎ** bee-la-wa

**L**

laundry (place) **ለወጥቻቸ** la-win-duh-ree  
 lawyer **ሙሉዋ** t'uh-buh-k'a  
 left-luggage office **እቻ መረጃዎች መጋቢት**  
     'i-k'a muh-ruh-kuh-bee-ya muh-ga-zuhn  
 leg **እግር** 'igir  
 lesbian **ነ&a አገልግሎት** lez-bee-yan  
 less, **የንነት** ya-nuh-suh  
 letter (mail) **ደረሰናዣ** duhb-da-be  
 like **v ወጪ** wuh-duh-duh  
 lost-property office **ፖስት ማስታወሻ**  
     po-lees t'a-bee-ya  
 love **v እኩል** a-fuh-k'uh-ruh  
 lunch **ምንስ** mi-sa

<b>M</b>	
man አዎ- suhw	
matches ክ-በርት kib-reet	
meat ስጋ si-ga	
medicine መ-ሕሃ-ነት muhd-ha-neet	
message መልክ-ነት muhl-ikht	
month ወርC wuhru	
morning በዋት' tuh-wat	
mouth እኩ 'af	
movie አ-ሪ-የ see-nee-ma	
MSG መ-እለ-ንጻC me-sen-jehr	
museum መ-ዘይ-የም mu-zee-yuhm	
music መ-ዘይ-ቁ mu-zee-k'a	

<b>N</b>	
name <b>નામ</b> sim	
napkin <b>નેપ્કિન</b> nap-keen	
nappy <b>ડાઇપ</b> dai-puhrr	
national park <b>બિહેરાવી પાર્ક</b> bi-he-ra-wee park	
nausea <b>માતુંફાલ</b> mat'-wuhl-wuhl	
neck <b>ખૂબી</b> 'an-guhrt	
new <b>નોવ</b> 'a-dees	
news <b>ઝેના</b> ze-na	
newspaper <b>ગેઝેટ</b> ga-ze-t'a	
night <b>નિશ્ચિ</b> mi-shit	
nightclub <b>યુહ-મિ-શિટ કિ-બુબ્બ</b> yuh-mi-shit ki-buhb	
noisy <b>મી-રુહ-બિષ</b> yuh-mee-ruh-bish	
nonsmoking <b>મૈ-ચુહ-સબુથ</b> yuh-mai-ch'uhhs-buhth	
north <b>નોર્થ</b> suh-men	
nose <b>નોસ</b> 'a-fin-ch'a	
now <b>નવી</b> 'a-hun	
number <b>કુ-તિર</b> k'u'-tir	
nuts <b>ઓ-છો-લો-ની</b> 'o-cho-lo-neen	

**O**  
oil (engine) በምዕታር ካይት yuh-mo-tuhr zuh-yit  
OK እኩ ᵒ-shee  
old አርጋ 'a-ro-ge  
open a ክፍት kift  
outside ወጪ wi-ch'ee

**P**  
package *Tħixx* pa-kej  
pain *Umoq* hi-muhm

paper **Ուրստ** wuh-ruh-k'uhnt  
 park (car) **Ուրքո** ma-k'om  
 passport **Պասպորտ** pas-port  
 pay **հան** ki-fuhl  
 pen **Ուշ** bi'er  
 petrol **Ազոլ** ben-zeen  
 pharmacy **Փարմազիա** far-ma-see  
 plate **Լավա** sa-hin  
 postcard **Հայտ հայք** post kard  
 post office **Հայտ ՈՒ** pos-ta bet  
 pregnant **Հցիկ** 'ir-quz

**Q** quiet *kwɪt̬* *kwɪt̬* s'uht̬' ya-lul

rain **ՌԱԴՈ** zi-nab  
 razor **ՔԱՂԵԲ** mi-lach'  
 registered mail **ՀԱՄԱՆԵ** ree-ko-man-de  
 rent **ՎԻՃԵՐ** թuh-kuh-ra-yuh  
 repair **ՎՈՐ** թ'uh-guh-nuh  
 reservation **ԶՈՒՄ** muh-yaz  
 restaurant **ՀԱՇԵՐԴԵՐ** res-to-rant  
 return **ՎՈԼԱ/ՎՈԼՈՒԴ** թ(թ)/f  
 muh-luh-suh/muh-luh-suhch  
 road **ՋՐԵՐ** muhn-guhd  
 room **ԽՈԱ** ki-fil

<b>S</b>	
sad <b>ՍԱՀ</b> ha-zuhn	
safe <b>ԱԴՐ</b> suh-lam	
sanitary napkin <b>ԳՈՅՆ</b> mo-des	
seafood <b>ՋՈՒԾ ՅՈՂՈՒԴ</b> yuh-ba-hir mi-gib-och	
seat <b>ՄՈՓՄԱԹԻ</b> muh-k'uh-muh-ch'a	
send <b>ՄՈՒՀԻ</b> muh-lak	
sex <b>ՏԵՇ</b> s'o-ta	
shampoo <b>ԿՊՐԵ</b> sham-pu	
share (a dorm, etc) <b>ԱՄՆԱԴՐ</b> muh-nah-dr	
luh-hu-luh muh-kuh-ra-yuhnt	
shaving cream <b>ԿՑԱՐ</b> muh-lah-sa-mu-na	
yuh-s'eem muh-la-ch'a sa-mu-na	
she <b>ՀՆԱ-Ք</b> 'su-wa	
sheet (bed) <b>ՀՅՈՒՇ</b> 'an-so-la	
shirt <b>ՇՈՒՇ</b> shuh-meez	
shoes <b>ՉՈՐ</b> ch'a-ma	
shop <b>ՈՒ-Ք</b> sulk'	

## T

shower **🚿 ገዢ** sha-wuhr  
 skin **፩፻** k'o-da  
 skirt **፩፻፻** kuh-mis  
 sleep **ታኅቸ** tuh-nya  
 small **ታኅሬ** ti-nish  
 smoke (cigarettes) **ማጂዴዴ** ma-ch'uhs  
 soap **ሳሙና** sa-mu-na  
 some **ጥቃት** t'i-k'eet  
 soon **በቅርቡ** buh-k'irb  
 sore throat **የቆስለ ጉርግ** yuh-k'o-suh-luh gu-ro-ro  
 south **ደቡብ** duh-bub  
 speak **ጥናገር** tuh-na-guhr  
 spoon **ማንከያ** man-kee-ya  
 stamp **ቴምህር** tem-bir  
 stand-by ticket **የተመዘገበ ጥኩት**  
     yuh-tuh-tuh-ba-ba-k'ee ti-ket  
 station (train) **ማስታሪክ** t'a-bee-ya  
 stomach **ሀይድ** hod  
 stop **ቅዱ** k'o-muh  
 stop (bus) **ፈርማማሽ** fer-ma-ta  
 street **መንግሥት** muhn-guhd  
 student **ተማሪ** tuh-ma-ree  
 sunscreen **የሃይል መከላከል**  
     yuh-s'uh-hai muh-kuh-la-kuh-ya  
 swim **ዋና** wa-nyuh

## T

tampons **ሻዴ** goz  
 teeth **ጥርሰት** t'irs  
 telephone **ስልክ** silk  
 television **ቴሌ** tee-vee  
 temperature (weather) **ሙያታት** mu-k'uhrt  
 tent **ደንብዴ** din-ku-wan  
 that (one), **ያ**  
 they **እኔዴ** i-nuh-su  
 thirsty **ሙያማት** muh-tuh-mat  
 this (one), **ይህ** yih  
 throat **ገኘ** gu-ro-ro  
 ticket **ጥኩት** ti-ket  
 time **ዓመታዊ** gee-ze  
 tired **ደክሙ** duh-kuh-muh  
 tissues **አፍት** soft  
 today **ዛረ** za-re  
 toilet **ሻንጻት ውት** shint bet  
 tonight **ዛዕባ ማት** za-re-mata  
 toothache **ጥጥርሰት ትመም** yuh-t'irs hi-muhm  
 toothbrush **ጥጥርሰት አይት** yuh-t'irs bi-rush  
 toothpaste **ጥጥርሰት ማሙና** yuh-t'irs sa-mu-na  
 torch (flashlight) **ባትራ** bat-tree

towel **ፊት** fo-t'a  
 translate **ሙተርጋም** muh-tuhr-gom  
 travel agency **የጥኩት ወከል** yuh-gu-zo wuh-keel  
 trousers **ስራ** su-ree  
 twin beds **ሁሉት አልጋ** hu-luht al-ga  
 tyre **ጾማ** go-ma

## U

underwear **ቢታንታ** bu-tan-ta  
 urgent **አስተዋዴያ** as-chuh-ku-wai

## V

vacant **ከፍተት ባታ** kift bo-ta  
 vegetable **አጥክልት** 'at-kilt  
 vegetarian **አጥክልት ተመዝጋቢ**  
     'at-kilt tuh-muh-ga-bee  
 visa **቏** vee-za

## W

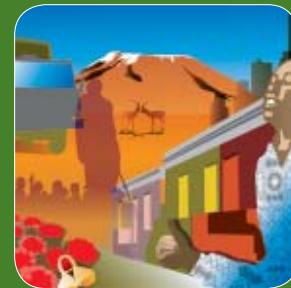
waiter **አስተጋጅ** as-tuh-na-gaj  
 walk **በኢትዮ መተዋዴያ** buh-i-gir muh-gu-waz  
 wallet **የከይ በርሳ** yuh-kees bor-sa  
 warm a **ሙክ** muk'  
 wash (something) **ማጂዴ** ma-t'uhb  
 watch **ማያት** ma-yuht  
 water **ወጥ** wi-ha  
 we **እኔ** i-nya  
 weekend **የአመራር** **መጠረቅ**  
     yuh-sa-min-tu muh-ch'uh-ruh-sha  
 west **ውእኖ** mi-i-rab  
 wheelchair **ቁል ትር** weel chuhr  
 when **መቶ** muh-che  
 where **የት** yuh-t  
 who **ማን** man  
 why **ለምን** luh-min  
 window **መሰከተ** muhs-kot  
 wine **ወይን** wuh-yin  
 with **ጋ** gar  
 without **የል** ya-luh  
 woman **ሴት** set  
 write **መጽና** muh-s'af

## Y

you sg inf **እንተ/እንተ** @/@ an-tuh/an-chee  
 you sg pol **እርስዴ** 'ir-si-wo  
 you pl inf&pol **እኝንተ** 'in-an-tuh

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# Arabic



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	act	b	bed
aa	father	d	dog
aw	paw	dh	that
ay	say	f	fun
e	bet	gh	a guttural sound, like the French 'r'
ee	see	h	hat
i	hit	j	jar
oo	zoo	k	kit
u	put	kh	as the 'ch' in the Scottish 'loch'
,	a pronounced with the throat constricted – like the pause in the middle of 'uh-oh'	l	lot
In this chapter, the Arabic pronunciation is given in green after each phrase.		m	man
Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised.		n	not
For example:		r	run
<i>نَعَمٌ</i> <i>na'ām</i>		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		th	thin
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero

## introduction

It may have given us the terms 'algebra' and 'massacre', but we can also thank Arabic for the names of more pleasant things like 'alcohol', 'coffee' and 'jasmine'. Arabic (العربية al-a-ra-bee-ya) belongs to the Semitic branch of the Afro-Asiatic language family, and is closely related to Hebrew and Aramaic. The language of the Quran (Koran), Arabic owes its wide spread to the advent of Islam and the subsequent rise of the Muslim Empire during the 7th and 8th centuries. It's the sixth-most spoken language in the world, with more than 200 million native speakers worldwide, it's the official language of the Arab nations that spread across the Middle East and North Africa (comprising 323 million people), and it's a national language of Mali, Senegal and Somalia. Though there are many groups of Arab dialects – which can be broadly divided into North African and Middle Eastern dialects – Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) is the form of Arabic used by the media and taught in schools in the Arab world. So if you're planning to visit an Arabic-speaking country, start getting your mind – and tongue – around some MSA phrases!

 arabic (native language)

 arabic (generally understood)



# language difficulties

## Do you speak English?

هل تتكلّمُ / تتكلّمينَ  
الإنجليزية؟  
hal ta-ta-kal-la-mu/tat-a-kal-la-mee-na  
al-'inj-lee-zee-ya m/f

## Do you understand?

هل تفهمُ / تفهمينَ؟  
hal taf-ha-mu/taf-ha-mee-na m/f

## I (don't) understand.

أنا (لا) أفهم.  
'a-na (laa) 'af-ham

Could you please ...?	لَوْ سَمِحْتَ يُمْكِنُكَ أَنْ ...؟	law sa-mah-ta yum-ki-nu-ka 'an ... m
repeat that	تَكْرِرْ ذَكْرَهُ	tu-ka-ri-ra dhaa-lik
speak more slowly	تَكَلَّمْ بِطْءَةً	ta-ta-kal-la-ma bi-but'
write it down	تَكْتَبْهُ عَلَى الورقة	tak-tu-ba-hu 'a-laa al-wa-ra-ka

# time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	كم الساعة الآن؟	kam as-saa'-a-tul 'aan
It's one o'clock.	الساعة الواحدة.	as-saa'-a-tul waa-hi-da
It's (two) o'clock.	الساعة (الثانية).	as-saa'-a-tu (ath-thaa-nee-ya)
Quarter past (two).	(الثانية) والربع.	(ath-thaa-nee-ya-tu) war-rub'u
Half past (two).	(الثانية) والنصف.	(ath-thaa-nee-ya-tu) wan-nus-fu
Quarter to (two).	(الثانية) إلا الربع.	(ath-thaa-nee-ya-tu) 'il-la ar-rub'u
At what time ...?	في أيّ ساعةٍ ...؟	fee 'ay-yee saa'-a-tin ...
At ...	في ...	fee ...
It's (15 December).	انّه (الخامس عشر) من ديسمبر.	'in-na-hu (al-khaa-mis 'a-shar min dee-sem-bir)
yesterday	أمس	'am-si
today	اليوم	al-yawm
tomorrow	غداً	gha-dan
Monday	يوم الاثنين	yawm al-'ith-nayn
Tuesday	يوم الثلاثاء	yawm ath-thu-laa-thaa'
Wednesday	يوم الأربعاء	yawm al-'ar-bi-'aa
Thursday	يوم الخميس	yawm al-kha-mees
Friday	يوم الجمعة	yawm al-jum'a
Saturday	يوم السبت	yawm as-sabt
Sunday	يوم الأحد	yawm al-'a-had

## numbers

0	.	صفر	sifr	ستة عشر	16 sit-ta-ta 'a-shar
1	١	واحد	waa-hid	سبعة عشر	17 sa-ba'-ta 'a-shar
2	٢	اثنان	'ith-naan	ثمانيٌ عشر	18 tha-maa-ni-ya-ta 'a-shar
3	٣	ثلاثة	tha-la-a-tha	تسعة عشر	19 tis-'a-ta 'a-shar
4	٤	أربعة	'ar-ba'-a	عشرون	20 'ish-roon
5	٥	خمسة	kham-sa	واحد	21 waa-hid
				وعشرون	wa-'ish-roon
6	٦	ستة	sit-ta	اثنان	22 'ith-naan
				وعشرون	wa-'ish-roon
7	٧	سبعة	sa-b'a	ثلاثون	30 tha-lla-thoon
8	٨	ثمانية	tha-maa-ni-ya	أربعون	40 'ar-ba'-oon
9	٩	تسعة	tis-'a	خمسون	50 kham-soon
10	١٠	عشرة	'a-sha-ra	ستون	60 sit-toon
11	١١	احد عشر	'a-ha-da 'a-shar	سبعون	70 sab'-oon
12	١٢	اثنا عشر	'ith-naa 'a-shar	ثمانون	80 tha-maa-noon
13	١٣	ثلاثة عشر	tha-la-a-tha-ta 'a-shar	تسعون	90 tis'-oon
14	١٤	أربعة عشر	'ar-ba'-a-ta 'a-shar	مائة	100 mi'-a
15	١٥	خمسة عشر	kham-sa-ta 'a-shar	ألف	1000 'al-f

# border crossing

I'm here ...	غرض زيارتي هو ...	gha-ra-du zee-yaa-ra-tee hu-wa ...
in transit (to) ...	العبور (إلى) ...	al'u-boor ('i-laal) ...
on business	التجارة	at-ti-jaa-ra
on holiday	السياحة	as-see-yaa-ha
I'm here for ...	مدة إقامتي هنا ...	mud-da-tu 'i-kaa-ma-tee hu-na ...
(10) days	(عشرة) أيام	('a-sha-ra-tu) 'ay-yaam
(three) weeks	(ثلاثة) أسابيع	(tha-la-a-tha-tu) 'a-saa-bee'
(four) months	(أربعة) أشهر	('ar-ba'-a-tu) 'ash-hur
I'm going to (Khartoum).	سأسافر إلى (الخرطوم).	sa-'u-saa-fi-ru 'i-laal (al-khar-toom)
I'm staying at the (Hilton).	سأقيم بـ(فندق الـهـلـتون).	sa-'u-kee-mu bi-(fun-du-kil hil-toon)

# tickets

A ... ticket (to Cairo), please.	نَذْكِرَةٌ ... (إلى القاهرة), لو سمحَتْ.	<i>tadh-ka-ra-tu ...</i> (‘i-laa al-kaa-hi-ra) law sa-mah-ta
one-way return	ذهابٌ فقط ذهابٌ وإيابٌ	<i>dha-haa-bu fa-kat</i> <i>dha-haa-bu wa-ee-yaab</i>
I'd like to ... my my ticket, please.	أريد أن ... تذكريّتي، لو سمحَتْ.	<i>‘u·ree-du ‘an ...</i> <i>tadh-ki-ra-tee law sa-mah-ta</i> <i>‘ul-ghi-ya</i> <i>‘u·ghay-yi·ra</i> <i>‘aj-ma·‘a</i>
cancel	ألغّي	
change	أغيّر	
collect	أجمع	
I'd like a ... seat, please.	أريد مقعداً ... لو سمحَتْ.	<i>‘u·ree-du mak·‘a-dan ...</i> <i>law sa-mah-ta</i>
non-smoking	في قسمٍ غير المدخنين	<i>fee kis·mi ghay·ril</i> <i>mu-dakh-khi-neen</i>
smoking	في قسمٍ المدخنين	<i>fee kis·mil mu-dakh-khi-neen</i>
Is there air conditioning?	هل يوجد مكيف الهواء؟	<i>hal yoo·ja-du mu·kay·ya·ful ha-waa'</i>
Is there a toilet?	هل يوجد دورات المياه؟	<i>hal yoo·ja-du daw·raa·tul mee·yaah</i>
How long does the trip take?	كم مدة الرحلة؟	<i>kam mud·da·ti ar·rih·la</i>
Is it a direct route?	هل الطريق مباشرٌ؟	<i>hal at·ta·reek mu·baa·shir</i>



# transport

Where does flight (CL58) arrive/depart?	من أين تغادر/ تصل رحلة (سي الـ ٥٨)؟	<i>min ‘ay-na tu·ghaa-di·ru/ta·si·lu rih·la</i> (see el tha·maa·ni·ya wa kham·soon)
How long will it be delayed?	كم ساعة سيتأخر؟	<i>kam saa·‘a·tin sa·ya·ta·‘akh·khir</i>

Is this the ... to (Alexandria)?	هل هذا الـ ... إلى (الاسكندرية)؟	<i>hal haa-dhaa al ...</i> (‘i-laa (al-)is-kan-da-ree-ya)
boat	سفينة	<i>sa-fee-na</i>
bus	باص	<i>baas</i>
plane	طائرة	<i>taa·‘i-ra</i>
train	قطار	<i>ki-taar</i>

How much is it to ...?  
كم الأجرة إلى ...؟

Please take me to (this address).  
أوصلني عند (هذا العنوان)  
لو سمحَتْ.

I'd like to hire a ...  
أريد أن أستأجر ...

car	سيارة	<i>say-yaa-ra</i>
4WD	سيارة ذات الدفع الرباعي	<i>say-yaa-ra that ad-daf‘il ru·baa·‘ee</i>

with air conditioning  
ذات مكيف الهواء

How much is it for (three) days/weeks?  
كم الأجرة لـ(ثلاثة) أيام/أسابيع؟

# directions

Where's (the nearest) ...?	أين (أقرب) ...؟	<i>‘ay-na (‘ak·ra·bu) ...</i>
internet café market	مَقْهىِّ الانترنت سوق	<i>mak·ha al·‘in·tir·net</i> <i>sook</i>

Is this the road to (Asmara)?  
هل هذا الشارع إلى  
(اسمرة)؟

Can you show me (on the map)?  
هل يمكنكُ أن توضح لي  
(على الخريطة)؟

What's the address?  
ما هو العنوان؟

*maa hu·wa al·‘un·waan*

**How far is it?** كم يبعد المكان من هنا؟ kam *yab-u-du al-ma-kaa-nu min hu-naa*

**How do I get there?** كيف أصل إلى هناك؟ *kay-fa 'a-si-lu 'i-laah hu-naak*

**Turn left/right.** اتجه إلى اليمين/اليسار. *'it-ta-jih 'i-laah al-ya-meen/al-ya-saar m*  
اتجاهي إلى اليمين/اليسار. *'it-ta-ji-hee 'i-laah al-ya-meen/al-ya-saar f*

It's ...	هو/هي ...	<i>hu-wa/hi-ya ... m/f</i>
behind ...	وراء ...	<i>wa-raa' ...</i>
in front of ...	أمام ...	<i>'a-maam ...</i>
near (to ...)	قريب (من ...)	<i>ka-reeb (min ...)</i>
next to ...	بجانب ...	<i>bi-jaa-ni-bi ...</i>
on the corner	عند الزاوية	<i>'an-da az-zaa-wi-ya</i>
opposite ...	بمقابل ...	<i>bi-mu-kaa-bil ...</i>
straight ahead	إلى الأمام	<i>'i-laah al-'a-maam</i>
there	هناك	<i>hu-naak</i>



## accommodation

Where's a ...?	أين أجد ...؟	<i>'ay-na 'a-jidu ...</i>
camping ground	مخيم	<i>mu-khay-yam</i>
guesthouse	بيت للضيوف	<i>bayt li-du-yoof</i>
hotel	فندق	<i>fun-duk</i>
youth hostel	فندق شباب	<i>fun-duk sha-baab</i>

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?	هل يمكنك أن توصي بمكان رخيص/جيّد؟	<i>hal yum-ki-nu-ka 'an too-see-ya</i>
	هل يمكنك أن توصي بمكان رخيص/جيّد؟	<i>bi-ma-kaan ra-khees/jay-yid m</i>
	هل يمكنك أن توصي بمكان رخيص/جيّد؟	<i>hal yum-ki-nu-ki 'an too-see</i>
	هل يمكنك أن توصي بمكان رخيص/جيّد؟	<i>bi-ma-kaan ra-khees/jay-yid f</i>

**I'd like to book a room, please.** أريد أن أحجز غرفة لو سمحـت. *'u-ree-du 'an 'ah-ji-za ghur-fa law sa-mah-ta*

**I have a reservation.** عندي حجزـ. *'in-dee hajz*

<b>Do you have a ... room?</b>	هل عندكم غرفة ...؟	<i>hal 'in-da-kum ghur-fa ...</i>
single	بسـرير منفرد	<i>bi-sa-ree-rin mun-fa-rid</i>
double	بسـرير مزدوج	<i>bi-sa-ree-rin muz-daw-waj</i>
twin	بسـريرين منفردين	<i>bi-sa-ree-ray-ni mun-fa-ri-day-ni</i>

<b>How much is it per ...?</b>	كم ثمنـ له ...؟	<i>kam tha-ma-nu-hu li ...</i>
night	ليلة واحدة	<i>lay-la-tin waa-hid</i>
person	شخصـ واحد	<i>shakh-sin waa-hid</i>

**I'd like to stay for (three) nights.** أـريد الإقامة لمدة (ثلاث) ليـالي. *'u-ree-du al-'i-kaa-ma li-mud-da-ti (tha-laa-thi) lay-ya-lee*

**What time is check-out?** في أيـ ساعـة المغـادرة؟ *fee 'ay-yee saa-'a-tin al-mu-ghaa-da-ra*

**Am I allowed to camp here?** هل من الممـكـن أن أـخيـمـ هنا؟ *hal min al-mum-kin 'an 'u-khay-ya-ma hu-naa*

## banking & communications

<b>I'd like to ...</b>	أـريدـ أن ...	<i>'u-ree-du 'an ...</i>
arrange a transfer	أـقومـ بـتحويلـ مـاليـ	<i>'a-ko-o-ma bi-tah-wee-li maa-lee</i>
cash a cheque	أـصرـفـ شـيكـ	<i>'as-ru-fa sheek</i>
change a travellers	أـحـوـلـ	<i>'u-haw-wi-la</i>
cheque	شـيكـ سـيـاحـيـ	<i>shee-kan see-ya-hee</i>
change money	أـحـوـلـ النـفـودـ	<i>'u-haw-wi-la an-nu-kood</i>
withdraw money	أـسـحبـ نـفـودـ	<i>'as-hu-ba nu-kood</i>

<b>I'd like to ...</b>	أـريدـ أن ...	<i>'u-ree-du 'an ...</i>
buy a phonecard	أشـتـرـيـ بـطاـقةـ	<i>'ash-ta-ree-ya bi-taa-ka</i>
call (Canada)	تـلفـونـيـةـ	<i>ti-li-foo-nee-ya</i>
get internet access	آنـصـلـ بـ(كنـداـ)	<i>'at-ta-si-la bi-(ka-na-daa)</i>
reverse the charges	أـقـومـ بـاتـصالـ وـالـأـجـرـةـ	<i>'as-takh-di-ma al-in-tir-net</i>
على الشخصـ	عـلـىـ الشـخـصـ	<i>'a-koo-ma bi-it-ti-saa-li wal-'uj-ra</i>
use a printer	المـتـلـقـيـ الـاتـصالـ	<i>'a-laa ash-shakh-sil</i>
	أـسـتـخـدـمـ آـلـةـ الطـبـاعـةـ	<i>mut-la-keel al-it-ti-saal</i>

How much is it per hour?

ما تكلفة الساعة الواحد؟ maa tak·li·fa·tu as·saa·'a-til waa·hi·da

How much does a (three)-minute call cost?

كم تكلفة الاتصال لمدة (ثلاث) دقائق؟ kam tak·li·fa·til 'it·ti·saa·li li·mud·da·ti  
(tha·laa·thi) da·kaa·'ik

(One pound) per minute/hour.

جنيه واحد (بقيقةٍ/بساعةٍ). (ju·nay·ha waa·hi·da) bi·da·kee·ka/  
bi·saa·'a

## tours

When's the next ...? متى الـ ...؟ maa·taa al- ...  
القادم؟ al·kaa·dim

day trip tour رحلة يومية دوره rih·la yaw·mee·ya  
daw·ra

Is ... included? هل يتضمن على ...؟ hal ya·ta·dam·ma·nu 'a·laa ...  
accommodation سكن sa·kan  
the admission charge ثمن الدخول tha·man ad·du·khool  
food الطعام at·ta·'aam  
transport المواصلات al·mu·waa·sa·laat

How long is the tour? كم مدة الدورة؟ kam mud·da·ti ad·daw·ra

What time should we be back? في أيّ ساعة يجب أن نرجع إلى هنا؟ fee 'ay·yee saa·'a-tin ya·ji·bu  
'an nar·ja·'a 'i·laa hu·naa

## shopping

I'm looking for ... أبحث عن ... 'ab·ha·thu 'an ...

I need film for this camera.حتاج إلى فيلماً ل بهذه الكاميرا. 'ah·taa·ju 'i·laa feel·man  
li·haa·dhi·hil kaa·mee·raa

Can I listen to this? هل يمكنني أن أسمع إلى هذا؟ hal yum·ki·nu·nee 'an 'as·ma·'a  
'i·laa haa·dhaa

Can I have my ... repaired? هل يمكنني أن تصليح لي ...؟ hal yum·ki·nu·ka 'an tus·li·ha lee ...

When will it be ready?

متى يكون جاهز؟ ma·taa ya·koo·nu jaa·hiz

How much is it?

كم سعره؟ kam si·'ru·hu

Can you write down the price?

هل يمكنك أن تكتب لي السعر؟ hal yum·ki·nu·ka 'an tak·tu·ba lee as·si·r m  
هل يمكنك أن تكتب لي السعر؟ hal yum·ki·nu·ki 'an tak·tu·bee lee as·si·r f

What's your lowest price?

ما أحسن سعر لديك؟ maa 'ah·sa·nu si·'ri la·day·kum

I'll give you (five pounds).

سأدفع (خمس جنيهات). sa·'ad·fa·'u bi (kham·su ju·nay·haat)

There's a mistake in the bill.

يوجد خطأ في الحساب. yoo·jad kha·ta' feel hi·saab

It's faulty.

هذا لا يعمل. haa·dhaa laa ya·mal

I'd like a (receipt/refund).

أريد (وصل/استرداد مال). 'u·ree·du (wa·sil/'is-tir·daad maal)

Do you accept ...?

هل تقبلون ...؟ hal tak·ba·loo·na ...  
credit cards بطاقات الرصيد bi·taa·kaat ar·ra·seed  
debit cards بطاقات الافتراض bi·taa·kaat al·'ik·ti·raad  
travellers cheques شيكات سياحية shee·kaat see·yaa·hee·ya

Could you ...?

هل يمكنك ...؟ hal yum·ki·nu·ka ... m  
هل يمكنك ...؟ hal yum·ki·nu·ki ... f

burn a CD from

تجهز قرصاً مدمجاً tu·jah·hi·za kur·san mu·dam·maj

my memory card من بطاقة الذاكرة min bi·taa·ka·tee

develop this film

تحمّض هذا الفيلم adh·dhaa·ki·ra

tu·ham·mi·da haa·dhaa

al·feelm

## making conversation

Hello.

السلام عليكم. as·sa·laa·mu 'a·lay·kum

Good night.

تصبح على الخير. tus·bi·hu 'a·laa al·khayr

Goodbye.

إلى اللقاء. 'i·laa al·li·kaa'

Mr

سيد say·yeed

Mrs/Miss

سيدة say·yee·da

How are you?

كيف حالك؟  
كيف حالك؟  
*kay-fa haa-lu-ka m  
kay-fa haa-lu-ki f*

Fine, thanks. And you?

بخير شكرًا. وأنت/أنت؟  
*bi-khay-rin shuk-ran wa-an-ta/wa-an-ti m/f*

What's your name?

ما اسمك/اسمك؟  
*maa 'is-mu-ka/'is-mu-ki m/f*

My name is ...

اسمي ...  
*'is-mee ...*

I'm pleased to meet you.

أنا سعيد/سعيدة  
بالتعرف عليك.  
*'a-naa sa-'ee-dun/sa-'ee-da-tun  
bit-ta-'ar-ruf'a-layk m/f*

This is my ...

brother	أخي	هذا/هذه ... <i>'a-khee</i>	<i>haa-dhaa/haa-dhi-hi ... m/f</i>
daughter	ابنتي	<i>'ib-na-tee</i>	
father	أبي	<i>'a-bee</i>	
friend	صديقٍ/صديقتي	<i>sa-dee-kee/sa-dee-ka-tee m/f</i>	
husband	زوجي	<i>zaw-jee</i>	
mother	أمِي	<i>'um-mee</i>	
sister	أختي	<i>'ukh-tee</i>	
son	ابني	<i>'ib-nee</i>	
wife	زوجتي	<i>zaw-ja-tee</i>	

Here's my ...

هذا ...  
*haa-dhaa ...*

What's your ...?

ما ...؟  
*maa ...*

(email) address

عنوانك/عنوانك  
*'un-waa-nu-ka/'un-waa-nu-ki*

(البريد الإلكتروني)  
*(al-ba-ree-deel'i-lik-troo-nee) m/f*

phone number

رقم هاتفك/  
هاتفك  
*rak-mu haa-ti-fu-ka/  
haa-ti-fu-ki m/f*

Where are you from?

من أين أنت/أنت؟  
*min 'ay-na 'an-ta/'an-ti m/f*

I'm from ...

أنا من ...  
*'a-naa min ...*

Australia

أستراليا  
*'us-traa-li-yaa*

Canada

كندا  
*ka-na-daa*

New Zealand

نيوزيلندا  
*nee-yoo zee-lan-daa*

the UK

بريطانيا  
*ba-ree-taa-ni-ya*

the USA

أمريكا  
*'am-ree-kaa*

I'm (not) married.

أنا (لست)  
*'a-naa (las-tu)*

متزوج/متزوجة.  
*mu-ta-zaw-waj/mu-ta-zaw-waja m/f*

Can I take a photo of you?

يمكنني أن آخذ  
صوريك/صوريتك؟  
*yum-ki-nu-nee 'an 'aa-khu-dha  
soo-ra-tu-ka/soo-ra-tu-ki m/f*

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?

هل يمكنك أن  
توصي ب...؟  
*hal yum-ki-nu-ka 'an  
too-see-ya ... m*

هل يمكنك أن  
توصي ب...؟  
*hal yum-ki-nu-ki 'an  
too-see ... f*

bar

بار

dish

وجبة

place to eat

مكان نأكل فيه

I'd like ..., please.

أريد ...، لو سمحت.  
*'u-ree-du ... law sa-mah-ta*

the bill

الحساب  
*al-hi-saab*

the menu

قائمة الطعام  
*kaa-'i-ma-tu at-ta-'aam*

a table for (four)

طاولة لـ (أربعة)  
*taa-wi-la-tan li-'ar-ba-'a-ti*

that dish

أشخاص  
تلك الوجبة  
*'ash-khaas  
til-kal waj-ba*

Do you have  
vegetarian food?

هل لديكم طعام  
نباتي؟  
*hal la-day-ku-mu ta-'aa-mun  
na-baa-tee*

Could you prepare  
a meal without ...?

هل من الممكن أن تعدد  
وجبةً بدون ...؟  
*hal min al-mum-kin 'an tu-'id-da  
waj-ba-tan bi-doo-ni ...*

eggs

بيض

meat stock

مرق اللحم  
*ma-rak al-lah-mi*

(cup of) coffee ...

(فنجان) قهوة ...  
*(fin-jaa-nu) kah-wa ...*

(cup of) tea ...

(كأس) شاي ...  
*(ka'-su) shaa-ee ...*

with milk

بحليب  
*bi-ha-leeb*

without sugar

بدون سكر  
*bi-doo-ni suk-kar*

(boiled) water

ماء (مغلي)  
*maa' (magh-lee)*

## emergencies

Call ...!

اتصل/اتصل بي ...!  
*'it-ta-sil/'it-ta-si-lee bi- ... m/f*

an ambulance

سيارة الإسعاف  
*say-yaa-ra-til 'is-'aaf*

a doctor

طبيب  
*ta-beeb*

the police

الشرطة  
*ash-shur-ta*

Could you help me, please?

هل من الممكن أن  
تساعدني/تساعدبني؟  
*hal min al-mum-kin 'an  
tu-saa-'i-du-nee/tu-saa-'i-dee-na-nee m/f*

I'm lost.

أنا ضائع/ضائعة.  
*'a-naa daa-'i'/daa-'i-a m/f*

## Where are the toilets?

أين دورات المياه؟ 'ay-na daw-raa-tul mee-yaah

## I want to report an offence.

أريد أن أبلغ عن جريمة. 'u-ree-du 'an 'u-bal-li-gha 'an ja-ree-ma

## I have insurance.

عندى تأمین. 'in-dee al-ta'-meen

## I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

أريد أن أتصّل بقنصلتي/بسفارتي. 'u-ree-du 'an 'at-ta-si-la  
bi-kun-su-li-ya-tee/bi-sa-faa-ra-tee

## I've been assaulted.

اعتدى على شخص. i'-ta-daa 'a-la-yee shakhs

## I've been raped.

اغتصبني شخص. 'igh-ta-sa-ba-nee shakhs

## I've been robbed.

سرقني شخص. sa-ra-ka-nee shakhs

## My ... was/were stolen.

... كان مسروق. ... kaa-na mas-rook m  
... كانت مسروقة. ... kaa-nat mas-roo-ka f

bag حقيبة

ha-kee-ba-tee

money نقودي

nu-koo-dee

passport جواز سفر

ja-waa-zu sa-fa-ree

wallet محفظتي

mah-fa-dha-tee

## medical needs

### Where's the nearest ...? أين أقرب ...؟

dentist طبيب الأسنان	'ay-na 'ak-ra-bu ...
doctor طبيب/طبيبة	ta-bee-bul 'as-naan
hospital مستشفى	ta-beeb/ta-bee-ba m/f
pharmacist صيدلية	mus-tash-faa
	say-da-lee-ya

### I need a doctor (who speaks English).

أحتاج إلى طبيبٍ (يتكلّم الانجليزية). 'ah-taa-ju 'i-laa ta-bee-bin  
(ya-ta-kal-la-mu al-'inj-lee-zee-ya)

### Could I see a female doctor?

هل من الممكن أن أقابل طبيبة؟ hal min al-mum-kin 'an 'u-kaa-bi-la ta-bee-ba

### It hurts here.

يؤلمني هنا. yu'-li-mu-nee hu-naa

### I've run out of my medication.

لقد نفذت جميع أدويني. la-kad na-fadh-tu ja-mee-u 'ad-wi-ya-tee

### I'm allergic to (penicillin).

عندى حساسية من (البنسلين). 'an-dee has-saa-see-ya min  
(al-bi-ni-si-leen)

## english–arabic dictionary

Words in this dictionary are marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular) and pl (plural), ♂ masculine and ♀ feminine where necessary. Where both the masculine and the feminine forms of a word are given, they're marked with ♂/♀. Verbs are given in the third-person singular, in the present tense.

## A

accommodation سكن sa-kan ♂	café مقهى mak-han ♂
adaptor الموصّل al-mu-was-sil ♂	cancel يلغى / تلغى yul-ghee/tul-ghee ♂/♀
after بعد ba'-da	can opener فتح التكّنة faa-ti-hu at-tan-ka ♂
airport مطار ma-taar ♂	cash نقد nukd ♂
alcohol الكحول al-ku-hool ♂	cell phone هاتف محمول haa-ti-fu mah-mool ♂
all كل kul-lū	centre مركز mar-kaz ♂
allergy حساسية has-saa-si-ya ♀	cheap رخيص ra-khees/ra-khee-sa ♂/♀
and و wa	check (bill) الحساب al-hi-saab ♂
ankle كاحل kaa-hil ♂	check-in مكتب التسجيل mak-ta-bu at-tas-jeel ♂
antibiotics مضاد حيوي mu-daa-dun ha-ya-wee ♂	chest صدر sadr ♂
arm ذراع dhi-rraa' ♂	child طفل tif-lu/tif-la ♂/♀
asthma الرُّو布 ar-rabw ♂	cigarette سجارة si-jaa-ra ♂
ATM جهاز الصراف الآلي ji-haaz as-sar-rraa-fa ♂	city مدينة ma-dee-na ♂

## B

babby طفل صغير sa-gheer/طفلة صغيرة tif-lun sa-gheer/tif-la-tun sa-gheera ♂/♀	baby طفل صغير/طفلة صغيرة
back شطة shan-ta ♂	backpack حشيشة ظهر shan-ta-tu dhahr ♂
bad سيء/سيئة say-iyi' / say-iyi'-a ♂/♀	bad مكان تجمّع الأمعنعة say-iyi' / say-iyi'-a ♂/♀
baggage claim مكتبة إلتقاط الأمتعة ma-kaa-nun li-jam-'il 'am-ti'-a ♂	baggage claim مكتبة إلتقاط الأمتعة
bank بنك bank ♂	bank بنك bank ♂

bathroom غرفة الحمام ghur-fa-tul ham-maam ♂	bathroom غرفة الحمام ghur-fa-tul ham-maam ♂
battery بطارية ba-taa-ri-ya ♂	battery بطارية ba-taa-ri-ya ♂
beautiful جميلة ja-meel/ja-mee-la ♂/♀	beautiful جميلة ja-meel/ja-mee-la ♂/♀
bed سرير sa-reer ♂	bed سرير sa-reer ♂
beer بيرة bee-ra ♂	beer بيرة bee-ra ♂
before قبل kab-la	before قبل kab-la
bicycle دراجة dar-raa-ja ♂	bicycle دراجة dar-raa-ja ♂
big كبير/كبيرة ka-beer/ka-bee-ra ♂/♀	big كبير/كبيرة ka-beer/ka-bee-ra ♂/♀
blanket بطانية ba-taa-ni-ya ♂	blanket بطانية ba-taa-ni-ya ♂
bottle زجاجة zu-jaa-ja ♂	bottle زجاجة zu-jaa-ja ♂
bottle opener فتح الزجاجات faa-ti-hu az-zu-jaa-jat ♂	bottle opener فتح الزجاجات faa-ti-hu az-zu-jaa-jat ♂
boy ولد wa-lad ♂	boy ولد wa-lad ♂
breakfast فطور fu-toor ♂	breakfast فطور fu-toor ♂
bronchitis التهاب الشعب bronchitis il-ti-haab ash-shu'-ab ♂	bronchitis التهاب الشعب bronchitis il-ti-haab ash-shu'-ab ♂

## C

collect call اتصال وإلاجدة على الشخص المُتلقّى al-tas-jeel it-ti-saal wal-'uj-r'a'-laa al-shakh-sil mut-la-kee al-it-ti-saal ♂	collect call اتصال وإلاجدة على الشخص المُتلقّى al-tas-jeel it-ti-saal wal-'uj-r'a'-laa al-shakh-sil mut-la-kee al-it-ti-saal ♂
condom الواقي al-waa-kee ♂	condom الواقي al-waa-kee ♂
contact lenses عدسات لاصقة a-da-sa-tun laa-si-ka ♂	contact lenses عدسات لاصقة a-da-sa-tun laa-si-ka ♂
cough سعال su-'aal ♂	cough سعال su-'aal ♂
currency exchange صرافة sa-raa-fa ♂	currency exchange صرافة sa-raa-fa ♂
customs (immigration) جمارك ja-maa-rik ♂	customs (immigration) جمارك ja-maa-rik ♂

## D

dairy products الألبان al-baan ♂	dairy products الألبان al-baan ♂
dangerous خطير/خطيرة khatr/khatr-a ♂/♀	dangerous خطير/خطيرة khatr/khatr-a ♂/♀
date (time) تاريخ taa-reekh ♂	date (time) تاريخ taa-reekh ♂
day يوم yawn ♂	day يوم yawn ♂
diaper حفاظة طفل ha-faa-dha-tu tifl ♂	diaper حفاظة طفل ha-faa-dha-tu tifl ♂
diarrhoea الإسهال al-is-haal ♂	diarrhoea الإسهال al-is-haal ♂
dinner عشاء 'a-shaa' ♂	dinner عشاء 'a-shaa' ♂
dirty وسخة/معاق wa-skhh/was-kha ♂/♀	dirty وسخة/معاق wa-skhh/was-kha ♂/♀
disabled معاق/معاقة mu-'aak/mu-'aa-ka ♂/♀	disabled معاق/معاقة mu-'aak/mu-'aa-ka ♂/♀
double bed سرير مزدوج sa-ree-run muz-daw-waj ♂	double bed سرير مزدوج sa-ree-run muz-daw-waj ♂
drink مشروب mash-roob ♂	drink مشروب mash-roob ♂
drivers licence رخصة القيادة rukh-sa-tul kee-ya-a-da ♂	drivers licence رخصة القيادة rukh-sa-tul kee-ya-a-da ♂
(drug) مخدّر mu-khad-dir ♂	(drug) مخدّر mu-khad-dir ♂

**E**

ear ان 'u-dun ①  
 east شرق shark ⑩  
 economy class الدرجة العاديّة ad-da-ra-ja-tul 'aa-diy-ya ⑦  
 elevator مصعد mas'ad ⑩  
 email البريد الإلكتروني al-ba-ree-dul 'i-lit-kro-ni ⑩  
 English (language) الإنجليزية al-'inj-lee-zee-ya ⑩  
 exchange rate سعر التحويل si'-ru at-tah-weel ⑩  
 exit مخرج makh-raj ⑩  
 expensive غال/غالية ghaa-lin/ghaa-lee-ya ⑩/⑪  
 eye عين ay'n ⑩

**F**

fast سريع/سريعة sa-ree'/sa-ree'-a ⑩/⑪  
 fever حمى hum-maa ⑩  
 finger إصبع is-ba' ⑩  
 first-aid kit صندوق للأسعاف الأولي sun-doo-kun il-is-'aa-fil 'aw-wa-lee ⑩  
 first class الدرجة الأولى ad-da-ra-ja-tul 'oo-la ⑩  
 fish سمك sa-mak ⑩  
 food طعام ta'-aam ⑩  
 foot قدم ka-dam ⑩  
 fork شوكة shaw-ka ⑩  
 free (of charge) مجاناً ma-jaa-nan  
 fruit فاكهة faa-ki-ha ⑩  
 funny مضحك/مضحكة mud-hik/mud-hi-ka ⑩/⑪

**G**

game park مدينة ملاهي متقللة ma-dee-na-tu ma-laah-hin mu-ta-nak-ka-la ⑩  
 gift هدية ha-dee-ya ⑩  
 girl بنت bint ⑩  
 glass (drinking) كأس ka's ⑩  
 glasses نظارات na-dhaa-raat ⑩  
 gluten الغلوتين al-ghloo-teen ⑩  
 good جيدة/جيدة jay-yid/jay-yi-da ⑩/⑪  
 gram غرام ghraam ⑩

**H**

hand يد yad ⑩  
 happy سعيد/سعادة sa-'eed/sa-'ee-da ⑩/⑪  
 have عند 'ind  
 he هو hu-wa ⑩  
 head رأس ra's ⑩  
 headache صداع su-daa' ⑩  
 heart قلب kalb ⑩  
 heart condition مشكلة القلب mush-ki-la-tul kalb ⑩

**heat حرارة ha-rraa-ra ①**

here هنا hu-naa  
 high عال/عالية 'aa-lin/aa-li-ya ⑩/⑪  
 highway طريق عام haa-ta-ree-ku'aam ⑩  
 homosexual لوثي/سحاقيه loo-tee/su-haa-kee-ya ⑩/⑪  
 hot حار/حار haar/haa-ra ⑩/⑪  
 hungry جائع/جائعة jaa-'i/ljaa-'i-a ⑩/⑪

**I**

identification (card) شخصية shakh-see-ya ①  
 ill مريض/مريضة ma-reed/ma-ree-da ⑩/⑪  
 important مهم mu-him/mu-him-ma ⑩/⑪  
 internet إنترنت 'in-tir-net ⑩  
 interpreter مترجم فوري/مترجمة فورية mu-tar-jim faw-ree/mu-tar-ji-ma faw-re-ya ⑩/⑪

**J**

job عمل 'a-mal ⑩

**K**

key مفتاح mif-taah ⑩  
 kilogram كيلوجرام kee-loo-ghraam ⑩  
 kitchen مطبخ mat-bakh ⑩  
 knife سكين sik-keen ⑩

**L**

laundry (place) مغسل magh-sal ⑩  
 lawyer محامي mu-haa-min/mu-haa-mee-ya ⑩/⑪  
 left-luggage office مكتب للاحتفاظ بالامتعة mak-ta-bun li-li ih-ti-faa-dhi bil-'am-ti'a ⑩  
 leg رجل rija' ⑩  
 lesbian سحاقيه su-haa-kee-ya ①  
 less أقل 'a-kal-lu  
 letter (mail) رسالة ri-saa-la ①  
 like يحب/لحب yu-hib-bu/tu-hib-bu ⑩/⑪  
 lost-property office مكتب للاغراض الصناعية mak-ta-bu lil-'agh-raa-di ad-daa'-i-a ⑩  
 love يحب/لحب yu-hib-bu/tu-hib-bu ⑩/⑪  
 lunch غداء gha-daa' ⑩

**M**

man رجل ra-jul ⑩  
 matches كبريت kib-reet ⑩  
 meat لحم lahm ⑩  
 medicine دواء da-waa' ⑩

**message رسالة ri-saa-la ①**

mobile phone هاتف محمول haa-ti-fun mah-mool ⑩  
 month شهر shahr ⑩  
 morning صباح sa-baah ⑩  
 motorcycle دراجة نارية dar-raa-ja-tun naa-ree-ya ①  
 mouth فم famm ⑩  
 movie فيلم feelm ⑩  
 MSG أحدى الصوبيوم الغلوتين a-ha-dee as-soo-dee-oom al-ghloo-tee-naat ⑩  
 museum المتحف al-mat-haf ⑩  
 music الموسيقى al-moo-si-see-kaa ①

**N**

name اسم 'ism ⑩  
 napkin محرمة mah-ra-ma ①  
 nappy حفاظ طفل ha-faa-dha-tu tifl ⑩  
 national park حديقة وطنية ha-dee-ka-tun wa-ta-nee-ya ①  
 nausea غثيان gha-ta-yaan ⑩  
 neck رقبة ra-ka-ba ①  
 new جديد ja-deed/ja-dee-da ⑩/⑪  
 news الأخبار al-akh-baar ①  
 newspaper جريدة ja-ree-da ①  
 night ليل layl ⑩  
 nightclub ملهى ليلى mil-han lay-lee ⑩  
 noisy صحيحة/صحيحة da-jeef/da-jeet-ja ⑩/⑪  
 nonsmoking غير المدخنين ghay-ri al-mu-dakh-khi-neen  
 north شمال sha-maal ⑩  
 nose أنف 'ainf ⑩  
 now الآن al-'aan  
 number رقم rakm ⑩  
 nuts مكسرات mu-kas-si-raat ①

**O**

oil (engine) نفط naft ⑩  
 OK تمام ta-maam  
 old قديم/قديمة ka-deem/ka-dee-ma ⑩/⑪  
 open مفتوح/مفتوحة maf-tooh/maf-too-ha ⑩/⑪  
 outsideخارج/خارجة khaa-rij/khaa-ri-ja ⑩/⑪

**P**

package طرد tard ⑩  
 pain ألم a-lam ⑩  
 palace قصر kasr ⑩  
 paper ورقه wa-ra-ka ①  
 park (car) يوقف توقف yoo-ki-fu/too-ki-fu ⑩/⑪  
 passport جواز سفر ja-waa-zu sa-far ⑩  
 pay يدفع/تدفع yad-fa-'u/tad-fa-'u ⑩/⑪  
 pen قلم ka-lam ⑩

**petrol نفط naft ⑩**

pharmacy صيدلية say-da/lee-ya ①  
 plate صحن sahn ⑩  
 postcard بطاقة المعايدة bi-taa-ka-tul mu-'aa-ya-da ⑩  
 post office مكتب البريد mak-ta-bul ba-reed ⑩  
 pregnant حامل haa-mil ①

**Q**

quiet هادء/هداده haa-din/haa-dee-ya ⑩/⑪

**R**

rain مطر ma-tar ⑩  
 razor موسى moo-saa ⑩  
 registered mail بريد مسجل ba-reed mu-sa-jal ⑩  
 rent يسأجار/يستأجر ⑩  
 yas-ta-jii-ru/tas-ta'-ji-ru ⑩/⑪  
 repair يصلح yus-li-hu/tus-li-hu ⑩/⑪  
 reservation حجز hajz ⑩  
 restaurant مطعم mat'-am ⑩  
 return يرجع/ترجع yarja'/'ut/arja'u ⑩/⑪  
 road شارع shaar-ri' ⑩  
 room غرفة ghur-fa ①

**S**

sad حزين/حزينة ha-zeen/ha-zee-na ⑩/⑪  
 safe آمن 'aa-min/aa-meen ⑩/⑪  
 sanitary napkin منديل نسائي min-dee-lun ni-saa'-ee ⑩

seafood الطعام البحري at-ta-'aa-mul ba-ha-ree ⑩

seat مقعد mak-ad ⑩

send يبعث/يبعث yab'-a-thu/tab'-a-thu ⑩/⑪

sex جنس jins ⑩/⑪

shampoo الشامبو ash-shaa-bo ⑩

share (a dorm, etc) يشارك/تشارك yu-shaa-ri-ku/tu-shaa-ri-ku ⑩/⑪

shaving cream معجون الملاعة ma'-joo-nul hal-la-ka ⑩

she هي hi-ya ①

sheet (bed) شرشف shar-shaf ⑩

shirt قميص ka-meess ⑩

shoes حذاء hi-dhaa' ⑩

shop دكان duk-kaan ⑩

shower دوش doosh ⑩

skinجل jild ⑩

skirt تنورة tan-noor-a ①

sleep نائم/نائماً ya-naa-mu/tu-naa-mu ⑩/⑪

small صغير/صغرى sa-geer/sa-ghee-ra ⑩/⑪

smoke (cigarettes) يدخن/تدخن yu-dakh-khi-nu/tu-dakh-khi-nu ⑩/⑪

soap صابون saa-boon ⑩

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- some بعض *ba'-du*  
soon قريباً *ka-ree-ban*  
sore throat ألم في حلق *a'-la-mu fee hal-kee* ⓘ  
south جنوب *ja-noob* ⓘ  
souvenir shop مكّان التذكّارات *duk-kaa-nu at-tidh-kaa-raat* ⓘ  
speak يتكلّم / تتكلّم *ya-ta-kal-la-mu/ta-ta-kal-la-mu* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
spoon ملعقة *mal'-a-ka* ⓘ  
stamp طابع *taa-bi'* ⓘ  
stand-by ticket تذكرة بديلة *tadh-ki-ra-tun ba-dee-la* ⓘ  
station (train) محطة *mu-hat-ta-tu* ⓘ  
stomach معدة *ma'-i-da* ⓘ  
stop ↗ توقف / تقف *ya-ki-fu/ta-ki-fu* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
stop (bus) ↗ موقف *maw-ki-fu* ⓘ  
street شارع *shaar-ri'* ⓘ  
student طالب / طالبة *taa-lib/taa-li-ba* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
sunscreen معجون واقي من الشمس *ma'-joo-nun waa-kee miin ash-shams* ⓘ  
swim ↗ يسبح / تسبح *yas-ba-hu/tas-bu-hu* ⓘ/ ⓘ

## T

- tampons الصمام النسائي *as-si-maa-mu an-ni-saa'-ee* ⓘ  
teeth أسنان *as-naan* ⓘ  
telephone هاتف *haa-tif* ⓘ  
television تلفزيون *til-fi-see-yoon* ⓘ  
temperature (weather) درجة الحرارة *da-ra-ja-tul ha-rraa-ra* ⓘ  
tent خيمة *khay-ma* ⓘ  
that (one) ذلك / تلك *dhaa-li-ka/til-ka* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
they هم / هن *hum/hun-na* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
thirsty عطشان / عطشانة *'at-shaan/'at-shaa-na* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
this (one) هذا / هذه *haa-dhaa/haa-dhi-hi* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
throat حلق *khalk* ⓘ  
ticket تذكرة *tadh-ki-ra* ⓘ  
time وقت *wakt* ⓘ  
tired تعبان / تعبانة *ta'-baan/ta'-baa-na* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
tissues حمام *ma-haa-ram* ⓘ  
todayاليوم *al-yawm* ⓘ  
toilet دوّمات المياه *daw-raa-tul mi-yaah* ⓘ  
tonight ليلة اليوم *lay-la-tul yawm* ⓘ  
toothache ألم في الأسنان *a'-la-mu feel 'as-naan* ⓘ  
toothbrush فرشاة الأسنان *far-shaa-tul 'as-naan* ⓘ  
toothpaste معجون الأسنان *ma'joo-nul 'as-naan* ⓘ  
torch (flashlight) مِشْعَل كهربائي *mish'-a-lun kah-ra-baa'-ee* ⓘ  
tourist office مكتب السياحة *mak-ta-bu as-si-yaah-ha* ⓘ  
towel منشفة *man-sha-fa* ⓘ  
translate يترجم / ترجم *yu-tar-ji-mu/tu-tar-ji-mu* ⓘ/ ⓘ

- travel agency وكالة سفر *wa-kaa-la-tu sa-far* ⓘ  
travellers cheque شيك سياحي *shee-kun si-yaah-hee* ⓘ  
trousers بنطلون *ban-ta-loon* ⓘ  
twin beds سريرين منفردین *sa-ree-ray-ni mun-fa-ri-dayn* ⓘ  
tyre إطار السيارة *i'-taa-ru as-say-yaa-ra* ⓘ

## U

- underwear ملابس داخلية *ma-laah-bi-sun daa-khi-ee-ya* ⓘ  
urgent مستعجلة *mus-ta'-jal/mus-ta'-ja-la* ⓘ/ ⓘ

## V

- vacant شاغر / شاغرة *shaa-ghir/shaa-ghi-ra* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
vegetable نبات / نباتات *khud-raa-waat* ⓘ  
vegetarian نباتي / نباتية *na-baa-tee/na-baa-tee-ya* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
visa تأشيرة *ta'-shee-ra* ⓘ

## W

- waiter نادل / نادلة *naa-dil/naa-di-la* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
walk ↗ يمشي / تمشي *yam-shee/tam-shee* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
wallet محفظة *mah-fa-dha* ⓘ  
warm دافئ / دافئة *daa-fi'/daa-fi-'a* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
wash (something) بغسل / غسل *yagh-si-lu/tagh-si-lu* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
watch ساعة اليد *saa'-a-tul yad* ⓘ  
water ماء *maa'* ⓘ  
we نحن *nah-nu* ⓘ  
weekend نهاية الأسبوع *ni-haa-ya-tul 'us-bo'* ⓘ  
west غرب *gharb* ⓘ  
wheelchair كرسي المُعَيَّن *kur-see al-muk'-a-deen*  
when متى *ma-taa*  
where أين *'ay-na*  
who من *man*  
why لماذا *li-maa-dhaa*  
window نافذتك *shub-baak* ⓘ  
wineنبيذ *na-beedh* ⓘ  
with مع *ma-a'*  
without بدون *bi-doo-ni*  
woman امرأة *'im-ra-'a* ⓘ  
write يكتب / تكتب *yak-tu-bu/tak-tu-bu* ⓘ/ ⓘ

## Y

- you sg أنت / أنت *'an-ta/'an-ty* ⓘ/ ⓘ  
you pl أنتم / أنتن *'an-tum/'an-tun-na* ⓘ/ ⓘ

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# French



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	run	b	bed
ai	aisle	d	dog
air	fair	f	fun
e	bet	g	go
ee	see	k	kit
eu	nurse	l	lot
ew	ee with rounded lips	m	man
ey	as in 'bet', but longer	n	not
o	pot	ny	canyon
oo	zoo	ng	ring
om/on/ong	as in 'pot', but nasal	p	pet
um/un/ung	as in 'act', but nasal	r	run (throaty)
In this chapter, the French pronunciation is given in green after each phrase.		s	sun
Each syllable is separated by a dot. For example: <i>Bonjour.</i> bon-zhoor		sh	shot
French's nasal vowels, simplified as om/on/ong and um/un/ung above, are pronounced as if you're trying to force the sound out of your nose.		t	top
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero
		zh	pleasure

## language difficulties

Do you speak English?	<i>Parlez-vous anglais?</i>	par-ley-voo ong-gley
Do you understand?	<i>Comprenez-vous?</i>	kom-pre-ney-voo
I understand.	<i>Je comprends.</i>	zhe kom-pron
I don't understand.	<i>Je ne comprends pas.</i>	zhe ne kom-pron pa
Could you please please ...?	<i>Pourriez-vous ..., s'il vous plaît?</i>	poo-ree-yey voo ... seel voo pley
repeat that	<i>répéter</i>	rey-pey-tey
speak more slowly	<i>parler plus lentement</i>	par-ley plew lon-te-mon
write it down	<i>l'écrire</i>	ley-kreer

## time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	<i>Quelle heure est-il?</i>	kel eur ey-teel
It's one o'clock.	<i>Il est une heure.</i>	ee-ley ewn eu
It's (ten) o'clock.	<i>Il est (dix) heures.</i>	ee-ley (deez) eu
Quarter past (one).	<i>Il est (une) heure et quart.</i>	ee-ley (ewn) eu ey kar
Half past (one).	<i>Il est (une) heure et demie.</i>	ee-ley (ewn) eu ey de-mee
Quarter to (one).	<i>Il est (une) heure moins le quart.</i>	ee-ley (ewn) eu mwun le kar
At what time ...?	<i>À quelle heure ...?</i>	a kel eu ...
At ...	<i>À ...</i>	a ...
It's (18 October).	<i>C'est le (dix-huit octobre).</i>	sey le (dee-zwee tok-to-bre)
Monday	<i>lundi</i>	lun-dee
Tuesday	<i>mardi</i>	mar-dee
Wednesday	<i>mercredi</i>	mair-kre-dee
Thursday	<i>jeudi</i>	zheu-dee
Friday	<i>vendredi</i>	von-dre-dee
Saturday	<i>samedi</i>	sam-dee
Sunday	<i>dimanche</i>	dee-monsh

yesterday	<i>hier</i>	ee-yair
today	<i>aujourd'hui</i>	o-zhoor-dwee
tomorrow	<i>demain</i>	de-mun

numbers					
0	zéro	zey-ro	16	<i>seize</i>	sez
1	<i>un</i>	un	17	<i>dix-sept</i>	dee-set
2	<i>deux</i>	deu	18	<i>dix-huit</i>	dee-zweet
3	<i>trois</i>	trwa	19	<i>dix-neuf</i>	deez-neuf
4	<i>quatre</i>	ka-tre	20	<i>vingt</i>	vung
5	<i>cinq</i>	sungk	21	<i>vingt et un</i>	vung tey un
6	<i>six</i>	sees	22	<i>vingt-deux</i>	vung-deu
7	<i>sept</i>	set	30	<i>trente</i>	tron
8	<i>huit</i>	heet	40	<i>quarante</i>	ka-ront
9	<i>neuf</i>	neuf	50	<i>cinquante</i>	sung-kont
10	<i>dix</i>	dees	60	<i>soixante</i>	swa-sont
11	<i>onze</i>	onz	70	<i>soixante-dix</i>	swa-son-dees
12	<i>douze</i>	dooz	80	<i>quatre-vingts</i>	ka-tre-vung
13	<i>treize</i>	trez	90	<i>quatre-vingt-dix</i>	ka-tre-vung-dees
14	<i>quatorze</i>	ka-torz	100	<i>cent</i>	son
15	<i>quinze</i>	kunz	1000	<i>mille</i>	meel

## border crossing

I'm here ... in transit on business on holiday	<i>Je suis ici ... de passage pour le travail pour les vacances</i>	zhe swee zee-see ... de pa-sazh poor le tra-vai poor ley va-kons
I'm here for ... (10) days (three) weeks (two) months	<i>Je suis ici pour ... (dix) jours (trois) semaines (deux) mois</i>	zhe swee zee-see poor ... (dees) zhoor (trwa) se-men (deu) mwa
I'm going to (Yaoundé). <i>Je vais à (Yaoundé).</i>		zhe vey a (ya-oon-dey)
I'm staying at the (Mercure Hotel). <i>Je loge au (Mercure).</i>		zhe lozh o (mer-kevr)

## tickets

One ... ticket (to Douala), please. one-way return	<i>Un billet ... (pour Douala), s'il vous plaît.</i> simple aller et retour	um bee-ye ... (poor dwa-la) seel voo pley sum-ple a-ley ey re-toor
Is there ...? air conditioning a toilet	<i>Est-ce qu'il y a ...?</i> <i>la climatisation</i> <i>des toilettes</i>	es-keel ya ... la klee-ma-tee-za-syon dey twa-let
I'd like a ... seat, please. nonsmoking smoking	<i>Je voudrais une place</i> ..., <i>s'il vous plaît.</i> <i>non-fumeur</i> <i>fumeur</i>	zhe voo-drey ewn plas ... seel voo pley non-few-mer few-mer



## transport

Is this the ... to (Libreville)? boat bus train	<i>Est-ce le ... pour (Libreville)?</i> <i>bateau</i> <i>bus</i> <i>train</i>	es le ... poor (lee-brer-veel) ba-to bews trun
How much is it to ...? <i>C'est combien pour aller à ...?</i>		sey kom-byun poor a-ley a ...
Please take me to (this address). <i>Conduisez-moi à (cette adresse), s'il vous plaît.</i>		kon-dwee-zey mwa a (set a-dres) seel voo pley
I'd like to hire a ... car (with air conditioning) 4WD	<i>Je voudrais louer ...</i> <i>une voiture (avec</i> <i>climatisation)</i> <i>un quatre-quatre</i>	zhe voo-drey loo-wey ... ewn vwa-tewr (a-vek klee-ma-tee-za-syon) un ka-tre ka-tre

## directions

Where's the nearest ...?  
internet café market

It's ...  
behind ...  
in front of ...  
near (to ...) ...  
next to ...  
on the corner  
opposite ...  
straight ahead  
there

Où est-ce qu'il y a ...  
le plus proche?  
le cybercafé  
le marché

C'est ...  
derrière ...  
devant ...  
près (de ...) ...  
à côté de ...  
au coin  
en face de ...  
tout droit  
là

oo es-keel ya ...  
le plew prosh  
le see-bair-ka-fey  
le mar-shey

sey ...  
dair-yair ...  
de-von ...  
prey (de ...) ...  
a ko-tey de ...  
o kwun  
on fas de ...  
too drwa  
la



## accommodation

I'd like to book a room, please.

*Je voudrais réserver  
une chambre, s'il vous plaît.*

zhe voo-drey rey-zair-vey  
ewn shom-bre seel voo pley

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

*Je voudrais rester pour (deux) nuits.*

zhe voo-drey res-tey poor (deu) nwee

Do you have  
a ... room?

single  
double  
twin

Avez-vous  
une chambre ...?

à un lit  
avec un grand lit  
avec des lits jumeaux

a-vey-voo  
ewn shom-bre ...

a un lee  
a-vek ung gron lee  
a-vek dey lee zhew-mo

How much is it  
per ...?

night  
person

Quel est le prix  
par ...?

nuit  
personne

kel ey le pree  
par ...

nwee  
pair-son

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...  
change a travellers  
cheque  
change money  
get internet  
access  
withdraw money

Je voudrais ...  
changer des  
chèques de voyage  
changer de l'argent  
me connecter  
à l'internet  
retirer de l'argent

zhe voo-drey ...  
shon-zhey dey  
shek de vwa-yazh  
shon-zhey de lar-zhon  
me ko-nek-tey a  
lun-tair-net  
re-tee-rey de lar-zhon

## shopping

I'm looking for ...

*Je cherche ...*

zhe shairsh ...

How much is it?

*C'est combien?*

sey kom-byun

Can you write down the price?

*Pouvez-vous écrire le prix?*

poo-vey-voo ey-kreer le pree

Do you accept ...?

*Est-ce que je peux  
payer avec ...?*

es-ke zhe pe  
pey-yey a-vek ...

credit cards  
travellers cheques

une carte de crédit  
des chèques de voyages

ewn kart de krey-dee  
dey shek de vwa-yazh

## making conversation

Hello.

Good night.

Goodbye.

Bonjour.

Bonsoir.

Au revoir.

bon-zhoor

bon-swar

o re-vwar

Mr

Mrs

Miss

Monsieur

Madame

Mademoiselle

me-syeu

ma-dam

mad-mwa-zel

How are you?

Fine, thanks. And you?

Comment allez-vous?

Bien, merci. Et vous?

ko-mon ta-ley-voo

byun mair-see ey voo

What's your name?	<i>Comment vous appelez-vous?</i>	ko-mon voo za-pley-voo
My name's ...	<i>Je m'appelle ...</i>	zhe ma-pel ...
I'm pleased to meet you.	<i>Enchanté(e).</i> m/f	on-shon-tey
This is my ... boyfriend	<i>Voici mon/ma ...</i> m/f	vwa-see mon/ma ...
daughter	<i>petit ami</i>	pe-tee ta-mee
friend	<i>fille</i>	fee-ye
girlfriend	<i>ami/amie</i> m/f	a-mee
husband	<i>petite amie</i>	pe-tee ta-mee
son	<i>mari</i>	ma-ree
wife	<i>fils</i>	fees
I'm ... married	<i>femme</i>	fam
single	<i>Je suis ...</i>	zhe swee ...
Here's my ... address	<i>marié/mariée</i> m/f	mar-yeey
What's your ...? email address	<i>célibataire</i> m&f	sey-lee-ba-tair
phone number	<i>Voici mon ...</i>	vwa-see mon ...
Where are you from?	<i>Quel est votre ...?</i> pol	kel ey vo-tre ...
I'm from ... Australia	<i>Quel est ton ...?</i> inf	kel ey ton ...
Canada	<i>adresse</i>	a-dres
New Zealand	<i>e-mail</i>	ey-mel
the UK	<i>numéro de téléphone</i>	new-mey-ro de tey-le-y-fon
the USA	<i>Vous venez d'où?</i> pol	voo ve-ney doo
Can I take a photo?	<i>Tu viens d'où?</i> inf	tew vyun doo
	<i>Je viens ...</i>	zhe vyun ...
	<i>d'Australie</i>	dos-tra-lee
	<i>du Canada</i>	dew ka-na-da
	<i>de la Nouvelle-Zélande</i>	de la noo-vel-zey-lond
	<i>du Royaume-Uni</i>	dew rwa-om ew-nee
	<i>des Etats Unis</i>	dey ey-tas ew-nee
	<i>Est-ce que je peux prendre une photo?</i>	es-ke zhe peu pron-dre ewn fo-to

## eating out

<i>I'd like ..., please.</i>	<i>Je voudrais ..., s'il vous plaît.</i>	zhe voo-drey ...
<i>the bill</i>	<i>l'addition</i>	seel voo pley
<i>the menu</i>	<i>la carte</i>	la-dee-syon
<i>a table for (two)</i>	<i>une table pour (deux) personnes</i>	la kart ewn ta-ble poor (deu) pair-son
<i>that dish</i>	<i>ce plat</i>	se pla
<i>Do you have vegetarian food?</i>	<i>Vous faites les repas végétariens?</i>	voo fet ley re-pa vey-zhey-ta-ryun
<i>Could you prepare a meal without ...?</i>	<i>Pouvez-vous préparer un repas sans ...?</i>	poo-vey-voo prey-pa-rey un re-pa son ...
<i>eggs</i>	<i>œufs</i>	eu
<i>meat stock</i>	<i>bouillon gras</i>	boo-yon gra

## emergencies

<i>Help!</i>	<i>Au secours!</i>	o skoor
<i>Call ...!</i>	<i>Appelez ...!</i>	a-pley ...
<i>an ambulance</i>	<i>une ambulance</i>	ewn om-bew-lons
<i>the police</i>	<i>la police</i>	la po-lees
<i>Could you help me, please?</i>	<i>Est-ce que vous pourriez m'aider, s'il vous plaît?</i>	es-ke voo poo-ryey mey-dey seal voo pley
<i>Could I use the telephone?</i>	<i>Est-ce que je pourrais utiliser le téléphone?</i>	es-ke zhe poo-rey ew-tee-lee-zey le tey-le-y-fon
<i>I'm lost.</i>	<i>Je suis perdu/perdue.</i> m/f	zhe swee pair-dew
<i>Where are the toilets?</i>	<i>Où sont les toilettes?</i>	oo son ley twa-let
<i>I've been assaulted.</i>	<i>J'ai été violenté/violentée.</i> m/f	zhey ey-tey vyo-lon-tey
<i>I've been raped.</i>	<i>J'ai été violé/violée.</i> m/f	zhey ey-tey vyo-ley

I've lost my ...  
My ... was/were  
stolen.

bags  
credit card  
handbag  
jewellery  
money  
passport  
travellers  
cheques  
wallet

J'ai perdu ...  
On m'a volé ...

zhey pair-dew ...  
on ma vo-ley ...

mes valises  
ma carte de crédit  
mon sac à main  
mes bijoux  
mon argent  
mon passeport  
mes chèques de  
voyage  
mon portefeuille

I want to contact  
my ...

consulate  
embassy

Je veux contacter  
mon ...

consulat  
ambassade

zher veu kon-tak-tey  
mon ...

kon-sew-la  
om-ba-sad



## medical needs

Where's the  
nearest ...?  
dentist  
doctor  
hospital  
pharmacist

Où y a t-il ...  
par ici?  
un dentiste  
un médecin  
un hôpital  
une pharmacie

oo ee a teel ...  
par ee-see  
un don-teest  
un meyd-sun  
u-no-pee-tal  
ewn far-ma-see

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

J'ai besoin d'un médecin  
(qui parle anglais).

zhey be-zwun dun meyd-sun  
(kee parl ong-gley)

It hurts here.

J'ai une douleur ici.

zhey ewn doo-leur ee-see

I'm allergic to (penicillin).

Je suis allergique  
à (la pénicilline).

zhe swee za-lair-zheek  
a (la pey-nee-see-leen)

## english–french dictionary

French nouns and adjectives in this dictionary have their gender indicated by ♂ (masculine) or ♀ (feminine). If it's a plural noun, you'll also see pl. Words are also marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular), pl (plural), inf (informal) and pol (polite) where necessary.

### A

accommodation logement ♂ lozh-mon  
adaptor adaptateur ♂ a-dap-ta-teur  
after après a-prey  
airport aéroport ♂ a-ey-ro-por  
alcohol alcool ♂ al-kol  
all a tout/toute ♂/♀ too/toot  
allergy allergie ♂ a-lair-zhee  
and et ey  
ankle cheville ♂ she-vye-ye  
antibiotics antibiotiques ♂ pl on-tee-byo-teek  
anti-inflammatories anti-inflammatoires ♂ pl  
un-tee-un-fla-ma-twar  
arm bras ♂ bra  
aspirin aspirine ♂ as-pee-reen  
asthma asthme ♂ as-meu  
ATM guichet automatique de banque ♂  
gee-shey o-to-ma-teek de bonk

### B

baby bébé ♂ bey-bey  
back (body) dos ♂ do  
backpack sac à dos ♂ sak a do  
bad mauvais/mauvaise ♂/♀ mo-vey/mo-veyz  
baggage claim retrait des bagages ♂  
re-trey dey ba-gazh  
bank banque ♂ bonk  
bathroom salle de bain ♂ sal de bun  
battery (car) batterie ♂ bat-ree  
battery (general) pile ♂ peel  
beautiful beau/belle ♂/♀ bo/bel  
bed lit ♂ lee  
bee abeille ♂ a-bey  
beer bière ♂ byair  
before avant a-von  
bicycle vélo ♂ vey-lo  
big grand/grande ♂/♀ gron/grond  
blanket couverture ♂ koo-vair-tewr  
blood group groupe sanguin ♂ groop song-gun

bottle bouteille ♂ boo-tey  
bottle opener ouvre-bouteille ♂ oo-vre-boos-tey  
boy garçon ♂ gar-son  
brakes (car) freins ♂ frun  
breakfast petit déjeuner ♂ pe-tee dey-zheu-ney  
bronchitis bronchite ♂ bron-sheet

### C

café café ♂ ka-fey  
cancel annuler a-new-ley  
can opener ouvre-boîte ♂ oo-vre-bwat  
cash argent ♂ ar-zhon  
cell phone téléphone portable ♂ tey-ley-fon por-ta-ble  
centre centre ♂ son-tre  
cheap bon marché ♂ & ♀ bon mar-shey  
check (bill) addition ♂ la-dee-syon  
check-in enregistrement ♂ on-re-zhee-stre-mon  
chest poitrine ♂ pwa-treen  
child enfant ♂ & ♀ on-fon  
cigarette cigarette ♂ see-ga-ret  
city ville ♂ veel  
clean a propre ♂ & ♀ pro-pre  
closed fermé/fermée ♂/♀ fair-mey  
codeine codéine ♂ ko-dey-een  
cold a froid/froide ♂/♀ frwa/frwad  
collect call appel en PCV ♂ a-pel on pey-sey-vey  
condom préservatif ♂ prey-zair-va-teef  
constipation constipation ♂ kon-stee-pa-syon  
contact lenses verres de contact ♂ pl vair de kon-takt  
cough toux ♂ too  
currency exchange taux de change ♂ to de shonz  
customs (immigration) douane ♂ dwan

### D

dairy products produits laitiers ♂ pl pro-dwee ley-tyey  
dangerous dangereux/dangereuse ♂/♀  
don-zhreu/don-zhreuz  
day date de naissance ♂ dat de ney-sons  
diaper couche ♂ koosh

diarrhoea diarrhée ⓘ dya-rey  
 dinner diner ⓘ dee-ney  
 dirty sale Ⓜ & ⓘ sal  
 disabled handicapé/handicapée ⓘ/ ⓘ on-dee-ka-pey  
 double bed grand lit ⓘ gron lee  
 drink boisson ⓘ bwa-son  
 drivers licence permis de conduire ⓘ  
 pair-mee de kon-dweer  
 drug (illicit) drogue ⓘ drog

ear oreille ⓘ o-rey  
 east est ⓘ est  
 economy class classe touriste ⓘ klas too-reest  
 elevator ascenseur ⓘ a-son-seur  
 email e-mail ⓘ ey-mel  
 English (language) anglais ⓘ ong-gley  
 exchange rate taux de change ⓘ to de shonz  
 exit sortie ⓘ sor-tee  
 expensive cher/chère ⓘ/ ⓘ shair  
 eye œil ⓘ eu-ye

fast rapide ⓘ & ⓘ ra-peed  
 fever fièvre ⓘ fiev-re  
 finger doigt ⓘ dwa  
 first-aid kit troussé à pharmacie ⓘ troos a far-ma-see  
 first class première classe ⓘ pre-myair klas  
 fish poisson ⓘ pwa-son  
 food nourriture ⓘ noo-ree-tewr  
 foot pied ⓘ pyey  
 fork fourchette ⓘ foor-shet  
 free (of charge) gratuit/gratuite ⓘ/ ⓘ  
 gra-twee/gratweet  
 fruit fruit ⓘ frwee  
 funny drôle ⓘ & ⓘ drol

gift cadeau ⓘ ka-do  
 girl fille ⓘ fee-ye  
 glasses lunettes ⓘ pl lew-net  
 gluten gluten ⓘ gley-ten  
 good bon/bonne ⓘ/ ⓘ bon  
 gram gramma ⓘ gram  
 guide guide ⓘ geed

hand main ⓘ mun  
 happy heureux/heureuse ⓘ/ ⓘ eu-reu/eu-reuz  
 have avoir a-vwar  
 he il/ee el  
 head tête ⓘ tet  
 headache mal à la tête ⓘ mal a la tet  
 heart cœur ⓘ keur  
 heart condition maladie de cœur ⓘ ma-la-dee de keur  
 heat chaleur ⓘ sha-leur  
 here ici ee-see  
 high haut/haute ⓘ/ ⓘ o/ot  
 highway autoroute ⓘ o-to-root  
 homosexual n homosexuel/homosexuelle ⓘ/ ⓘ  
 o-mo-sek-swel  
 hot chaud/chaude ⓘ/ ⓘ sho/shod  
 (be) hungry avoir faim a-vwar fum

I je zhe  
 identification (card) carte d'identité ⓘ  
 kart dee-don-tee-tey  
 ill malade ⓘ & ⓘ ma-lad  
 important important/importante ⓘ/ ⓘ  
 um-por-ton/um-por-tont  
 internet Internet ⓘ un-tair-net  
 interpreter interprète ⓘ & ⓘ un-tair-pret

key clé ⓘ kley  
 kilogram kilogramme ⓘ kee-lo-gram  
 kitchen cuisine ⓘ kwee-zeen  
 knife couteau ⓘ koo-to

laundry (place) blanchisserie ⓘ blon-shees-ree  
 lawyer avocat/avocate ⓘ/ ⓘ a-vo-ka/a-vo-kat  
 left-luggage office consigne ⓘ kon-see-nye  
 leg jambe ⓘ zhomb  
 lesbian n lesbienne ⓘ les-byen  
 less moins mwun  
 letter (mail) lettre ⓘ le-trer  
 like v aimer ey-mey  
 lost-property office bureau des objets trouvés ⓘ  
 bew-ro dey zob-zhey troo-vey

love v aimer ey-mey  
 lunch déjeuner ⓘ dey-zheu-ney

man homme ⓘ om  
 matches allumettes ⓘ pl a-lew-met  
 meat viande ⓘ vyond  
 medicine médecine ⓘ med-seen  
 message message ⓘ mey-sazh  
 mobile phone téléphone portable ⓘ tey-ley-fon por-ta-ble  
 month mois ⓘ mwa  
 morning matin ⓘ ma-tun  
 motorcycle moto ⓘ mo-to  
 mouth bouche ⓘ boosh  
 movie film ⓘ feelm  
 MSG glutamate de sodium ⓘ glew-ta-mat de so-dyom  
 museum musée ⓘ mew-zeiy  
 music musique ⓘ mew-zeek

name nom ⓘ nom  
 napkin serviette ⓘ sair-vyet  
 nappy couche ⓘ koosh  
 national park parc national ⓘ park na-syo-nal  
 nausea nauzée ⓘ no-zey  
 neck cou ⓘ koo  
 new nouveau/nouvelle ⓘ/ ⓘ noo-vo/noo-vel  
 news ⓘ pl les nouvelles ley noo-vel  
 newspaper journal ⓘ zhoor-nal  
 night nuit ⓘ nwee  
 nightclub boîte ⓘ bwat  
 noisy bruyant/bruyante ⓘ/ ⓘ brew-yon/brew-yont  
 nonsmoking non-fumeur non-few-meur  
 north nord ⓘ nor  
 nose nez ⓘ ney  
 now maintenant mun-te-non  
 number numéro ⓘ new-mey-ro

oil huile ⓘ weel  
 OK bien byun  
 old vieux/vieille ⓘ/ ⓘ vyeu/vyey  
 open a ouvert/ouverte ⓘ/ ⓘ oo-vair/oo-vairt  
 outside dehors de-or

package paquet ⓘ pa-key  
 pain douleur ⓘ doo-leur  
 paper papier ⓘ pa-pyey  
 park (car) v garer (une voiture) ga-rey (ewn vwa-tewr)  
 passport passeport ⓘ pas-por  
 pay payer pey-ye  
 pen stylo ⓘ stee-lo  
 petrol essence ⓘ ey-sons  
 pharmacy pharmacie ⓘ far-ma-see  
 plate assiette ⓘ a-syet  
 postcard carte postale ⓘ kart pos-tal  
 post office bureau de poste ⓘ bew-ro de post  
 pregnant enceinte on-sunt

rain n pluie ⓘ plwie  
 razor rasoir ⓘ ra-zwar  
 registered mail en recommandé on re-ko-mon-dey  
 rent v louer loo-ey  
 repair v réparer rey-pa-rey  
 reservation réservation ⓘ rey-zair-va-syon  
 restaurant restaurant ⓘ res-to-ron  
 return v revenir rev-neer  
 road route ⓘ root  
 room chambre ⓘ shom-bre

sad triste treest  
 safe a sans danger ⓘ & ⓘ son don-zhey  
 sanitary napkin serviette hygiénique ⓘ  
 sair-vyet ee-zhye-neck  
 seafood fruits de mer ⓘ frwee de mair  
 seat place ⓘ plas  
 send envoyer on-vwa-yeay  
 sex sexe ⓘ sek  
 shampoo shampooing ⓘ shom-pwung  
 share (a dorm) partager par-ta-zhey  
 shaving cream mousse à raser ⓘ moos a ra-zey  
 she elle el  
 sheet (bed) drap ⓘ dra  
 shirt chemise ⓘ she-meez  
 shoes chaussures ⓘ pl sho-sewrr  
 shop magasin ⓘ ma-ga-zun  
 shower douche ⓘ doosh  
 skin peau ⓘ po

**skirt jupe** ⓘ zhewp

**sleep dormir** dor-meer

**small petit/petite** ⓘ/ ⓘ pe-tee/pe-teet

**smoke (cigarettes) fumer** few-mey

**soap savon** ⓘ sa-von

**some quelques** kel-ke

**soon bientôt** byun-to

**sore throat mal à la gorge** ⓘ mal a la gorzh

**south sud** ⓘ sewd

**souvenir shop magasin de souvenirs** ⓘ

ma-ga-zun de soov-neer

**speak parler** par-ley

**spoon cuillère** ⓘ kwee-yair

**stamp timbre** ⓘ tum-bre

**stand-by ticket billet stand-by** ⓘ bee-ey stond-bai

**station (train) gare** ⓘ gar

**stomach estomac** ⓘ es-to-ma

**stop arrêter** a-rey-tey

**stop (bus) arrêt** ⓘ a-rey

**street rue** ⓘ rew

**student étudiant/étudiante** ⓘ/ ⓘ

ey-tew-dyon/ey-tew-dyont

**sunscreen écran solaire** ⓘ ey-kron so-lair

**swim nager** na-zhey

## T

**tampons tampons** ⓘ pl tom-pon

**teeth dents** ⓘ don

**telephone n téléphone** ⓘ tey-ley-fon

**television télé(vision)** ⓘ tey-ley(vee-zyon)

**temperature (weather) température** ⓘ tom-pey-ra-tewr

**that (one) cela se-la**

**they ils/elles** ⓘ/ ⓘ eel/el

**(be) thirsty avoir soif** a-vwar swaf

**this (one) ceci** se-see

**throat gorge** ⓘ gorzh

**ticket billet** ⓘ bee-ye

**time temps** ⓘ tom

**tired fatigué/fatiguée** ⓘ/ ⓘ fa-tee-gey

**tissues mouchoirs en papier** ⓘ pl moo-shwar om pa-pyey

**today aujourd'hui** o-zhoor-dwee

**toilet toilettes** ⓘ pl twa-let

**tonight ce soir** se swar

**toothache mal aux dents** ⓘ mal o don

**toothbrush brosse à dents** ⓘ bros a don

## V

**toothpaste dentifrice** ⓘ don-tee-frees

**torch (flashlight) lampe de poche** ⓘ lomp de posh

**tourist office office de tourisme** ⓘ o-fees-de too-rees-me

**towel serviette** ⓘ sair-vyet

**travel agency agence de voyage** ⓘ a-zhons de vwa-yazh

**travellers cheque chèque de voyage** ⓘ shek de vwa-yazh

**trousers pantalon** ⓘ pon-ta-lon

**twin beds lits jumeaux** ⓘ pl dey lee zhew-mo

**tyre pneu** ⓘ pneu

## V

**vacant libre** ⓘ & ⓘ lee-bre

**vegetable légume** ⓘ ley-gewm

**vegetarian a végétarien/végétarienne** ⓘ/ ⓘ

vey-zhey-ta-ryun/vey-zhey-ta-ryen

**visa visa** ⓘ vee-za

## W

**waiter serveur/serveuse** ⓘ/ ⓘ sair-veur/sair-veurz

**walk marcher** mar-shey

**wallet portefeuille** ⓘ por-te-feu-ye

**warm a chaud/chaude** ⓘ/ ⓘ sho/shod

**wash (something) laver** la-vey

**watch montre** ⓘ mon-tre

**water eau** ⓘ o

**we nous** noo

**west ouest** ⓘ west

**wheelchair fauteuil roulant** ⓘ fo-teu-ye roo-lon

**when quand** kon

**where où** oo

**who qui** kee

**why pourquoi** poor-kwa

**window fenêtre** ⓘ fe-ney-tre

**wine vin** ⓘ vun

**with avec** a-vek

**without sans** son

**woman femme** ⓘ fam

**write écrire** ey-krer

## Y

**you sg inf tu** tew

**you sg pol vous** voo

**you pl vous** voo

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# Hausa



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	run	b	bed
aa	father	b'	strong b with air sucked inward
ai	aisle	ch	cheat
aw	law	d	dog
ay	say	d'	strong d with air sucked inward
e	bet	g	go
ey	as in 'bet', but longer	h	hat
ee	see	j	jar
i	hit	k	kit
o	pot	k'	strong k
oo	zoo	l	lot
ow	now	m	man
u	put	n	not
'	like the pause in 'uh-oh' (comes before a vowel)	p	pet
		r	run
In this chapter, the Hausa pronunciation is given in purple after each phrase. Each syllable is separated by a dot. For example: <b>Na gode.</b> naa gaw-dey		s	sun
Hausa's glottalised consonants, simplified here as b', d', k', ts' and y', are made by tightening and releasing the space between the vocal cords when you pronounce the sound. The b' and d' sounds have an extra twist – instead of breathing out, you breathe in.		sh	shot
		t	top
		ts'	as in 'lets', but spat out
		w	win
		y	yes
		y'	spat out y
		z	zero

# HAUSA hausa

## introduction

According to some scholars, the name 'Hausa' is derived from a phrase meaning 'to climb/ride the bull'. As one of the lingua francas of West Africa, Hausa (*Hausa how-sa*) is spoken by around 40 million people. For over half of these, Hausa is their first language. Most native speakers live in northern Nigeria and southern Niger, where Hausa is one of the national languages. There's a small community of native speakers in the Blue Nile area of Sudan, and it's also spoken in parts of Benin, Cameroon, and Ghana. Hausa is one of the Chadic languages (in the Afro-Asiatic language family), which came from the southern shores of Lake Chad in present-day northeastern Nigeria and northern Cameroon, and gradually migrated westward over the centuries. In the past, Hausa was written in *ajami*, a modified form of Arabic script, but since the early 19th century it has also been written in many areas with a slightly modified Roman alphabet. This alphabet, called *boko*, is now the official written form.

hausa (native language)

hausa (generally understood)



## language difficulties

Do you speak English?	Kana/Kina jin turanci? m/f	ka-naa/ki-naa jin too·ran·chee
Do you understand?	Ka/Kin gane? m/f	kaa/kin gaa·ney
I understand.	Na gane.	naa gaa·ney
I don't understand.	Ban gane ba.	ban gaa·ney ba
Could you please ...?	Za ka/ki iya...? m/f	zaa ka/ki i-ya ...
repeat that	maimaita wannan	mai·mai·ta wan·nan
speak more slowly	yi magana sannu-sannu	yi ma·ga·naa san·nu·san·nu
write it down	rubuta wannan	ru·boo·ta wan·nan

## time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	K'arfe nawa ne?	k'ar-fey na·wa ney
It's one o'clock.	K'arfe d'aya ne.	k'ar-fey d'a-ya ney
It's (two) o'clock.	K'arfe (biju) ne.	k'ar-fey (bi·yu) ney
Quarter past (one).	K'arfe (d'aya) da kwata.	k'ar-fey (d'a-ya) da kwa·taa
Half past (one).	K'arfe (d'aya) da rabi.	k'ar-fey (d'a-ya) da ra·bee
Quarter to (eight).	(K'arfe takwas)	(k'ar-fey tak-was)
	ba kwata.	baa kwa·taa
At what time ...?	K'arfe nawa ...?	k'ar-fey na·wa ...
At ...	A ...	a ...
It's (15 December).	Yau (sha biyar ga watan Disamba).	yow (shaa bi·yar ga wa·tan di·sam·ba)
yesterday	jiya	ji-ya
today	yau	yow
tomorrow	gobe	gaw·be
Monday	Littinin	lit·ti·nin
Tuesday	Talata	ta-laa-taa
Wednesday	Laraba	laa·ra·baa
Thursday	Alhamis	al-ha·mis
Friday	Juma'a	ju·ma·'aa
Saturday	Asabar	a·sa·bar
Sunday	Lahadi	la·ha·di

## numbers

0	sifiri	si-fi·ree	15	(goma) sha biyar	(gaw·ma) shaa bi·yar
1	d'aya	d'a-ya	16	(goma) sha shida	(gaw·ma) shaa shi·da
2	biyu	bi·yu	17	(goma)	(gaw·ma)
3	uku	u-ku		sha bakwai	shaa bak·wai
4	hud'u	hu-d'u	18	(goma)	(gaw·ma)
5	biyar	bi·yar		sha takwas	shaa tak·was
6	shida	shi·da	19	(goma) sha tara	(gaw·ma) shaa ta·ra
7	bakwai	bak·wai	20	ashirin	a·shi·rin
8	takwas	tak·was	21	ashirin da d'aya	a·shi·rin da d'a-ya
9	tara	ta·ra	22	ashirin da biju	a·shi·rin da bi·yu
10	goma	gaw·ma	30	talatin	ta·laa·tin
11	(goma)	(gaw·ma)	40	arba'in	ar·ba·'in
	sha d'aya	shaa d'a-ya	50	hamsin	ham·sin
12	(goma)	(gaw·ma)	60	sittin	sit·tin
	sha biju	shaa bi·yu	70	saba'in	sa·ba·'in
13	(goma)	(gaw·ma)	80	tamanin	ta·maa·nin
	sha uku	shaa u-ku	90	tasa'in	ta·sa·'in
14	(goma)	(gaw·ma)	100	d'ari	d'a-ree
	sha hud'u	shaa hu-d'u	1000	dubu	du·boo

## border crossing

I'm here ...	Na zo nan ...	naa zaw nan ...
in transit	don ya	don yaa
on business	da zango	da zan·goo
on holiday	don yin kasuwanci	don yin ka·su·wan·chee
	don yi hutu	don yi hoo·too
I'm here for ...	Zan yi ... a nan.	zan yi ... a nan
(10) days	kwana (goma)	kwaa·naa (gaw·ma)
(three) weeks	mako (uku)	maa·kaw (u-ku)
(two) months	wata (biju)	waa·taa (bi·yu)
I'm going to (Zaria).		
Za ni (Zazzau).	zaa ni (zaz·zow)	
I'm staying at the (Daula Hotel).		
Ina zaune a (Daula Hotel).	i-naa zow·ne a (dow·la haw·tel)	

## tickets

One ... ticket  
(to Zinder), please.  
one-way  
return

Tikitin ... guda d'aya  
(zuwa Zandar), don Allah.  
zuwa  
zuwa da dawowa

ti-ki-tin ... gu-daa d'a-ya  
(zu-waa za-n-dar) don al-laa  
zu-waa  
zu-waa da daa-waw-waa

I'd like to ... my  
ticket, please.  
cancel  
change  
collect

Ina son in ...  
tikitina, don Allah.  
soke  
canja  
karb'i

i-naa son in ...  
ti-ki-ti-naa don al-laa  
saw-kye  
chan-ja  
kar-b'i

I'd like a smoking/nonsmoking seat, please.

Ina son abin zama ga masu/  
marasa shan taba, don Allah.

i-naa son a-bin za-maa ga maa-su/  
ma-ra-saa shan taa-baa don al-laa

Is there a toilet?

Akwai ban d'aki?

Is there air conditioning?

Akwai na'urar sanyaada d'aki?

How long does the trip take?

Tafiyar za ta dad'e?

Is it a direct route?

Wannan ce hanya kai tsaye?

## transport

Where does flight (BA527) arrive/depart?

A ina jirgin sama (BA 527)  
zai sauwa/tashi?

a i-naa jir-gin sa-ma (bi ei faiv too se-ven)  
zai sow-kaa/taa-shi

How long will it be delayed?

Minti nawa zai makara?

min-tee na-wa zai ma-ka-ra

Is this the ...  
(to Maiduguri)?

Wannan ... (zuwa  
Maiduguri) ne/ce? m/f

jirgin ruwa m  
mota f  
jirgin sama m  
jirgin k'asa m

wan-nan ... (zu-waa  
mai-du-gu-ri) ney/chev

jir-gin ru-waa  
maw-taa  
jir-gin sa-ma  
jir-gin k'a-saa

How much is it to ...?

Nawa ne kud'in zuwa ...?

na-wa ney ku-d'in zu-waa ...

Please take me to (this address).

Ka/Ki d'auke ni zuwa (wurin mai  
lambar wannan adireshi), don Allah. m/f

ka/ki d'ow-kyey ni zu-waa (wu-ree mai  
lam-bar wan-nan a-di-rey-shee) don al-laa

I'd like to hire a ...

(with air conditioning).

car  
4WD

mota  
mota mai juyawa  
da k'afa hud'u

i-naa son in yi ha-yar ...  
(taa-re da ai-si)

How much is it for (three) days/weeks?

Nawa ne kud'in na  
kwana/mako (uku)?

na-wa ney ku-d'in na  
kwaa-naa/maa-kaw (u-ku)



## directions

Where's the  
(nearest) ...?

internet café  
market

Ina ... (mafi kusa)?  
internet cafe  
kasuwa

i-naa ... (ma-fee ku-sa)  
in-tey-net ka-fey  
kaa-su-waa

Is this the road to (Lagos)?

Wannan hanya zuwa (Ikko) ce?

wan-nan han-ya zu-waa (ik-ko) chey

Can you show me (on the map)?

Za ka/ki i-ya noo-naa mi-ni  
(a taswira)? m/f

za ka/ki i-ya noo-naa mi-ni  
(a tas-wi-raa)

What's the address?

Mene ne adireshin?

mey-ney ney a-di-rey-shin

How far is it?

Mil nawa ne?

mil na-wa ney

How do I get there?

Ina ne hanyar zuwa can?

i-naa ney han-yar zu-waa chan

Turn left/right.

Yi hagu/dama.

yi ha-gu/daa-ma

It's ...	<i>Ga shi/ta ... m/f</i>	ga shi/ta ...
behind ...	<i>bayan ...</i>	baa-yan ...
in front of ...	<i>gaban ...</i>	ga-ban ...
near (to ...)	<i>kusa (da ...)</i>	ku-sa (da ...)
next to ...	<i>daf da ...</i>	daf da ...
on the corner	<i>a kwana</i>	a kwa-naa
opposite ...	<i>daura da ...</i>	dow-ra da ...
straight ahead	<i>mik'e sosai</i>	mee-k'ey so-sai
there	<i>can</i>	chan

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	<i>Ina ... yake?</i>	i-naa ... yak-yey
camping ground	<i>wurin da aka kafa</i>	wu-rin da a-ka ka-fa
	<i>tanti-tanti</i>	tan-ti-tan-ti
guesthouse	<i>gidan saukar bak'i</i>	gi-dan sow-kar baa-k'ee
hotel	<i>hotal</i>	haw-tal
youth hostel	<i>makwancin matasa</i>	ma-kwan-chin ma-taa-saa

Can you recommend somewhere (cheap/good)?

*Za ka/ki iya gaya mini ina za a  
sami wani wuri (mai araha/kyau)? m/f* zaa ka/ki i-ya gaa-yaa mi-ni i-naa za a  
saa-mi wa-ni wu-ree (mai a-ra-haa/kyow)

I'd like to book a room, please.

*Ina son a kama mini d'aki,  
don Allah.* i-naa son a kaa-maa mi-ni d'aa-kee  
don al-laa

I have a reservation.

*An kama mini d'aki a nan.* an kaa-maa mi-ni d'aa-kee a nan

Do you have a ... room?	<i>Kana/Kina da d'aki ...? m/f</i>	ka-naa/ki-naa da d'aa-kee ...
single	<i>ga mutum d'aya</i>	ga mu-tum d'a-ya
double	<i>ga mutane biyu</i>	ga mu-taa-ney bi-yu
twin	<i>biyu wad'anda</i>	bi-yu wa-d'an-da

How much is it per ...?	<i>Nawa ne kud'in ... d'aya?</i>	na-wa ney ku-d'in ... d'a-ya
night	<i>kwana</i>	kwa-naa
person	<i>mutum</i>	mu-tum

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

*Ina son in yi kwana (biyu) a nan.*

i-naa son in yi kwaa-naa (bi-yu) a nan

What time is check-out?

*Yaushe zan fita daga d'aki?*

yow-she zan fi-ta da-ga d'aa-kee

Am I allowed to camp here?

*Za a bar ni in d'an zauna a nan?*

zaa a bar ni in d'an zow-naa a nan

## banking & communications

Note that in Nigeria, unless you have a Nigerian bank account, it will be difficult to do any of the following things, except for changing money.

I'd like to ...	<i>Ina son in ...</i>	i-naa son in ...
arrange a transfer	<i>aika da kud'i</i>	ai-kaa da ku-d'ee
cash a cheque	<i>chanja cek na banki</i>	chan-ja chek na ban-kee
	<i>zuwa kud'i</i>	zu-waa ku-d'ee
change a travellers cheque	<i>canja cek</i>	chan-ja chek
change money	<i>zuwa kud'i</i>	zu-waa ku-d'ee
withdraw money	<i>canja kud'i</i>	chan-ja ku-d'ee
	<i>kar'b'i kud'i</i>	kar-b'i ku-d'ee

I want to ...	<i>Ina son ...</i>	i-naa son ...
to call (Singapore)	<i>buga waya zuwa (Singapur)</i>	bu-ga wa-yaa zu-waa (sin-ga-pur)
reverse the charges	<i>mutumin da zan</i>	mu-tu-min da zan
	<i>buga masa waya</i>	bu-ga ma-sa wa-yaa
use a printer	<i>ya biya kud'in waya</i>	ya bi-ya ku-d'in wa-yaa
use the internet	<i>yin amfani da printer</i>	yin am-faa-nee da prin-ter
	<i>yin amfani da internet</i>	yin am-faa-nee da in-tey-net

How much is it per hour?

*Nawa ne kud'in wannan don  
tsawon awa d'aya?*

na-wa ney ku-d'in wan-nan don  
ts'aa-won a-waa d'a-ya

How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

*Navwa ne kud'in buga waya  
(wanda ya yi minti uku)?*

na-wa ney ku-d'in bu-ga wa-yaa  
(wan-da ya yi min-tee u-ku)

(30 naira) per minute/hour.

*(Naira talatin) don tsawon  
minti/awa d'aya.*

(hai-ra ta-la-a-tin) don ts'aa-won  
min-tee/a-waa d'a-ya

## tours

When's the next ...?	<i>Yaushe za a yi ...?</i>	yow-she zaa a yi ...
day trip tour	<i>tafiya ta kwana d'aya zagaye</i>	ta-fi-yaa ta kwaa-naa d'a-ya zaa-ga yey
Is ... included?	<i>Akwai ... a kud'in nan?</i>	ak-wai ... a ku-d'in nan
accommodation	<i>masauki</i>	ma-sow-kee
the admission charge	<i>tikitocin shiga</i>	ti-ki-taw-chin shi-ga
food	<i>wasu wurare</i>	wa-su wu-raa-rey
transport	<i>abinci</i>	a-bin-chi
	<i>sufuri</i>	su-fu-ree
How long is the tour?	<i>Awa nawa za a yi zagayen?</i>	a-wa na-wa zaa a yi zaa-ga-yen
What time should we be back?	<i>K'arfe nawa za a koma?</i>	k'ar-fey na-wa zaa a kaw-maa

## shopping

I'm looking for ...	<i>Ina neman ...</i>	i-naa ne-man ...
I need film for this camera.	<i>Ina son fim na wannan kyamara.</i>	i-naa son fim na wan-nan kya-ma-ra
Can I listen to this?	<i>Zan iya sauraron wannan?</i>	zan i-ya sow-raa-ron wan-nan
Can I have my ... repaired?	<i>Za ka/ki iya gyara mini ...?</i> m/f	zaa ka/ki i-ya gya-raa mi-ni ...
When will it be ready?	<i>Yaushe zan samu?</i>	yow-she zan saa-moo
How much is it?	<i>Kud'insa nawa ne?</i>	ku-d'in-sa na-wa ney
Can you write down the price?	<i>Za ka/ki iya rubuta mini nawa ne kud'insa?</i> m/f	zaa ka/ki i-ya ru-bootaa mi-ni na-wa ney ku-d'in-sa
What's your lowest price?	<i>Mene ne kud'i na gaskiya?</i>	mey-ney ney ku-d'ee na gas-ki-yaa

I'll give you (five) naira.

*Zan ba ka/ki Naira (biyar).* m/f

zan baa ka/ki nai-raa (bi-yar)

There's a mistake in the bill.

*Akwai kuskure a bil.*

a-kwai kus-ku-rey a bil

It's faulty.

*An yi kuskure.*

an yi kus-ku-rey

I'd like a refund, please.

*Ina son a dawo mini da kud'ina, don Allah.*

i-naa son a daa-waw mi-ni da ku-d'ee-naa don al-laa

I'd like a receipt, please.

*Ba ni rasid'i, don Allah.*

baa ni raa-si-d'ee don al-laa

Could you ...?

*burn a CD from my memory card develop this film*

*Kana/Kina iya ...?* m/f

*sa abubuwa daga katin nan zuwa faifai wanke wannan fim*

ka-naa/ki-naa i-ya ...

sa a-boo-bu-waa da-ga kaa-tin nan zu-waa fai-fai wan-kye wa-nan fim

## making conversation

Hello.	<i>Sannu.</i>	san-nu
Good night.	<i>Sai da safe.</i>	say da saa-fe
Goodbye.	<i>Sai wani lokaci.</i>	say wa-ni law-ka-chee
Mr	<i>Malam</i>	maa-lam
Mrs/Ms/Miss	<i>Malama</i>	maa-la-maa
How are you?	<i>Kana/Kina lafiya?</i> m/f	ka-naa/ki-naa laa-fi-yaa
Fine, and you?	<i>Lafiya lau, kai/ke fa?</i> m/f	laa-fi-yaa low kai/kye fa
What's your name?	<i>Ina sunanka/sunanki?</i> m/f	i-naa soo-nan-ka/soo-nan-ki
My name's ...	<i>Sunana ...</i>	soo-naa-naa ...
I'm pleased to meet you.	<i>Na ji murnar saduwa da kai/ke.</i> m/f	na ji mur-nar saa-du-waa da kai/kye

This is my ...	<i>Wannan ... nawa/tawa.</i> m/f	wan-nan ... naa-wa/taa-wa
boyfriend	<i>saurayi</i>	sow-ra-yee
daughter	<i>y'a</i>	y'aa
father	<i>mahaifi</i>	ma-hai-fee
friend	<i>aboki</i> m	a-baw-kee
girlfriend	<i>budurwa</i>	bu-dur-waa
husband	<i>miji</i>	mi-jee
mother	<i>mahaifiya</i>	ma-hai-fi-yaa
son	<i>d'a</i>	d'aa
wife	<i>mata</i>	maa-taa
Here's my ...	<i>Ga ... nawa/tawa.</i> m/f	gaa ... naa-wa/taa-wa
What's your ...?	<i>Mene ne ...</i>	mey-ney ney ...
address	<i>adireshi(-nka/-nki</i> m/f) m	a-di-rey-shi(-nka/-nki)
email address	<i>adireshi(-nka/-nki</i> m/f)	a-di-rey-shi(-nka/-nki)
na i-mel	<i>na i-mel</i> m	na i-mel
phone number	<i>lambar waya(-rka/-rki</i> m/f)	lam-bar wa.ya(-rka/-rki)
Where are you from?	<i>Daga ina ka/kika fito?</i> m/f	da·ga i-naa ka/ki-ka fi·taw
I'm from ...	<i>Na fito daga ...</i>	naa fi·taw da·ga ...
Australia	<i>Ostareliya</i>	os-ta-rey-li·ya
Canada	<i>Kyanada</i>	ky-a-na-da
New Zealand	<i>New Zeland</i>	nyu zi-lan
the UK	<i>Ingila</i>	in-gi-la
the USA	<i>Amirka</i>	a-mir-ka
I'm married.	<i>Ina da miji/mata.</i> m/f	i-naa da mi-jee/maa-taa
I'm not married.	<i>Ba ni da miji/mata.</i> m/f	baa ni da mi-jee/maa-taa
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Zan iya d'aukar hoto(-nka/-nki)?</i> m/f	zan i-ya d'ow-kar haw-to(-nka/-nki)

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Za/ki iya gaya mini ... mai kyau?</i> m/f	zaa ka/ki i-ya ga-yaa mi-ni ... mai kyow
bar	<i>wurin shan giya</i>	wu-rin shan gi-yaa
place to eat	<i>wurin cin abinci</i>	wu-rin chin a-bin-chi
dish	<i>abinci</i>	a-bin-chi

I'd like ... , please.	<i>Ina son ... , don Allah.</i>	i-naa son ... don al-laa
the bill	<i>bil</i>	bil
the menu	<i>takardar bayyanin</i>	ta-kar·dar bay·ya·nin
a table for (two)	<i>abinci</i>	a-bin-chi
that dish	<i>tebur ga mutane (biyu)</i>	tey-bur ga mu·taa·ney (bi·yu)
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>wannan abinci</i>	wan-nan a-bin-chi
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	<i>Kana/Kina da abinci ba tare da ... ba?</i> m/f	ka-naa/ki-naa i-ya yin a-bin-chi baa taa-re da ... ba
eggs	<i>k'wai</i>	k'wai
meat stock	<i>nama</i>	naa·maa
(cup of) coffee ...	<i>kofi (guda d'aya) ...</i>	kaw·fee (gu·daa d'a·ya) ...
(cup of) tea ...	<i>shayi (guda d'aya) ...</i>	shaa·yi (gu·daa d'a·ya) ...
with milk	<i>da madara</i>	da ma·da·raa
without sugar	<i>ba sukari</i>	baa su·ka·ree
(boiled) water	<i>ruwa(-n da aka tafasa)</i>	ru-wa(-n da a·ka ta·fa·saa)

## emergencies

Help!	<i>Taimake ni!</i>	tai·ma·kyey ni
Call ...! an ambulance	<i>Kirawo ...!</i> <i>motar d'aukar maras lafiya</i>	ki·raa·waw ... moo·tar d'ow·kar maa·ras laa-fi·yaa
a doctor	<i>likita</i>	li·ki·taa
the police	<i>'yan sanda</i>	'yan san·daa
Could you help me, please?	<i>Kana iya ka taimake ni, don Alla.</i> m <i>Kina iya ki taimake ni, don Alla.</i> f	ka-naa i-ya ka tai·ma·kyey ni don al-laa ki-naa i-ya ki tai·ma·kyey ni don al-laa
I'm lost.	<i>Na manta hanya.</i>	naa man·ta han·yaa
Where are the toilets?	<i>Ina ban d'aki yake?</i>	i-naa ban d'aa·kee yak·yey
I want to report an offence.	<i>Ina son in sanar da ku wani laifi.</i>	i-na son in sa·nar da koo wa·ni lai·fee

I have insurance.

*Ina da inshora.*

i-naa da in-shaw·raa

I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

*Ina son in buga waya zuwa  
ofishin jakadanci kasarmu.*

i-naa son in bu·ga wa·yaa zu·waa  
aw·fi·shin ja·kaa·dan·chee ka·sar·mu

I've been ...

assaulted  
raped  
robbed

*An yi mini ...*

*farmaki*  
*fyad'e*  
*sata*

an yi mi·ni ...

far·ma·kee  
fyaa·d'ey  
saa·taa

My ... was/were stolen.

bags  
credit card  
jewellery  
money  
passport  
travellers cheques  
wallet

*An sace mini ...*

*kaya*  
*katin adashin banki*  
*kayan ado*  
*kud'i*  
*fasfo*  
*cek*  
*alabe*

an saa·chey mi·ni ...

caa·yaa  
caa·tin a·daa·shin ban·kee  
caa·yan a·daw  
ku·d'ee  
fas·faw  
chek  
a·la·bey

## medical needs

Where's the  
nearest ...?

dentist  
doctor  
hospital  
pharmacist

*Ina ne/ce ...*  
*mafi kusa?* m/f

*likitan hak'ori* m  
*likita* m  
*asibiti* f  
*kantin magani* m

i-naa ney/chey ...  
ma·fee ku·sa  
li·ki·tan ha·k'aw·ree  
li·ki·ta  
a·si·bi·ti  
kan·tin maa·ga·nee

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Ina bukatar likita  
(wanda yake jin Turanci).*

i-naa bu·kaa·tar li·ki·ta  
(wan·da yak·yey jin too·ran·chee)

Could I see a female doctor?  
*Zan iya ganin likita mace?*

zan i·ya ga·nin li·ki·ta ma·che

It hurts here.

*Na ji ciwo a nan.*

naa ji chee·waw a nan

I'm allergic to (penicillin).  
*An hana ni yin amfanii  
da (penisilin).*

an ha·naa ni yin am·faa·nee  
da (pe·ni·si·lin)

## english–hausa dictionary

Hausa nouns in this dictionary have their gender marked with ♂ (masculine) or ♀ (feminine). If it's a plural noun, you'll also see pl. Note that some adjectives have only one form for both genders. Words are also marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular) and pl (plural) where necessary.

### A

accommodation *masauki* ♂ ma-sow·kee  
adaptor *macanjin wuta* ♂ ma-chan-jin wu-taa  
after *bayan baa-yan*  
airport *filin jirgin sama* ♂ fee-lin jir-gin sa-ma  
alcohol *barasa* ♀ baa·raa·saa  
all *duk duk*  
and *da da*  
ankle *idon k'afa* ♂ i-don k'a-fa  
arm *hannu* ♂ han-noo  
asthma *civwon asma* ♂ chi-won as·maa

### B

baby *jariri* ♂ jaa·ree·ree  
back (body) *baya* ♂ baa·yaa  
backpack *jakar baya* ♂ ja·kar baa·yaa  
bad *maras kyau* ma·ras kyow  
bank *banki* ♂ ban·kee  
bathroom *ban d'aki* ♂ ban d'aa·kee  
battery *batir* ♂ baa·tir  
beautiful *mai kyau* mai kyow  
bed *gado* ♂ ga-daw  
beer *giya* ♂ gi·yaa  
bees *zuma* ♂ zu·maa  
before *kafin kaa-fin*  
bicycle *keke* ♂ kyey·kyey  
big *babba/manya* ♂/♀ bab·ba/man·yaa  
blanket *bargo* ♂ bar·gaw  
blood group *irin jini* ♂ i·rin ji·nee  
bottle *kwalaba* ♂ kwa·la·baa  
bottle opener *mabud'in kwalaba* ♂  
    ma·boo·d'in kwa·la·baa  
boy *yaro* ♂ yaa·raw  
brakes (car) *birki* ♂ bir·kee  
breakfast *karin kumallo* ♂ ka·rin ku·mal·law  
bronchitis *mashak'o* ♂ maa·sha·k'aw

### C

cancel *soke* saw·key  
can opener *mabud'in gwangwani* ♂  
    ma·boo·d'in gwan·gwa·nee  
cash *kud'i* ♂ ku·d'ee  
cell phone *salula* ♂ sa-loo·laa  
centre *tsakiya* ♂ ts'a·ki·yaa  
cheap *mai araha* mai a·ra-haa  
check (bill) *lisasi* ♂ lis·saa·fee  
chest *k'irji* ♂ k'ir·jee  
child *yaro* ♂ yaa·raw  
cigarette *taba* ♂ taa·baa  
city *birni* ♂ bir·nee  
clean a *mai tsabta* mai ts'ab·taa  
closed a *rufe a ru-fe*  
cold a *mai sanyi* mai san·yee  
condom *roba* ♂ raw·baa  
constipation *kumburin ciki* ♂ kum·bu·rin chi·kee  
cough *tari* ♂ taa·ree  
currency exchange *canjin kud'i* ♂ chan·jin ku·d'ee  
customs (immigration) *kwastan* ♂ kwas·tan

### D

dangerous *mai had'ari* mai ha·d'a·ree  
date (time) *kwanan wata* ♂ kwaa-nan wa-taa  
day (24 hours) *kwana* ♂ kwaa-naa  
daytime *rana* ♂ raa·naa  
diaper *banten jinji* ♂ ban·ten jin·ji·ree  
diarrhoea *gudawa* ♂ gu·daa·waa  
dinner *abincin dare* ♂ a·bin·chin da·re  
dirty *mai daud'a* mai dow·d'aa  
disabled *nak'asashe* na·k'a·sash-shey  
double bed *gado ga mutane biyu* ♂  
    ga-daw ga mu·taa·ney bi·yu  
drink *abin sha* ♂ a·bin sha  
drivers licence *lasin tuk'i* ♂ laa·sin too·k'ee  
drug (illicit) *mugun k'waya* ♂ moo·gun k'wa·yaa

**E**

ear *kunne* ⑩ kun-ney  
 east *gabas* ⑩ ga-bas  
 economy class *sikinkila* ⑩ si-kin-ki-la  
 elevator *lifta* ⑩ lif-taa  
 email *wasik'ar i-mel* ⑩ wa-see-k'ar ee-mel  
 English (language) *Turanci* ⑩ too-ran-chee  
 exchange rate *K'arfín kud'í* ⑩ K'ar-fin ku-d'ee  
 exit *mafita* ⑩ ma-fí-taa  
 expensive *mai tsada* mai ts'aa-daa  
 eye *ido* ⑩ i-daw

**F**

fast *mai sauri* mai sow-ree  
 fever *zazzab'í* ⑩ zaz-za'b'ee  
 finger *yatsa* ⑩ yaa-ts'aa  
 first class *faskila* fas-ki-la  
 fish *kifi* ⑩ kee-fee  
 food *abinici* ⑩ a-bin-chi  
 foot *k'afa* ⑩ k'a-faa  
 fork *cokali mai yatsu* ⑩ chaw-ka-lee mai yaa-ts'oo  
 free (of charge) *ayauta* a kyow-taa  
 fruit *'ya'yan itace* pl y'a'yan i-taa-chey  
 funny *mai ban dariya* mai ban daa-ri-yaa

**G**

game park *wurin shak'atawa* ⑩ wu-rin shaa-k'a-ta-waa  
 gift *kyauta* ⑩ kyow-taa  
 girl *yariyna* ⑩ yaa-rin-yaa  
 glass *kofi* ⑩ kaw-fee  
 glasses *tabarau* ⑩ ta-baa-row  
 good *mai kyau* mai kyow  
 guide *ja-gora* ⑩ jaa-gaw-ra

**H**

hand *hannu* ⑩ han-noo  
 happy *mai farin ciki* mai fa-rin chi-kee  
 he *shee*  
 head *kai* ⑩ kai  
 headache *ciwon kai* ⑩ chee-won kai  
 heart *zuciya* ⑩ zoo-chi-ya  
 heart condition *halin zuciya* ⑩ haa-lin zoo-chi-ya  
 heat *zafi* ⑩ zaa-fee  
 here *nan nan*

high *dogo/doguwa* ⑩/⑩ daw-gaw/daw-gu-waa  
 highway *babbar hanya* ⑩ bab-bar han-yaa  
 homosexual n *d'an daudu* ⑩ d'an dow-du  
 hot *mai zafi* mai zaa-fee  
 hungry *mai jin yunwa* mai jin yun-waa

**I**

I *ni nee*  
 identification (card) *katin shaida* ⑩ kaa-tin shai-daa  
 ill *maras lafiya* ma-ras laa-fi-yaa  
 important *muhimmi/muhimmiya* ⑩/⑩ mu-him-mee/mu-him-mi-yaa  
 interpreter *mai fassara* ⑩ mai fas-sa-raa

**K**

key *makulli* ⑩ ma-kul-lee  
 kilogram *kilo* ⑩ ki-law  
 kitchen (modern) *kicin* ⑩ ki-chin  
 kitchen (traditional) *madafá* ⑩ ma-da-faa  
 knife *wuk'a* ⑩ wu-k'aa

**L**

laundry (place) *mawanka* ⑩ ma-wan-kaa  
 lawyer *lauya* ⑩ low-yaa  
 leg *k'afa* ⑩ k'a-faa  
 lesbian n *y'ar mad'igo* ⑩ y'ar maa-d'i-gaw  
 less (do less) v *rage* rag-yey  
 letter (mail) *wasik'a* ⑩ wa-see-k'aa  
 like v so so  
 love v so so  
 lunch *abincin rana* ⑩ a-bin-chin raa-naa

**M**

man *mutum* ⑩ mu-tum  
 matches *ashana* ⑩ a-shaa-naa  
 meat *nama* ⑩ naa-maa  
 medicine *magani* ⑩ maa-ga-nee  
 message *sak'o* ⑩ saa-k'aw  
 mobile phone *salula* ⑩ sa-loo-laa  
 month *wata* ⑩ waa-taa  
 morning *safiya* saa-fi-yaa  
 (in the) morning *safe* saa-fe  
 motorcycle *babur* ⑩ baa-bur  
 motorcycle taxi *acaba* ⑩ a-cha-baa

mouth *baki* ⑩ baa-kee  
 movie *film* ⑩ fim  
 museum *gidan kayan tariji* ⑩ gi-dan kaa-yan taa-reh-hee  
 music *kad'e-kad'e* pl ka-d'ey-k'a-dey

**N**

name *suna* ⑩ soo-naa  
 napkin *takardar goge hannu* ⑩ ta-kar-dar gaw-ge han-noo  
 nappy *banten jinjiri* ⑩ ban-ten jin-ji-ree  
 national park *gandun daji* ⑩ gan-dun daa-jee  
 nausea *tashin zuciya* ⑩ taa-shin zoo-chi-ya  
 neck *wuya* ⑩ wu-yaa  
 new *sabo/sabuwa* ⑩/⑩ saa-baw/saa-bu-waa  
 news *labari* ⑩ laa-baa-re  
 newspaper *jarida* ⑩ ja-ree-daa  
 night *dare da-rey*  
 nightclub *kulob* ku-lub  
 noisy *mai k'ara* mai k'aa-rraa  
 nonsmoking *ga marasa shan taba*  
 now *ga ma-ra-saa shan taa-baa*  
 north *arewa* ⑩ a-rey-wa  
 nose *handi* ⑩ han-chee  
 now *yanzu yan-zu*  
 number *lamba* ⑩ lam-baa  
 nuts *gyad'a* ⑩ gya-d'aa

**O**

oil (engine) *man inji* ⑩ man in-jee  
 OK *shi ke nan shee kyey nan*  
 old *tsoho/tsohuwa* ⑩/⑩ ts'aw-haw/ts'aw-hu-waa  
 open a *a bude a boo-de*  
 outside *waje wa-je*

**P**

package *k'unshi* ⑩ k'un-shee  
 pain *cíwo* ⑩ chee-waw  
 palace *fad'a* ⑩ faa-d'a  
 paper *takarda* ⑩ ta-kar-daa  
 park (car) v *ajiyé a-ji-ye*  
 passport *fasfo* ⑩ fas-fo  
 pay v *biya bi-yya*  
 pen *biro* ⑩ bee-raw  
 petrol *man fetur* ⑩ man fey-tur

pharmacy *kantin magani* ⑩ kan-tin maa-ga-nee  
 plate *faranti* ⑩ fa-ran-tee  
 postcard *katin gaisuwa* ⑩ kaa-tin gai-su-waa  
 post office *gidan waya* ⑩ gi-dan wa-yaa  
 pregnant *mai juna biyu* mai joo-naa bi-yu

**Q**

quiet *mai shiru* mai shi-roo

**R**

rain *ruwan sama* ⑩ ru-wan sa-ma  
 razor (modern) *reza* ⑩ rey-zaa  
 razor (traditional) *aska* ⑩ as-kaa  
 registered mail *wasik'a rajista*  
 wa-see-k'aa ta ra-jis-taa  
 rent v *yi hayar yi ha-yar*  
 repair v *gyara gyaa-raa*  
 reservation (room) *kama d'aki* kaa-ma d'aa-kee  
 restaurant *gidan cin abinci* ⑩ gi-dan chin a-bin-chi  
 return v *koma kaw-maa*  
 road *hanya* ⑩ han-yaa  
 room *d'aki* ⑩ d'a-kee

**S**

sad *mai bak'in ciki* mai ba-k'in chi-kee  
 safe (not dangerous) a *mai lafiya* mai laa-fi-yaa  
 safe (reliable) a *mai aminci* mai a-min-chee  
 seafood *abinici daga teku* a-bin-chi da-ga tey-ku  
 seat *abin zama* ⑩ a-bin za-maa  
 send *aika da ai-kaa da*  
 sex (gender) *jinsi* ⑩ jin-see  
 sex (intercourse) *jima'i* ⑩ ji-maa'-ee  
 shampoo *shamfu* ⑩ sham-fu  
 shaving cream *shabulu na aski* ⑩ saa-bu-lu na as-kee  
 she ita i-ta  
 sheet (bed) *zanen gado* ⑩ za-nen ga-daw  
 shirt (modern) *taguwa* ⑩ ta-gu-waa  
 shirt (long traditional) *riga* ⑩ ree-gaa  
 shoes *takalma* taa-kal-maa  
 shop *kanti* ⑩ kan-tee  
 shower *shawa* ⑩ sha-a-waa  
 skin *fata* ⑩ faa-taa  
 skirt (modern) *siket* ⑩ si-ke-t  
 skirt (traditional) *zane* ⑩ za-ney  
 sleep v *yi barci yi bar-chee*

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**T**  
 small *k'arami/k'arama* ⑩/⑪ K'a-ra-mee/k'a-ra-maa  
 soap *sabulu* ⑩ saa-bu-loo  
 some *kad'an ka-d'an*  
 soon *an jima an ji-maa*  
 sore throat *miki* ⑩ mee-kee  
 south *kudu* ⑩ ku-du  
 speak *yi magana yi ma-ga-naa*  
 spoon *cokali* ⑩ chaw-ka-lee  
 stamp *kan sarki* ⑩ kan sar-kee  
 station (train) *tashal(-r)jirgin k'asa* ⑩  
     ta-sha(-r)jir-gin k'asa)  
 stomach *ciki* ⑩ chi-kee  
 stop v *tsaya ts'a-yaa*  
 stop (bus) *tasha(-r) mota* ⑩ ta-sha(-r) mo-taa)  
 street (in general) *hanya* ⑩ han-yaa  
 street (paved only) *titi* ⑩ tee-tee  
 student *d'alibi/d'aliba* ⑩/⑪ d'aa-li-bee/d'aa-li-baa  
 swim v *yi iyo yi i-yaw*

**T**  
 teeth *hak'ora* pl ha-k'aw-raa  
 telephone *waya* ⑩ wa-yaa  
 television *talabijin* ⑩ ta-la-bi-jin  
 temperature (weather) *yanayi* ⑩ ya-na-yeey  
 tent *tanti* ⑩ tan-tee  
 that (one) *wangan/waccan* ⑩/⑩  
     wan-chan/wach-chan  
 they *su soo*  
 thirsty *mai jin k'ishirwa* mai jin k'i-shir-waa  
 this (one) *wannan* ⑩&⑩ wan-nan  
 throat *mak'ogwaro* ⑩ ma-k'aw-gwa-raw  
 ticket *tikit* ⑩ ti-ki-ti  
 time *lokaci* ⑩ law-ka-chee  
 tired *mai gajiyi* mai ga-ji-ya  
 tissues *takardun share majina* pl ta-kar-dun shaa-re  
     maa-ji-naa  
 today *yau yow*  
 toilet *ban d'aki* ⑩ ban d'aa-kee  
 tonight *yau da dare* yow da da-re  
 toothache *ciwon hak'ora* ⑩ chi-won ha-k'aw-raa  
 toothbrush *buroshin goge baki* ⑩  
     bu-raw-shin gaw-gye baa-kee  
 toothpaste *man goge hak'ora* ⑩  
     man gaw-ge ha-k'aw-raa

**U**  
 torch (flashlight) *tocilan* ⑩ taw-chi-lan  
 towel *tawul* ⑩ taa-wul  
 translate *fassara fas-sa-raa*  
 travellers *cheque cek* ⑩ chek  
 trousers *wando* ⑩ wan-daw  
 tyre *taya* ⑩ taa-yaa

**U**  
 underwear (underpants) *kamfai* ⑩ kam-fai  
 urgent *na/ta gaggawa* ⑩/⑩ na/ta gag-gaa-waa

**V**  
 vacant *wanda ba kome a wurin*  
     wan-da baa kaw-mey a wu-rin  
 vegetarian a *ga wanda ba ya cin nama*  
     ga wan-da da baa yaa chin naa-maa

**W**  
 waiter *sabis* ⑩&⑩ saa-bis  
 walk v *yi yowo yi yaa-waw*  
 wallet *alabe* ⑩ a-la-bey  
 warm a *mai d'umi* mai d'u-mee  
 wash (something) *wanke wan-kyey*  
 watch *kallo* ⑩ kal-law  
 water *ruwa* ⑩ ru-waa  
 we *mu moo*  
 west *yamma* ⑩ yam-ma  
 wheelchair *keken gurgu* ⑩ key-ken gur-goo  
 when *yaushe yow-shey*  
 where *ina i-naa*  
 who *wane ne waa-ney ney*  
 why *saboda me sa-baw-da mey*  
 window *taga* ⑩ taa-gaa  
 wine *giya* ⑩ gi-yya  
 wine (palm) *bamm* ⑩ bam-mee  
 with *tare da taa-re da*  
 without *ba tare da ... ba baa taa-re da ... ba*  
 woman *mace* ⑩ ma-che  
 write *rubuta ru-boob-taa*

**Y**  
 you sg *kai/ke* ⑩/⑩ kai/kyey  
 you pl *ku koo*

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# Malagasy



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
aa	father	b	bed
ai	aisle	d	dog
e	bet	dz	adze
i	hit	f	fun
o	pot	g	go
ow	now	h	hat
u	put	k	kit
		l	lot
		m	man
		n	not
		ng	ring
		p	pet
		r	run
		s	sun
		t	top
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero

In this chapter, the Malagasy pronunciation is given in pink after each phrase.

The pronunciation of Malagasy words is not always obvious from their written form. Unstressed syllables can be elided (dropped) and words may be pronounced in different ways depending on where they fall in a sentence. If you follow the pink pronunciation guides you can't go wrong, however.

Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised.

For example:

*Misaotra.* mi-sotra

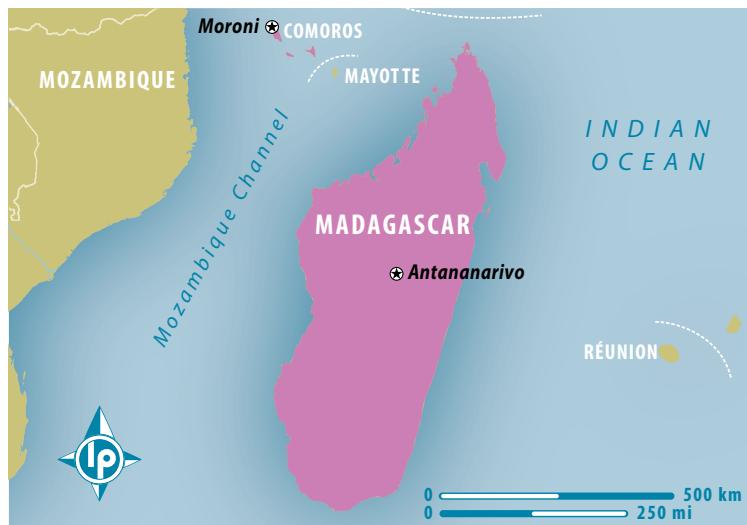
# MALAGASY

## malagasy

### introduction

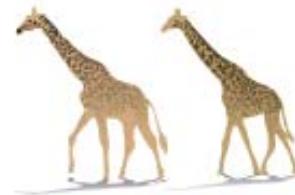
As the official language of Madagascar, Malagasy (*malagasy maa-laa-gaas*) has around 18 million speakers. Malagasy belongs to the Malayo-Polynesian branch of the Austronesian language family and is unrelated to its neighbouring African languages. Its closest relative is the little-known Ma'anyan, a language from southern Borneo, with which it shares over 90 per cent of its vocabulary. This close relationship exists because Madagascar was first settled by Indonesians from southern Borneo. Over the centuries, the language has also been influenced by English and French – first in the 19th century by British and French missionaries, and later as a result of colonisation by the French in the first half of the 20th century. With proverbs like 'If a tree is good to be used for making a boat, it is because it grew on good soil' (*Ny hazo no vanon-ko lakana, dia ny tany nanirany no tsara ni haa-zu nu va-nun-ku laa-kaa-naa de ni taa-ni naa-ni-ri-ni nu tsaar*), Madagascar's language is just as colourful and fascinating as its wildlife, landscapes and people.

■ malagasy (native language)



## language difficulties

Do you speak English?	<i>Miteny angilisy ve ianao?</i>	mi-ten aan-gi-lis ve i-aa-now
Do you understand?	<i>Azona ve?</i>	aa-zu-now ve
I (don't) understand.	<i>(Tsy) Azoko.</i>	(tsi) aa-zuk
Could you please ...?	<i>Mba afaka ... azafady?</i>	mbaa aa-faak ... aa-zaa-faad
repeat that	<i>averinao ve izany</i>	aa-ve-ri-now ve i-zaan
speak more	<i>miteny miadana</i>	mi-ten mi-aa-daan
slowly	<i>kokoa ve ianao</i>	ku-ku ve i-aa-now
write it down	<i>soratanao ve izany</i>	su-raa-taa-now ve i-zaan



## time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	<i>Amin'ny firy izao?</i>	aa-min-ni-fi ri-zow
It's one o'clock.	<i>Amin'ny iray ora izao.</i>	aa-min-ni rai ur i-zow
It's (two) o'clock.	<i>Amin'ny (roa) izao.</i>	aa-min-ni (ru) i-zow
Quarter past (one).	<i>(Iray) sy fahefany.</i>	(rai) si faa-he-faan
Half past (one).	<i>(Iray) sy sasany.</i>	(rai) si saa-saan
Quarter to (eight).	<i>(Valo) latsaka fahefany.</i>	(vaal) laat-saa-kaa faa-he-faan
At what time ...?	<i>Amin'ny firy ...?</i>	aa-min-ni fir ...
At ...	<i>Amin'ny ...</i>	aa-min-ni ...
It's (15 December).	<i>(Dimy amlinifolo Desambra) androany.</i>	(dim aam-bin-ful de-saam-braa) aan-dru-aan
yesterday	<i>omaly</i>	u-maal
today	<i>androany</i>	aan-dru-aan
tomorrow	<i>rahampitso</i>	raa-haam-pits
Monday	<i>Alatsinainy</i>	aa-laat-si-nain
Tuesday	<i>Talata</i>	taa-laat
Wednesday	<i>Alarobia</i>	aa-laa-ru-bi
Thursday	<i>Alakamisy</i>	aa-laa-kaa-mis
Friday	<i>Zomà</i>	zu-maa
Saturday	<i>Asabotsy</i>	aa-saa-butss
Sunday	<i>Alahady</i>	aa-laa-haad

## numbers

0	<i>aotra</i>	<i>ow-traa</i>	16	<i>enina</i>	e-ni-
1	<i>isa/iray</i>	<i>i-saa/i-rai</i>	17	<i>ambinifolo</i>	naam-bin-ful
2	<i>roa</i>	<i>ru</i>		<i>fito</i>	fi-tu-
3	<i>telo</i>	<i>tel</i>		<i>ambinifolo</i>	aam-bin-ful
4	<i>efatra</i>	<i>e-faatr</i>	18	<i>valo</i>	vaa-lu-
5	<i>dimy</i>	<i>dim</i>		<i>ambinifolo</i>	aam-bin-ful
6	<i>enina</i>	<i>e-nin</i>	19	<i>sivy ambinifolo</i>	si-vi-aam-bin-ful
7	<i>fito</i>	<i>fit</i>	20	<i>roapoloo</i>	ru-aa-pul
8	<i>valo</i>	<i>vaal</i>	21	<i>iraika</i>	i-rai-
9	<i>sivy</i>	<i>siv</i>		<i>ambiroampolo</i>	kaam-bi-ro-pu
10	<i>folo</i>	<i>ful</i>	22	<i>roa</i>	ru
11	<i>iraika</i>	<i>i-rai-</i> <i>ambinifolo</i>	<i>kaam-bin-ful</i>	<i>ambiroampolo</i>	aam-bi-ro-pul
12	<i>roa</i>	<i>ru</i>	30	<i>telopolo</i>	te-lu-pul
	<i>ambinifolo</i>	<i>aam-bin-ful</i>	40	<i>efapolo</i>	e-faa-pul
13	<i>telo</i>	<i>tel</i>	50	<i>dimampolo</i>	di-maam-pul
	<i>ambinifolo</i>	<i>aam-bin-ful</i>	60	<i>enimpolo</i>	e-ni-pul
14	<i>efatra</i>	<i>e-faa-traam-</i> <i>ambinifolo</i>	70	<i>fitopoloo</i>	fi-tu-pul
		<i>bin-ful</i>	80	<i>valopoloo</i>	vaa-lu-pul
15	<i>dmy</i>	<i>dim</i>	90	<i>sivifolo</i>	si-vi-ful
	<i>iambinifolo</i>	<i>aam-bin-ful</i>	100	<i>zato</i>	zaat
			1000	<i>arivo</i>	aa-riv

## border crossing

I'm here ...	... <i>aho no eto.</i>	... <i>ow nu et</i>
in transit	<i>Mandalo fotsiny</i>	<i>maan-daa-lu fut-sin</i>
on business	<i>Manao raharaha</i>	<i>maa-now raa-haa-raa</i>
on holiday	<i>Miala sasatra</i>	<i>mi-aa-laa saa-saatr</i>
I'm here for ...	... <i>aho no eto.</i>	... <i>ow nu et</i>
(10) days	<i>(Folo) andro</i>	<i>(ful) aandr</i>
(three) weeks	<i>(Telo) herinandro</i>	<i>(tel) he-ri-naandr</i>
(two) months	<i>(Roa) volana</i>	<i>(ru) vu-laan</i>
I'm going to (Mahajanga).		
<i>Ho any (Mahajanga) aho.</i>		<i>ho aan (maa-haa-dzaang) ow</i>
I'm staying at (the Zahamotel).		
<i>Mipetraka ao amin'ny (Zahamotel) aho.</i>	<i>mi-pe-traa-kow aa-min-ni (zaa-mo-tel) ow</i>	

## tickets

A ... ticket (to Toliary), please.	<i>Tapakila ... iray</i> (mankany Toliary), azafady.	taa-paa-kil ... i-rai (maa-kaan tu-li-aar) aa-zaa-faad
one-way return	<i>mandroso</i> <i>miverina</i>	maan-drus mi-ve-rin
I'd like to ... my ticket, please.	<i>Mba te ... ny tapakilako aho, azafady.</i>	mbaa te ... ni taa-paa-ki-laa-ku ow aa-zaa-faad
cancel	<i>hanafoana</i>	haa-naa-fo-naa
change	<i>hanolo</i>	haa-nul
collect	<i>haka</i>	haa-kaa
I'd like a ... seat, please.	<i>Toerana ho an'ny ... no mba tiako, azafady.</i>	tu-e-raa-naa u aan-ni ... nu mbaa ti-ku aa-zaa-faad
nonsmoking	<i>tsy mifoka sigara</i>	tsi mi-fuk si-gaar
smoking	<i>mifoka</i>	mi-fuk
Is there a toilet/air conditioning?	<i>Misy efitra fidiovan/kilimatizera ve?</i>	mi-si e-fi-traa fi-di-u-vaan/kli-maa-ti-zer ve
How long does the trip take?	<i>Hafiriana ny dia?</i>	haa-fi-ri-naa ni di
Is it a direct route?	<i>Tsy mijanojanona ve?</i>	tsi mi-dzaa-nu-dzaa-nu-naa ve

## transport

Where does the (Air Madagascar) flight arrive/depart?	<i>Aiza ny sidina</i> (Air Madagascar) <i>no tonga/miainga?</i>	ai-zaa ni si-di-naa (air maa-daa-gaa-si-kaar) nu tun-gaa/mi-ain-gaa
How long will it be delayed?	<i>Hafiriana ny fahatarany?</i>	haa-fi-ri-naa ni faa-haa-taa-raan
Is this the ... to (Toamasina)?	<i>Ity ve ny ... mankany</i> (Toamasina)?	i-ti ve ni ... maa-kaan (to-maa-sin)
boat	<i>sambo</i>	saamb
bus	<i>aotobisy</i>	o-to-bis
plane	<i>roaplanina</i>	ro-plaan
train	<i>lamasinina</i>	laa-maa-sin

## How much is it to ...?

*Ohatrinona ny ...?* o-trin-naa ni ...

## Please take me to (this address).

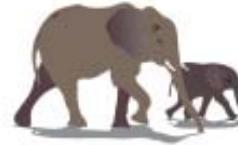
*Mba ento any amin'*  
(ityadiresy ity) aho azafady. mbaa en-tu aa-ni aa-min  
(tiaa-di-res ti) ow aa-zaa-faad

## I'd like to hire a car/4WD (with air conditioning).

*Mba te hanarama fiara/4x4*  
(misy kilimatizera) aho azafady. mbaa te haa-naa-raa-maa fi-aar/kaat-kaat-raa  
(mis kli-maa-ti-zer) ow aa-zaa-faad

## How much is it for (three) days/weeks?

*Ohatrinona ny (telo)*  
andro/herinandro? o-trin-naa ni (te-lu)  
aan-dru/he-ri-naan-dru



## directions

### Where's the (nearest) ...?

internet café  
market

*Aiza ny ...*  
(akaiky indrindra)?

sibera  
tsena

ai-zaa ni ...  
(aa-kaik in-drin-draa)

si-ber  
tsen

### Is this the road to (Antsirabe)?

*Ity ve ny lalana mankany (Antsirabe)?* i-ti ve ni laa-laan maa-kaan (aan-tsi-raa-be)

### Can you show me (on the map)?

*Afaka asehonao ahy*  
(eoamin'ny sarintany) ve?

aa-faak aa-se-u-now waa  
(e-uaa-min-ni saa-rin-taan) ve

### What's the address?

*Inona ny adiresy?*

i-nu-naa ni aa-di-res

### How far is it?

*Hafiriana avy eta?*

haa-fi-ri-naa aa-vi et

### How do I get there?

*Ahoana no laloko mankany?*

ow-o-naa nu laa-laan maa-kaan

### Turn left/right.

*Mivilia ankavia/ankavanana.*

mi-vi-li aan-kaa-vi/aan-kaa-vaa-naan

It's ...	... <i>ilay izy.</i>	... <i>i-lai iz</i>
behind ...	<i>Ao ambadiky ny ...</i>	<i>ow aam·baa-di·ki ni ...</i>
in front of ...	<i>Manoloana ny ...</i>	<i>maa·nu·lo·naa ni ...</i>
near (to ...)	<i>Akaiky ny</i>	<i>aa·kai·ki ni</i>
next to ...	<i>Manaraka ny</i>	<i>maa·naa·raa·kaa ni</i>
on the corner	<i>Eo an-jorony</i>	<i>e·waan-dzu-run</i>
opposite ...	<i>Mifanatrika ...</i>	<i>mi·faa·naa·tri·k ...</i>
straight ahead	<i>Mandeha mahitsy</i>	<i>maan·de maa·hits</i>
there	<i>Eo</i>	<i>e·u</i>

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	<i>Aiza no misy ...?</i>	<i>ai·zaa nu mis ...</i>
camping ground	<i>toerana filasiana</i>	<i>tu·e·raan fi·laa·si·naa</i>
guesthouse	<i>tranom-bahiny</i>	<i>traa·num·baa·hin</i>
hotel	<i>hôtel</i>	<i>o·tel</i>
youth hostel	<i>fandraisana Tanora</i>	<i>faan·drai·saa·naa taa·nur</i>

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

<i>Afaka manoro ahy toerana</i>	<i>aa·faa·kaa maa·nur waa tu·e·raa·naa</i>
<i>mora/tsara ve ianao?</i>	<i>mu·raa/tsaa·raa ve i·aa·now</i>

I'd like to book a room, please.

<i>Mba te hamandrika efitra</i>	<i>mbaa te haa·maan·dri·kaa e·fi·traa</i>
<i>iray aho, azafady.</i>	<i>rai ow aa·zaa·faad</i>

I have a reservation.

<i>Manana famandrihana iray aho.</i>	<i>maa·naa·naa faa·maan·di·haa·naa rai ow</i>
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Do you have a ... room?	<i>Misy ... ve ato aminaoo</i>	<i>mis ... ve aat·waa·mi·now</i>
	<i>efitra iray ...?</i>	<i>e·fi·traa i·rai ...</i>
single	<i>ho an'olon-tokana</i>	<i>waa·nu·lun·dru</i>
double	<i>misy fandriana lehibe</i>	<i>mis faan·dri·naa le·hi·be</i>
twin	<i>misy fandriana kely</i>	<i>mis faan·dri·naa kel</i>

How much is it per night/person?

<i>Ohatrinona isan' alina/olona?</i>	<i>o·trin i·saan aa·lin/u·lun</i>
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I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

<i>Mba saika hipetraka (roa) alina aho.</i>	<i>mbaa sai·kaa i·pe·traa·kaa (ru) aa·li·now</i>
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What time is check-out?

<i>Amin'ny firy no</i>	<i>aa·min·ni fir nu</i>
<i>fara-famerenana lakile?</i>	<i>faa·raa·faa·me·re·naa·naa laa·ki·le</i>

Am I allowed to camp here?

<i>Mahazo milasy eto ve aho?</i>	<i>maa·haa·zu mi·laas e·tu ve ow</i>
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## banking & communications

I'd like to ...	<i>Mba te ... aho azafady.</i>	<i>mbaa te ... ow aa·zaa·faad</i>
arrange a transfer	<i>hikarakara</i>	<i>hi·kaa·raa·kaar</i>
	<i>famindram-bola</i>	<i>faa·min·draam·bul</i>
cash a cheque	<i>hanakalo seky</i>	<i>haa·naa·kaa·lu se·ki</i>
change a travellers cheque	<i>hanakalo seky de</i>	<i>haa·naa·kaa·lu se·ki de</i>
change money	<i>voizazy</i>	<i>vo·yaa·zi</i>
withdraw money	<i>hanakalo vola</i>	<i>haa·naa·kaa·lu vu·laa</i>
	<i>hisintona vola</i>	<i>hi·sin·tu·naa vu·laa</i>

I want to ...	<i>Te ... aho.</i>	<i>te ... ow</i>
buy a phonecard	<i>hividy karatra</i>	<i>hi·vid kaa·raa·traa</i>
	<i>telefaonina</i>	<i>te·le·fon</i>
call (Singapore)	<i>hiantso an'l</i> (Singapore)	<i>hi·aan·tsu aa·ni</i> (sin·gaa·pur)
reverse the charges	<i>hanafaona ny</i>	<i>haa·naa·fo·naa ni</i>
use the internet	<i>sarany</i>	<i>saa·raa·ni</i>
use a printer	<i>hampiasa emprimanty</i>	<i>haam·pi·aas em·pri·maan·ti</i>
	<i>hijery enterinety</i>	<i>hi·dze·ri en·ter·net</i>

How much is it per hour?

<i>Ohatrinona ny adiny iray?</i>	<i>o·trin·naa ni aa·din rai</i>
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How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

<i>Ohatrinona ny miantso (telo minitra)?</i>	<i>o·trin·naa ni mi·aant·su (tel mi·ni·traa)</i>
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(One ariary) per minute.

<i>(Ariary) ny iray minitra.</i>	<i>(aa·ri·aar) ni i·rai mi·ni·traa</i>
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## tours

When's the next ...?	<i>Rahoviana ny ... manaraka?</i>	<i>row·vi·naa ni ... maa·naa·raa·kaa</i>
day trip tour	<i>dia atoandro toro</i>	<i>di aa·tu·aan·dru tur</i>

Is ... included?	<i>Ao antiny ve ...?</i>	ow aa-naa-ti-ni ve ...
accommodation	<i>ny toerana ipetrahana</i>	ni tu-e-raa-ni-pe-traa-haan
the admission charge	<i>ny vidim-pidirana</i>	ni vi-dim-pi-di-raan
food	<i>sakafo</i>	saa-kaaf
transport	<i>fitaterana</i>	fi-taa-te-raan

How long is the tour?  
*Hafiriana ny toro?* haa-fi-ri-naa ni tur

What time should we be back?  
*Amin'ny firy isika no tokony ho tafaverina?* aa-min-ni fi-ri-si-kaa nu tu-kun nu taa-faa-ve-rin



## shopping

I'm looking for ...  
*Mitady ... aho.* mi-taa-di ... ow

I need film for this camera.  
*Mila pelikiola ho an'ity fakantsary ity aho.* mi-laa pe-li-ki-ul waa-ni-ti faa-kaan-tsaa-ri-ti ow

Can I listen to this?  
*Azoko henoina ve ity?* aa-zuk we-nu-naa ve i-ti

Can I have my ... repaired?  
*Afaka amboarina ve ny ... -ko?* aa-faa-kaamb-waa-rin ve ni ... -ku

When will it be ready?  
*Rahoviana no vita?* row-vi-naa nu vi-taa

How much is it?  
*Ohatrinona?* o-trin

Can you write down the price?  
*Mba afaka soratanao ve ny vidiny?* mbaa aa-faa-kaa su-raa-taa-now ve ni vi-din

What's your lowest price?  
*Ohatrinona ny vidiny farany?* o-trin-naa ni vi-din faa-raan

I'll give you (five) ariary.  
*Omeko Ariary (dimy) ianao.* u-me-ku aa-ri-aa-ri (di-mi) aa-now

There's a mistake in the bill.	<i>Miso diso ny fakitora.</i>	mis di-su ni faak-tu-raa
It's faulty.	<i>Tsy marina io.</i>	tsi maa-ri-ni-u
I'd like a receipt, please.	<i>Mba mila resiò aho, azafady.</i>	mbaa mi-laa re-si-u ow aa-zaa-faad
Do you accept ...?	<i>Mandray ... ve ianao?</i>	maan-drai ... ve i-aa-now
credit cards	<i>karatra kiredy</i>	kaa-raa-traa kre-di
travellers cheques	<i>seky de voiazy</i>	se-ki de vo-yaa-zi
Could you ...?	<i>Mba afaka ... ve ianao azafady?</i>	mbaa-aa-faak ... ve i-aa-now aa-zaa-faad
burn a CD from my memory card	<i>mameno CD avy amin'ny ordinaterako</i>	maa-me-nu se-de aa-va-aa-min-ni o-ri-di-naa-te-raa-ku
develop this film	<i>manasa ity pelikiola ity</i>	maa-naa-saa i-ti pe-li-ki-ul i-ti

## making conversation

Hello.  
*Manao ahoana.* maa-now aa-hon

Good night.  
*Tafandria mandry.* taa-faan-dri maan-dri

Goodbye.  
*Veloma.* ve-lum

Mr  
*Ingahy* in-gaa

Mrs  
*Ramatoa* raa-maa-tu

Ms/Miss  
*Ramatoakely* raa-maa-tu-kel

How are you?  
*Manao ahoana ianao?* maa-now aa-ho-ni-aa-now

Fine, and you?  
*Tsara, ary ianao?* tsaa aa-ri-aa-now

What's your name?  
*Iza no anaranao?* i-zaa nu aa-naa-raa-now

My name's ...  
... no anarako.  
... nu aa-naa-raa-ku

I'm pleased to meet you.  
*Faly mahfantatra anao.* faa-li maa-faan-taa-traa now

This is my ...	<i>Izy no ...ko.</i>	<i>i·zi nu ...ku</i>
boyfriend	<i>sakaiza-</i>	<i>saa·kai·zaa·</i>
brother (man/ woman saying)	<i>rahalahi-/</i>	<i>raa·laa·hi-/</i>
daughter	<i>anadahi-</i>	<i>aa·naa·daa·hi-</i>
father	<i>zanaka vavi-</i>	<i>zaa·naa·kaa vaa·vi-</i>
friend	<i>rai-</i>	<i>rai·</i>
girlfriend	<i>nama-</i>	<i>naa·maa·</i>
husband	<i>sakaiza-</i>	<i>saa·kai·zaa·</i>
mother	<i>vadi-</i>	<i>va·di·</i>
sister (man/ woman saying)	<i>reni-</i>	<i>re·ni·</i>
son	<i>anabavi-/</i>	<i>aa·naa·baa·vi-/</i>
wife	<i>rahavavi-</i>	<i>raa·vaa·vi-</i>
Here's my ...	<i>zana ka lahi-</i>	<i>zaa·naa·kaa laa·hi-</i>
What's your ...?	<i>vadi-</i>	<i>va·di·</i>
address		
email address		
phone number		
Where are you from?	<i>Avy aiza ianao?</i>	<i>aa·vi ai·zaa i·aa·now</i>
I'm from ...	<i>Avy any ... aho.</i>	<i>aa·vi aa·ni ... ow</i>
Australia	<i>Aositrilia</i>	<i>os·traa·lii</i>
Canada	<i>Kanadà</i>	<i>kaa·naa·daa</i>
New Zealand	<i>Niò Zelandy</i>	<i>ni·u ze·laan·di</i>
the UK	<i>Angiletera</i>	<i>aan·gle·ter</i>
the USA	<i>Amerika</i>	<i>aa·me·rik</i>
I'm (not) married.	<i>(Tsy) Manam-bady aho.</i>	<i>(tsi) maa·naa·baa·di ow</i>
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Afaka maka sary</i> <i>(anao) ve aho?</i>	<i>aa·faa·kaa maa·kaa saa·ri</i> <i>(aa·now) ve ow</i>

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Afaka manoro ahy</i> ... <i>tsara ve ianao?</i>	<i>aa·faa·kaa maa·nur waa</i> ... <i>tsaar ve i·aa·now</i>
bar	<i>bara</i>	<i>baa·raa</i>
dish	<i>sakafo</i>	<i>saa·kaaf</i>
place to eat	<i>toerana</i>	<i>tu·e·raan</i>
	<i>hisakafoanana</i>	<i>i·saa·kaa·fu·aa·naan</i>

I'd like ... , please.	<i>Mba mila ... , azafady.</i>	<i>mbaa mi·laa ... aa·zaa·faad</i>
the bill	<i>ny fakitora</i>	<i>ni faak·ti·ur</i>
the menu	<i>ny lisitra sakafo</i>	<i>ni lis·traa saa·kaaf</i>
a table for (two)	<i>latabatra ho an'</i> (olon-droa)	<i>laa·taa·baa·traa waan</i> (u-lun-dru)
that dish	<i>iny sakafo iny</i>	<i>in saa·kaa·fu in</i>
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Manana sakafo tsy misy</i> <i>hena ve ianareo?</i>	<i>maa·naa·naa saa·kaaf tsi mis</i> <i>he·naa ve i·aa·naa·re·u</i>
Could you prepare a meal without ... ?	<i>Mba afaka manao</i> <i>sakafo tsy misy ...</i> <i>ve ianareo?</i>	<i>mbaa aa·faak maa·now</i> <i>saa·kaaf tsi mis ...</i> <i>ve i·aa·naa·re·u</i>
eggs	<i>atody</i>	<i>aa·tud</i>
meat stock	<i>hena</i>	<i>he·naa</i>
(cup of) coffee ...	<i>kafe (iray kaopy) ...</i>	<i>kaa·fe (i·rai kop) ...</i>
(cup of) tea ...	<i>dite (iray kaopy) ...</i>	<i>di·te (i·rai kop) ...</i>
with milk	<i>misy ronono</i>	<i>mis ru·nun</i>
without sugar	<i>tsy misy siramamy</i>	<i>tsi mis si·raa·maam</i>
(boiled) water	<i>rano (mangotraka)</i>	<i>raa·nu (maan·gu·traak)</i>

## emergencies

Help!	<i>Vonjeo!</i>	<i>vun·dze·u</i>
I'm lost.	<i>Very aho.</i>	<i>ve·ri·ow</i>
Call ... !	<i>Antsoy ny ... !</i>	<i>aant·su·i ni ...</i>
an ambulance	<i>ambilansy</i>	<i>aam·bi·laans</i>
a doctor	<i>dokotera</i>	<i>duk·ter</i>
the police	<i>polisy</i>	<i>po·lis</i>

Could you help me, please?	<i>Mba ampio kely aho, azafady?</i>	<i>mbaa aam·pi·u kel ow aa·zaa·faad</i>
Where are the toilets?	<i>Aiza ny trano fivoahana?</i>	<i>ai·zaa ni traa·nu fi·vu·aa·haan</i>
I want to report an offence.	<i>Mba te hitatitra heloka iray aho.</i>	<i>mbaa te hi·taa·ti·traa he·lu·ki rai ow</i>
I have insurance.	<i>Manana fiantohana aho.</i>	<i>maa·naa·naa fi·aan·tu·haa·now</i>

## I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

*Te hanatona ny masoivohonay aho. te haa-naa-tu-naa ni maa-su-i-vu-aa-nai ow*

I've been ...	<i>Nisy ... aho.</i>	<i>nis ... ow</i>
assaulted	<i>nafanika</i>	<i>naa-naa-fik</i>
raped	<i>nanolana</i>	<i>naa-nu-laan</i>
robbed	<i>nangalatra</i>	<i>naan-gaa-laa-traa</i>
I've lost my ...	<i>Very ny ... ko.</i>	<i>ve-ri ni ... ku</i>
My ... was/were stolen.	<i>Nisy nangalatra ny ... ko.</i>	<i>nis naan-gaa-laa-traa ni ... ku</i>
bags	<i>haro-</i>	<i>haa-ru-</i>
handbag	<i>paoeketra-</i>	<i>po-ke-traa-</i>
jewellery	<i>firava-</i>	<i>fi-raa-va-</i>
money	<i>vola-</i>	<i>vu-laa-</i>
passport	<i>pasiaporo-</i>	<i>paa-si-por-</i>
travellers cheques	<i>seki-</i>	<i>se-ki-</i>
wallet	<i>paoeketra keli-</i>	<i>po-ke-traa kel-</i>

## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>Aiza ny ... akaiky indrindra?</i>	<i>ai-zaa ni ... aa-kaik in-drin-draa</i>
dentist	<i>mpanao nify</i>	<i>paa-now nif</i>
doctor	<i>dokotera</i>	<i>duk-ter</i>
hospital	<i>hôpitaly</i>	<i>ho-pi-taal</i>
pharmacist	<i>fivarotam-panafody</i>	<i>fi-vaa-ru-taam-paa-naa-fud</i>

### I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Mba mila dokotera  
(miteny Angilisy) aho.*

### Could I see a female doctor?

*Mba afaka manatona dokotera  
vavy ve aho azafady?*

### It hurts here.

*Marary eto.*

### I'm allergic to (penicillin).

*Tys mahazaka (penisilina) aho.*

## english–malagasy dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as **n** (noun), **a** (adjective), **v** (verb), **ℳ** (masculine),  **ⓘ** (feminine), **sg** (singular) and **pl** (plural) where necessary.

### A

accommodation	<i>toerna ipetrahana</i>
	<i>tu-e-raa-ni-pe-traa-haan</i>
adaptor	<i>adapitera</i>
	<i>aa-daa-pi-ter</i>
after	<i>aoriana</i>
	<i>ow-ri-naa</i>
airport	<i>tobi piaramanidina</i>
	<i>tu-bi pi-aa-raa-maa-ni-din</i>
alcohol	<i>alikaola</i>
	<i>aa-li-ko-la</i>
all	<i>rehetra</i>
	<i>re-he-traa</i>
allergy	<i>tsy fazahakana</i>
	<i>tsi faa-haa-zaa-kaan</i>
and	<i>ary ari</i>
ankle	<i>kitrokely</i>
	<i>ki-tru-kel</i>
antibiotics	<i>antibiôтика</i>
	<i>aan-ti-bi-o-ti-kaa</i>
anti-inflammatories	<i>tsy mampivonto</i>
	<i>tsi maam-pi-vun-tu</i>
arm	<i>sandry</i>
	<i>saan-dri</i>
aspirin	<i>aspirinina</i>
	<i>aa-si-pi-rin</i>
asthma	<i>asima</i>
	<i>aas-maa</i>

### B

baby	<i>zazakely</i>
	<i>zaa-zaa-ke-li</i>
back (body)	<i>lamosina</i>
	<i>laa-mu-si-naa</i>
backpack	<i>kitapo</i>
	<i>fibaby ki-taa-pu</i>
bad	<i>ratsy</i>
	<i>raats</i>
baggage	<i>fijerena</i>
	<i>entana fi-dze-re-naa</i>
bank	<i>banky</i>
	<i>baan-ki</i>
bathroom	<i>efitra</i>
	<i>fandroana e-fi-traa</i>
battery	<i>pila pil</i>
	<i>beautif</i>
	<i>tsara tarehy</i>
	<i>tsaa-raa taa-re</i>
bed	<i>fandriana</i>
	<i>faan-drin</i>
beer	<i>labiera</i>
	<i>laa-bi-er</i>
bees	<i>tantely</i>
	<i>taan-tel</i>
before	<i>midoloha</i>
	<i>mi-aa-lu</i>
bicycle	<i>bisikileta</i>
	<i>bis-ki-le-taa</i>
big	<i>ngeza</i>
	<i>nge-zaa</i>
blanket	<i>frakotra</i>
	<i>fi-rraa-ku-traa</i>
blood group	<i>sokajin-drâ</i>
	<i>so-kaad-zin-draa</i>
bottle	<i>tavoahangy</i>
	<i>taa-vu-haan-ji</i>
bottle opener	<i>famohana</i>
	<i>tavoahangy</i>
	<i>faa-mu-haa-naa taa-vu-haan-ji</i>
boy	<i>lahy</i>
	<i>laa</i>
brakes (car)	<i>fire</i>
	<i>fre</i>
breakfast	<i>sakafo</i>
	<i>maraina</i>
	<i>saa-kaaf maa-rai-naa</i>
bronchitis	<i>koha-davareny</i>
	<i>ku-haa-daa-vaa-ren</i>

### C

café	<i>kafe</i>
cancel	<i>foanana</i>
	<i>fu-aa-naa-naa</i>
can opener	<i>famohana</i>
	<i>kapoaka faa-mu-haa-naa kaa-pok</i>
cash	<i>n</i>
	<i>lavelola le-laa-vu-la</i>
cell phone	<i>paoritabila</i>
	<i>por-taa-bi-la</i>
centre	<i>n</i>
	<i>ivo i-vu</i>
cheap	<i>moravidy</i>
	<i>mu-raa-vid</i>
check (bill)	<i>seky</i>
	<i>se-ki</i>
check-in	<i>n</i>
	<i>tomboka fidirana tum-bu-kaa fi-di-raan</i>
chest	<i>tratra</i>
	<i>traa-traa</i>
child	<i>ankizy</i>
	<i>aan-kiz</i>
cigarette	<i>sigara</i>
	<i>si-gaa-raa</i>
city	<i>tanân-dehibe</i>
	<i>taa-naan-de-hi-be</i>
clean	<i>a</i>
	<i>madio maa-di-u</i>
closed	<i>mihidy</i>
	<i>mi-hid</i>
codeine	<i>kaodehininga</i>
	<i>ko-de-in</i>
cold	<i>a</i>
	<i>mangatsiaka maan-gaa-tsik</i>
condom	<i>kapaoty</i>
	<i>kaa-po-ti</i>
constipation	<i>fitohanana</i>
	<i>fi-to-haa-naa-naa</i>
contact lenses	<i>solomaso</i>
	<i>su-lu-maa-su</i>
cough	<i>n</i>
	<i>kohaka ku-haak</i>
currency exchange	<i>fanakalozana</i>
	<i>devizy</i>
	<i>faa-naa-kaa-lu-zaa-naa de-viz</i>
customs (immigration)	<i>ladoany</i>
	<i>laa-du-aan</i>

### D

dairy products	<i>ronono</i>
	<i>ru-nun</i>
dangerous	<i>mampidi-doza</i>
	<i>maam-pi-di-duz</i>
date (time)	<i>n</i>
	<i>daty daa-ti</i>
day	<i>andro</i>
	<i>aan-dru</i>
diaper	<i>tatin-jaza</i>
	<i>taa-tind-zaa-zaa</i>
diarrhoea	<i>mivalana</i>
	<i>mi-vaa-laan</i>
dinner	<i>sakafo</i>
	<i>hariva</i>
	<i>saa-kaa-fu</i>
	<i>aa-ri-vaa</i>
dirty	<i>maloto</i>
	<i>maa-lut</i>
disabled	<i>kilemaina</i>
	<i>ki-le-mai-naa</i>
double bed	<i>fandriana</i>
	<i>lehibe faan-dri-naa le-hi-be</i>
drink	<i>n</i>
	<i>zava-pisotra zaa-va-a-pi-su-tru</i>
drivers licence	<i>perimia</i>
	<i>per-mi</i>
drug (illicit)	<i>zava-mahadomelina</i>
	<i>zaa-vaa-maa-du-mel</i>

**E**

**ear** *sofina su-fi-naa*  
**east** *atsinanana aat-si-naa-naan*  
**economy class** *kilasy faharoa ki-laa-si faa-haa-ru*  
**elevator** *asansera aa-saan-ser*  
**email** *n mailaka mai-laak*  
**English (language)** *angilisy aan-gi-lis*  
**exchange rate** *vidy takalo vi-di taa-kaa-lu*  
**exit** *n fivoahana fi-vu-aa-haan*  
**expensive** *lafo laa-fu*  
**eye** *maso maa-su*

**E****F**

**fast** *a haingana hain-gaa-naa*  
**fever** *tazo taa-zu*  
**finger** *rantsan-tanana raant-saan-taa-naan*  
**first-aid kit** *fanafody vonjy taitra*  
*faa-naa-fu-di vund-zi-tai-traa*  
**first class** *kilasy voalohany ki-laa-si vu-aa-lu-haan*  
**fish** *n trondro trun-dru*  
**food** *sakafo saa-kaaf*  
**foot** *tongota tun-gu-traa*  
**fork** *forisety fu-ri-se-ti*  
**free (of charge)** *maimaimpoana mai-mai-po-naa*  
**fruit** *voankazo vu-aan-kaaz*  
**funny** *mampiomehy maam-pi-u-me*

**G**

**game park** *kiianjan-dalao ki-aand-zaa-daa-low*  
**gift** *fanomezana faa-nu-me-zaan*  
**girl** *vehivavy ve-hi-vaav*  
**glass (drinking)** *vera ve-raa*  
**glasses** *solomaso su-lu-maas*  
**gluten** *gilotenia glu-ten*  
**good** *tsara tsaa-raa*  
**gram** *girama graa-maa*  
**guide** *n mpitarika pi-taa-ri-kaa*

**H**

**hand** *tanana taa-naa-naa*  
**happy** *faly faa-li*  
**have** *manana maa-naa-naa*  
**he** *izy iz*  
**head** *loha lu*

**headache** *aretina an-doha aa-re-tin-aan-du*  
**heart** *fo fu*  
**heart condition** *toe-pò tu-e-pu*  
**heat** *n hafanana haa-faa-naan*  
**here** *eto e-tu*  
**high** *avo aa-vu*  
**highway** *lalambe laa-laam-be*  
**homosexual** *n&a sarindahy/sarimbavy (m)/ (f)*  
*saa-rin-daa/saa-rim-baa-vi*  
**hot** *mahamay maa-mai*  
**hungry** *noana no-naa*

**I**

**I aho** *ow*  
**identification (card)** *kara-panondro kaa-raa-paa-nun-dru*  
**ill** *marary maa-raa-ri*  
**important** *zava-dehibe zaa-vaa-de-hi-be*  
**internet** *enterinety en-ter-net*  
**interpreter** *mpandika teny paan-di-kaa te-ni*

**J**

**job** *asa aa-saa*

**K**

**key** *lakile laa-ki-le*  
**kilogram** *kilao ki-low*  
**kitchen** *lakozia laa-ku-zi*  
**knife** *antsy aant-si*

**L**

**laundry (place)** *fanasan-damba faa-naa-saan-daam-baa*  
**lawyer** *mpisolo vava mpi-su-lu vaa-vaa*  
**left-luggage office** *biraoo mpitahiry entana*  
*bi-row pi-taa-hi-ri en-taa-naa*  
**leg** *ranjo raand-zu*  
**lesbian** *n&a sarindahy saa-rin-daa*  
**less** *kely kokoa ke-li ku-ku*  
**letter (mail)** *taratasy taa-rraa-taa*  
**like** *v tia ti*  
**lost-property office** *biraon' entana very*  
*bi-row-ni-en-taa-naa-ve-ri*  
**love** *v tia ti*  
**lunch** *sakafo atoandro saa-kaaf waa-tu-aan-dru*

**M**

**man** *lehilahy le-hi-laa*  
**matches** *afokasoka aa-fu-kaa-su-kaa*  
**meat** *hena he-naa*  
**medicine** *fanafody faa-naa-fu-di*  
**message** *hafatra haa-faa-traa*  
**mobile phone** *paoritabila por-taa-bi-laa*  
**month** *volana vu-la-a-naa*  
**morning** *maraina maa-rai-naa*  
**motorcycle** *motoh mo-to*  
**mouth** *vava vaa-vaa*  
**movie** *sarimihetsika saa-ri-mi-het-si-kaa*  
**MSG** *MSG em-es-dze*  
**museum** *trano firaketana traan fi-rra-ke-taan*  
**music** *mozika mu-zik*

**N**

**name** *n anarana aa-naa-raa*  
**napkin** *serivietan-databatra*  
*se-ri-vi-e-taa-daa-taa-baa-traa*  
**nappy** *te hatory te haa-tu-ri*  
**national park** *parika nasionaly paar-kaa naa-si-o-naa-li*  
**nausea** *malohilohy maa-lo-hi-lo-hi*  
**neck** *hatoka haa-tu-kaa*  
**new** *vaovao vow-vow*  
**news** *vaovao vow-vow*  
**newspaper** *gazety gaa-ze-ti*  
**night** *alina aa-li-naa*  
**nightclub** *toeram-pandihizana tu-e-ram-paan-di-hi-zaan*  
**noisy** *mitabataba mi-taa-baa-taa-baa*  
**nonsmoking** *tsy mifoka sigara tsy mi-fu-kaa si-gaa-raa*  
**north** *avaratra aa-vaa-rraa-traa*  
**nose** *orona u-ru-naa*  
**now** *izao i-zow*  
**number** *isa i-saa*  
**nuts** *voanje vu-aan-dzu*

**O**

**oil (engine)** *menaka me-naa-kaa*  
**OK** *mety me-ti*  
**old** *antitra aan-ti-traa*  
**open** *a mivoaha mi-vu*  
**outside** *ivelany i-ve-laa-ni*

**P**

**package** *entana en-taa-naa*  
**pain** *fanaaintanana faa-nain-tai-naa-naa*

**palace** *rova ru-vaa*

**paper** *taratasy tad-rraa-taa*

**park (car)** *v fijanonana fid-zaa-nu-naan*

**passport** *pasiaporo paa-si-po-ru*

**pay** *v karama kaa-raa-maa*

**pen** *penina pen*

**petrol** *lasantsy laa-saant-si*

**pharmacy** *farimasia faa-ri-maa-si*

**plate** *lovia lu-vi*

**postcard** *karatra paositaly kaa-raa-traa pos-taa-li*

**post office** *paositra po-si-traa*

**pregnant** *bevhoka be-vu-kaa*

**Q**

**quiet** *mangiangiana maan-gin-gi-naa*

**R**

**rain** *n orana u-raan*

**razor** *hareza haa-rez*

**registered mail** *taratasy rekômande*

*taa-raa-taas re-ko-maan-de*

**rent** *v hofany hu-faan*

**repair** *v mamboatra maam-bo-traa*

**reservation** *famandrihana faa-maan-dri-haan*

**restaurant** *hotely fisakafoana o-te-li fi-saa-kaa-fu-aa-naa*

**return** *v miverina mi-ve-ri-naa*

**road** *lalana laa-la-a-naa*

**room** *efitra e-fi-tra*

**S**

**sad** *malahelo maa-laa-he-he*

**safe** *a milamina mi-la-a-mi-naa*

**sanitary napkin** *serivietan fidiovana*

*se-ri-vi-e-taa fi-di-uu-vaa-naa*

**seafood** *hazan-drano haa-zaan-draa-nu*

**seat** *fitoerana fi-tu-e-raan*

**send** *mandefa maan-def*

**sex** *wavy na lahy vaa-vi naa-laa*

**shampoo** *fanasam-bolo faa-naa-saam-bu-lu*

**share (a dorm, etc)** *mizara mi-zaa-raa*

**shaving cream** *kirema fiharatana krem fi-haa-rraa-taan*

**she** *izy iz*

**sheet (bed)** *lambam-pandriana laam-baam-paan-dri-naa*

**shirt** *lobaka lu-baa-kaa*

**shoes** *kiraro ki-rraa-ru*

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**shop** *n fivarotana fi-vaa-ru-taan*  
**shower** *n fandroana faan-dru-naa*  
**skin** *hoditra hu-di-traa*  
**skirt** *zipo zi-po*  
**sleep** *v matory maa-tu-ri*  
**small** *kely ke-li*  
**smoke (cigarettes)** *v mifoka mi-fu-kaa*  
**soap** *savony saa-vu-ni*  
**some** *sasany saa-saan*  
**soon** *atoato aa-tu-aa-tu*  
**sore throat** *aretin-tenda aa-re-tin-ten-daa*  
**south** *atsimo aat-si-mu*  
**souvenir shop** *fivarotana fahatsiarovana  
fi-vaa-ru-taan faa-tsi-aa-ru-vaan*  
**speak** *miteny mi-ten*  
**spoon** *sotro su-tru*  
**stamp** *hajia haad-zi*  
**stand-by ticket** *tapakila ho an'ny lisitra miandry  
taa-pao-kil waan-ni-li-si-traa maa-an-dri*  
**station (train)** *gara gaa-raa*  
**stomach** *vavony vaa-vu-ni*  
**stop** *v mijanona mid-zaa-nu-naa*  
**stop (bus)** *n fijanonana fid-zaa-nu-naan*  
**street** *arabe aa-raa-be*  
**student** *mpianatra pi-aa-naa-traa*  
**sunscreen** *aro-masoandro aa-ru-maa-su-aan-dru*  
**swim** *v milomano mi-lu-maan*

**torch (flashlight)** *lampy de paosy laam-pi de pos*  
**tourist office** *biraon' ny vahiny bi-row-ni vaa-hin*  
**towel** *seriveta se-ri-vi-e-taa*  
**translate** *mandika teny maan-di-kaa ten*  
**travel agency** *birao mpandrindra dia  
bi-row paan-drin-draa di*  
**travellers cheque** *seyk de voiazy se-ki de vo-ya-a-zi*  
**trousers** *pataloha paa-taa-lu*  
**twin beds** *fandriana kely faan-dri-naa kel*  
**tyre** *kodiarana ku-di-aa-raan*

**U**

**underwear** *atin'akanjo aa-ti-naa-kaan-dzu*  
**urgent** *maika mai-kaa*

**V**

**vacant** *malalaka maa-laa-laa-kaa*  
**vegetarian** *a tsy misy hena tsi mis he-naa*  
**visa** *vizà vi-zaa*

**W**

**waiter** *mpandroso sakafy paan-dru-su saa-kaaf*  
**walk** *v mandeha tongotra maan-de tun-gu-traa*  
**wallet** *paoektra kely po-ke-traa kel*  
**warm a** *mafana maa-faan*  
**wash (something)** *manasa maa-naas*  
**watch** *n famataranandro faa-maa-taa-raa-naan-dru*  
**water** *rano raa-nu*  
**we (including person addressed)** *isika i-sik*  
**we (excluding person addressed)** *izahay i-zaa-hai*  
**weekend** *faran'ny herinandro faa-raan-ni he-ri-naan-dru*  
**west** *andrefana aan-dre-faan*  
**wheelchair** *sezan'ny kiemaina se-zaam-ni ki-le-mai-naa*  
**when** *oviana o-vi-naa*  
**where** *aiza ai-zaa*  
**who** *iza i-zaa*  
**why** *nahoana naa-hon*  
**window** *varavarankely vaa-raa-vaa-raan-kel*  
**wine** *divay di-vai*  
**with** *miaraka amin'ny mi-aa-raa-kaa-min-ni*  
**without** *tsy misy tsi mis*  
**woman** *vehivavy ve-hi-vaav*  
**write** *manoratra maa-nu-raa-traa*

**Y**

**you sg** *ianao i-aa-now*  
**you pl** *ianareo i-aa-naa-re-u*

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# Portuguese



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	run	b	bed
aa	father	d	dog
ai	aisle	f	fun
ay	say	g	go
e	bet	k	kit
ee	see	l	lot
o	pot	ly	million
oh	note	m	man
oo	zoo	n	not
ow	now	ng	ring (indicates the preceding vowel is nasal)
oy	boy	ny	canyon
In this chapter, the Portuguese pronunciation is given in red after each word or phrase.		p	pet
Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised.		r	like ‘tt’ in ‘butter’ said fast
For example: <i>Olá. o-laa</i>		rr	run (throaty)
		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero
		zh	pleasure

# PORTUGUESE português

## language difficulties

Do you speak English?	<i>Fala inglês?</i>	faa-la eeng·glesh
Do you understand?	<i>Entende?</i>	eng-teng-de
I (don't) understand.	<i>(Não) Entendo.</i>	(nowng) eng-teng-doo
Could you please ...?	<i>Podia ..., por favor?</i>	poo-dee-a ... poor fa-vor
repeat that	<i>repetir isto</i>	rre-pe-teer eesh-too
speak more slowly	<i>falar mais devagar</i>	fa-laar maish de-va-gaar
write it down	<i>escrever isso</i>	shkre-ver ee-soo

## time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	<i>Que horas são?</i>	kee o-rash sowng
It's one o'clock.	<i>É uma hora.</i>	e oo-ma o-ra
It's (ten) o'clock.	<i>São (dez) horas.</i>	sowng (desh) o-rash
Quarter past (ten).	<i>(Dez) e quinze.</i>	(desh) e keeng-ze
Half past (ten).	<i>(Dez) e meia.</i>	(desh) e may-a
Quarter to (eleven).	<i>Quinze para as (onze).</i>	keeng-ze pa-ra ash (ong-ze)
At what time ...?	<i>A que horas ...?</i>	a ke o-rash ...
At ...	<i>À ...</i>	aa ...
It's (18 October).	<i>Hoje é dia (dezoito de Outubro).</i>	o-zhe e dee-a (de-zoy-too de oh-too-broo)
Monday	<i>segunda-feira</i>	se-goong-da-fay-ra
Tuesday	<i>terça-feira</i>	ter-sa-fay-ra
Wednesday	<i>quarta-feira</i>	kwaar-ta-fay-ra
Thursday	<i>quinta-feira</i>	keeng-ta-fay-ra
Friday	<i>sexta-feira</i>	saysh-ta-fay-ra
Saturday	<i>sábado</i>	saa-ba-doo
Sunday	<i>domingo</i>	doo-meeng-goo
yesterday	<i>ontem</i>	ong-teng
today	<i>hoje</i>	o-zhe
tomorrow	<i>amanhã</i>	aa-ma-nyang

**numbers**

0	zero	ze-roo	16	dezasseis	de-za-saysh
1	um	oong	17	dezassete	de-za-se-te
2	dois	doysh	18	dezoito	de-zoy-too
3	três	tresh	19	dezanove	de-za-no-ve
4	quatro	kwa-a-troo	20	vinte	veeng-te
5	cinco	seeng-koo	21	vinte e um	veeng-te e oong
6	seis	saysh	22	vinte e dois	veeng-te e doysh
7	sete	se-te	30	trinta	treeng-ta
8	oito	oy-too	40	quarenta	kwa-reng-ta
9	nove	no-ve	50	cinquenta	seeng-kweng-ta
10	dez	desh	60	sessenta	se-seng-ta
11	onze	ong-ze	70	setenta	se-teng-ta
12	doze	do-ze	80	oitenta	oy-teng-ta
13	treze	tre-ze	90	noventa	no-veng-ta
14	catorze	ka-tor-ze	100	cem	seng
15	quinze	keeng-ze	1000	mil	meel

**border crossing**

I'm here ...	Estou ...	shtoh ...
in transit	em trânsito	eng trang-zee-too
on business	em negócios	eng ne-go-syoosh
on holiday	de férias	de fe-ree-ash

I'm here for ...	Vou ficar por ...	voh fee-kaar poor ...
(10) days	(dez) dias	(desh) dee-ash
(three) weeks	(três) semanas	(tresh) se-ma-nash
(two) months	(dois) meses	(doysh) me-zesh

I'm going to (Maputo).		
Vou para (Maputo).	voh pa-ra (ma-poo-to)	
I'm staying at the (Panorama Hotel).		
Estou no (Hotel Panorama).	shtoh noo (o-tel pa-no-ra-ma)	

**tickets**

One ... ticket (to Sofala), please.	Um bilhete de ... (para Sofala), por favor.	oong bee-lye-te de ... (pra so-faa-la) poor fa-vor
one-way return	ida ida e volta	ee-da ee-da ee vol-ta
Is there ...?	Tem ...?	teng ...
air conditioning	ar condicionado	aar kong-dee-syoo-naa-doo
a toilet	casa de banho	kaa-za de ba-nyoo
I'd like a ... seat, please.	Queria um lugar ... por favor.	ke-ree-a oong loo-gaar ... poor fa-vor
nonsmoking	de não fumadores	de nowng foo-ma-do-resh
smoking	para fumadores	pra foo-ma-do-resh

**transport**

Is this the ... to (Luanda)?	Este é o ... para (Luanda)?	esh-te e oo ... pra (lwan-da)
boat	barco	baar-koo
bus	autocarro	ow-to-kaa-rroo
train	comboio	kong-boy-oo
How much is it to ...?	Quanto custa até ao ...?	kwang-too koosh-ta a-te ow ...
Please take me to (this address).	Leve-me para (este endereço), por favor.	le-ve-me pa-ra (esh-te eng-de-re-soo) poor fa-vor
I'd like to hire a ... car (with air conditioning)	Queria alugar ... um carro (com ar condicionado)	ke-ree-a a-loo-gaar ... oong kaa-rroo (kong aar kong-dee-syoo-naa-doo)
4WD	4WD	kwa-a-troo poor kwa-a-troo

## directions

Where's the nearest ...?	Onde é o ... mais perto?	ong-de e oo ... maish per-to
internet café market	café da internet mercado	ka-fe da eeng-ter-net mer-kaa-doo
It's ...	É ...	e ...
behind ...	atrás de ...	a-traash de ...
in front of ...	em frente de ...	eng freng-te de ...
near (to) ...	perto (de ...)	per-too (de ...)
next to ...	ao lado de ...	ow laa-doo de ...
on the corner	na esquina	na shkee-na
opposite ...	do lado oposto ...	doo laa-doo oo·posh-too ...
straight ahead	em frente	eng freng-te
there	lá	laa



## accommodation

I'd like to book a room, please.	Eu queria fazer uma reserva, por favor.	
	e-oo ke·ree-a fa·zer oo·ma rre-zer·va poor fa·vor	
I'd like to stay for (three) nights.	Para (três) noites.	
	pa·ra (tresh) noy·tesh	
Do you have a ... room?	Tem um quarto ...?	teng oong kwaar·too ...
single	de solteiro	de sol-tay-roo
double	de casal	de ka·zaal
twin	duplo	doo·ploo
How much is it per ...?	Quanto custa por ...?	kwang-too koosh·ta poor ...
night	noite	noy-te
person	pessoa	pe-sø·a

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...	Queria ...	ke·ree-a ...
change a travellers cheque	trocar traveller cheque	troo-kaar tra·ve·ler shek
change money	trocar dinheiro	troo-kaar dee·nyay·roo
get internet access	ter acesso à internet	ter a·se·soo aa eeng-ter-net
withdraw money	levantar dinheiro	le-vang·taar dee·nyay·roo

## shopping

I'm looking for ...  
Estou à procura de ...

How much is it?  
Quanto custa?

Can you write down the price?  
Pode escrever o preço?

Do you accept ...?	Aceitam ...?	a·say-tang ...
credit cards	cartão de crédito	kar·towng de kre·dee·too
travellers cheques	travellers cheques	tra·ve·ler she-kesh

## making conversation

Hello.	Olá.	o·laa
Good night.	Boa noite.	bo-a noy-te
Goodbye.	Adeus.	a·de-oosh
Mr	Senhor	se·nyor
Mrs	Senhora	se·nyo·ra
Ms	Menina	me·nee·na
How are you?	Como está?	ko·moo shtaa
Fine. And you?	Bem, e você?	beng e vo·se
What's your name?	Qual é o seu nome?	kwaal e oo se·oo no·me
My name's ...	O meu nome é ...	oo me·oo no·me e ...
I'm pleased to meet you.	Prazer em conhecê-lo/ conhecê-la. m/f	pra·zer eng koo·nye·se·lo/ koo·nye·se·la

This is my ...	Este é o meu ... m Esta é a minha ... f	esh-te e oo me-oo ... esh-ta e a mee-nya ...
boyfriend	namorado	na-moo-raa-doo
daughter	filha	fee-lya
friend	amigo/a m/f	a-mee-goo/ga
girlfriend	namorada	na-moo-raa-da
husband	marido	ma-ree-doo
partner (intimate)	companheiro/a m/f	kong-pa-nyay-roo/a
son	filho	fee-lyoo
wife	esposa	shpo-za
I'm ...	Eu sou ...	e-oo soh ...
married	casado/a m/f	ka-zaa-doo/a
single	solteiro/a m/f	sol-tay-roo/a



Where are you from?	De onde é?	dong-de e
I'm from ...	Eu sou ...	e-oo soh ...
Australia	da Austrália	da owsh-traa-lya
Canada	do Canadá	doo ka-na-daa
New Zealand	da Nova Zelândia	da no-va ze-lang-dya
the UK	do Reino Unido	doo ray-noo oo-nee-doo
the USA	dos Estados Unidos	doosh shtaa-doosh oo-nee-doosh
Here's my ...	Aqui está o meu ...	a-kee shtaa oo me-oo ...
What's your ...?	Qual é o seu ...?	kwaal e oo se-oo ...
address	endereço	eng-de-re-soo
email address	email	ee-mayl
phone number	número de telefone	noo-me-roo de te-le-fo-ne
Can I take a photo (of you)?	Posso(-lhe) tirar uma fotografia?	po-soo(-lye) tee-raar oo-ma foo-too-graa-fee-a

## eating out

I'd like ..., please.	Queria ..., por favor.	ke-ree-a ... poor fa-vor
the bill	a conta	a kong-ta
the menu	um menu	oong me-noo
a table for (five)	uma mesa para (cinco)	oo-ma me-za pa-ra (seeng-koo)
that dish	aquele prato	a-ke-le praa-too
Do you have vegetarian food?	Tem comida vegetariana?	teng koo-mee-da ve-zhe-ta-ree-aa-na
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	Pode preparar sem ...?	po-de pre-pa-raar seng ...
eggs	ovos	o-voosh
meat stock	caldo de carne	kaal-doo de kaar-ne

## emergencies

Help!	Socorro!	soo-ko-rroo
Call ...!	Chame ...!	shaa-me ...
an ambulance	uma ambulância	oo-ma ang-booy-lang-sya
the police	a polícia	a poo-lee-sya
Could you help me, please?	Pode ajudar, por favor?	po-de a-zhoo-daar poor fa-vor
Can I use the telephone?	Posso usar o seu telefone?	po-soo oo-zaar oo se-oo te-le-fo-ne
I'm lost.	Estou perdido/a. m/f	shtoh per-dee-doo/a
Where are the toilets?	Onde é a casa de banho?	ong-de e a kaa-za de ba-nyoo
I've been assaulted.	Eu fui agredido/a. m/f	e-oo fwhee a-gre-dee-doo/a
I've been raped.	Eu fui violado/a. m/f	e-oo fwhee vee-oo-laa-doo/a

I've lost my ...	<i>Eu perdi ...</i>	e·oo per·dee ...
My ... was/were stolen.	<i>Roubaram ...</i>	rroh·baa·rang ...
bags	<i>os meus sacos</i>	oosh me·oosh saa·koosh
credit card	<i>o meu cartão</i>	oo me·oo kar·towng
handbag	<i>de crédito</i>	de kre·dee·too
jewellery	<i>a minha bolsa</i>	a mee·nya bol·sa
money	<i>as minhas jóias</i>	ash mee·nyash zhoy·ash
passport	<i>o meu dinheiro</i>	oo me·oo dee·nyay·roo
travellers	<i>o meu passaporte</i>	oo me·oo paa·sa·por·te
cheques	<i>os meus</i>	oosh me·oosh
wallet	<i>travellers cheques</i>	tra·ve·ler she·kesh
I want to contact my ...	<i>a minha embaixada</i>	a mee·nya kar·tay·ra
embassy	<i>o meu consulado</i>	oo me·oo kong·soo·laa·doo

## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>Qual é ... mais perto?</i>	kwaal e ... maish per·too
dentist	<i>o dentista</i>	oo deng·teesh·ta
doctor	<i>o médico</i> m	oo me·dee·koo
hospital	<i>a médica</i> f	a me·dee·ka
pharmacist	<i>o hospital</i>	oo osh·pee·taal
	<i>a farmácia</i>	a far·maa·syia

### I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Eu preciso de um médico  
(que fale inglês).*

*It hurts here.  
Dói-me aqui.*

*I'm allergic to (penicillin).  
Eu sou alérgico/a  
a (penicilina). m/f*

<i>e·oo pre·see·zoo de oong me-dee·koo (que faa·le eeng·glesh)</i>	<i>doy·me a·kee</i>
<i>e·oo soh a·ler·zhee·koo/a a (pe·nee·see·lee·na)</i>	

## english–portuguese dictionary

Portuguese nouns and adjectives in this dictionary have their gender indicated with ♂ (masculine) and ♀ (feminine). If it's a plural noun, you'll see pl too. Words are also marked as v (verb), n (noun), a (adjective), pl (plural), sg (singular), inf (informal) and pol (polite) where necessary.

### A

<i>accommodation hospedagem</i> ⓘ	osh·pe·daa·zheng
<i>after depois</i> de·poys	ah-de-pohs
<i>airport aeroporto</i> ⓘ	a-e-ro·por·too
<i>alcohol álcool</i> ⓘ	al-ko·ol
<i>all a todo/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ	to-doo/a
<i>allergy alergia</i> ⓘ	a-ler·zhee·a
<i>and e e</i>	
<i>ankle tornozelo</i> ⓘ	toor·noo·ze·loo
<i>antibiotics antibióticos</i> ⓘ pl	ang·tee·bee·o·tee·koosh
<i>arm braço</i> ⓘ	braa·soo
<i>aspirin aspirina</i> ⓘ	ash·pee·ree·na
<i>asthma asma</i> ⓘ	ash·ma
<i>ATM caixa automática</i> ⓘ	kai·sha ow·too·maa·tee·koo

### B

<i>baby bebé</i> ⓘ & ⓘ	be·be
<i>back (body) costas</i> ⓘ	pl kosh·tash
<i>backpack mochila</i> ⓘ	moo·shee·la
<i>bad mau/má</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ	maa·oo/maa
<i>baggage claim balcão de bagagens</i> ⓘ	bal·kowng de ba·gaa·zhengsh
<i>bank banco</i> ⓘ	bang·koo
<i>bathroom casa de banho</i> ⓘ	kaa·za de ba·nyoo
<i>battery pilha</i> ⓘ	pee·lyia
<i>beautiful bonito/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ	boo·nee·too/a
<i>bed cama</i> ⓘ	ka·ma
<i>bee abelha</i> ⓘ	a·be·lya
<i>beer cerveja</i> ⓘ	ser·ve·zha
<i>before antes</i> ang·tesh	
<i>bicycle bicicleta</i> ⓘ	bee·see·kle·ta
<i>big grande</i> ⓘ & ⓘ	grang·de
<i>blanket cobertor</i> ⓘ	koo·ber·tor
<i>blood grupo sanguíneo</i> ⓘ	groo·poo sang·gwhee·nee·oo
<i>bottle garrafa</i> ⓘ	ga·rraa·fa
<i>bottle opener saca-rolhas</i> ⓘ	saa·ka·rro·lyash
<i>boy menino</i> ⓘ	me·nee·nood
<i>brake (car) travão</i> ⓘ	tra·vowng
<i>breakfast pequeno almoço</i> ⓘ	pe·ke·nood aal·mo·soo

### C

<i>cancel cancelar</i> kang·se·laar	
<i>can opener abre latas</i> ⓘ aa·bre laa·tash	
<i>cash dinheiro</i> ⓘ dee·nyay·roo	
<i>cell phone telemóvel</i> ⓘ te·le·mo·vel	
<i>centre centro</i> ⓘ seng·troo	
<i>cheap barato/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ ba·raa·too/a	
<i>check (bill) conta</i> ⓘ kong·ta	
<i>chest peito</i> ⓘ pay·too	
<i>child criança</i> ⓘ & ⓘ kree·ang·sa	
<i>cigarette cigarro</i> ⓘ see·gaa·roo	
<i>city cidade</i> ⓘ see·daa·de	
<i>clean a limpa/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ leeng·poo/a	
<i>closed fechado/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ fe·shaa·doo/a	
<i>cold a frio/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ free·oo/a	
<i>collect call ligação a cobrar</i> ⓘ	
<i>lee·ga·sowing a koo·braa</i>	
<i>condom preservativo</i> ⓘ pre·zer·va·tee·voo	
<i>constipation prisão de ventre</i> ⓘ	
<i>pree·zowng de ven·tre</i>	
<i>contact lenses lentes de contacto</i> ⓘ pl	
<i>len·tosh de kong·taak·too</i>	
<i>cough tosse</i> ⓘ to·se	
<i>currency exchange câmbio</i> ⓘ kang·byoo	
<i>customs (immigration) alfândega</i> ⓘ aal·fang·de·ga	

### D

<i>dairy products produtos lácteos</i> ⓘ pl	
<i>pro·do·toos laak·tee·oos</i>	
<i>dangerous perigoso/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ pe·re·go·zoo/a	
<i>day dia</i> ⓘ dee·a	
<i>diaper fralda</i> ⓘ fraal·da	
<i>diarrhoea diarréia</i> ⓘ dee·a·ray·a	
<i>dinner jantar</i> ⓘ zhang·taar	
<i>dirty sujo/a</i> ⓘ/ ⓘ soo·zhoos/a	
<i>disabled deficiente</i> de·fee·see·eng·te	
<i>double bed cama de casal</i> ⓘ ka·ma de ka·zaal	
<i>drink bebida</i> ⓘ be·bee·da	
<i>drivers licence carta de condução</i> ⓘ	
<i>kaar·ta de kong·doo·sowng</i>	
<i>drug (illicit) droga</i> ⓘ dro·ga	

**E**

**ear** *orelha* ⓘ o-re-ly-a  
**east** *este* lesh-te

**economy class** *classe econômica* ⓘ

*klaa-se ee-koo-no-mee-ka*

**elevator** *elevador* ⓘ ee-le-va-dor

**email** *email* ⓘ ee-may-l

**English (language)** *inglês* ⓘ eeng-glesh

**exchange rate** *taxa de câmbio* ⓘ taa-sha de kang-byoo

**exit** *saida* ⓘ saa-ee-da

**expensive** *caro/a* ⓘ/ⓕ kaa-roo/a

**F**

**fast** *rápido/a* ⓘ/ⓕ rraa-pee-doo/a

**fever** *febre* ⓘ fe-bre

**finger** *dedo* ⓘ doo-deo

**first-aid kit** *estojo de primeiros socorros* ⓘ

*shto-zho de pree-may-roosh so-ko-rrroosh*

**first class** *primeira classe* ⓘ pree-may-ra klaa-se

**fish** *peixe* ⓘ pay-she

**food** *comida* ⓘ koo-mee-da

**foot** *pé* ⓘ pe

**fork** *garfo* ⓘ gaar-foo

**free (of charge)** *grátis* graa-teesh

**funny** *engraçado/a* ⓘ/ⓕ eng-gra-saa-doo/a

**G**

**gift** *presente* ⓘ pre-zeng-te

**girl** *menina* ⓘ me-nee-na

**glass (drinking)** *copo* ⓘ ko-poo

**glasses** *óculos* ⓘ pl o-koo-loosh

**gluten** *glúten* ⓘ gloo-teng

**good** *bom/boa* ⓘ/ⓕ bong/ba-a

**gram** *gramma* ⓘ graa-ma

**guide** ⓘ guia ⓘ gee-a

**H**

**hand** *mão* ⓘ mowng

**happy** *feliz* ⓘ/ⓕ fe-leesh

**have** *ter* ter

**he** *ele* e-le

**head** *cabeça* ⓘ ka-be-sa

**headache** *dor de cabeça* ⓘ dor de ka-be-sa

**heart** *coração* ⓘ koo-ra-sowng

**heart condition** *problema de coração* ⓘ

*pro-ble-ma de koo-ra-sowng*

**heat** *calor* ⓘ ka-lor

**here** *aqui* a-kee

**high** *alto/a* ⓘ/ⓕ aal-too/aa

**highway** *autoestrada* ⓘ ow-to-shraa-da

**homosexual** ⓘ/a *homosexual* ⓘ/a

*o-mo-sek-soo-aal*

**hot** *quente* keng-te

**hungry** *faminto/a* ⓘ/ⓕ fa-meeng-too/a

**I**

**I** eu e-oo

**identification (card)** *bilhete de identidade* ⓘ

*bee-lye-te de ee-deng-tee-daa-de*

**ill** *doente* ⓘ/a doo-eng-te

**important** *importante* ⓘ/a eeng-por-tang-te

**Internet** *internet* ⓘ eeng-ter-net

**interpreter** *intérprete* ⓘ/a eeng-ter-pre-te

**K**

**key** *chave* ⓘ shaa-ve

**kilogram** *quilograma* ⓘ kee-loo-graa-ma

**kitchen** *cozinha* ⓘ koo-zeen-nya

**knife** *faca* ⓘ faa-ka

**L**

**laundry (place)** *lavandaria* ⓘ la-vang-da-ree-a

**lawyer** *advogado/a* ⓘ/a a-de-voo-gaa-doo-a

**left-luggage office** *perdidos e achados* ⓘ pl

*per-dee-doosh ee aa-shaa-doosh*

**leg** *perna* ⓘ per-na

**lesbian** ⓘ/a *lésbica* ⓘ lezh-bee-ka

**less** *menos* me-noosh

**letter (mail)** *carta* ⓘ kaar-ta

**like** ⓘ *gostar* goosh-taar

**lost-property office** *gabinete de perdidos e achados* ⓘ

*gaa-bee-ne-te de per-dee-doosh ee a-shaa-doosh*

**love** ⓘ *amar* a-maar

**lunch** *almoço* ⓘ aal-mo-soo

**M**

**man** *homem* ⓘ o-meng

**matches** *fósforos* ⓘ pl fosh-foo-roosh

**meat** *carne* ⓘ kaar-ne

**medicine** *medicamentos* ⓘ pl me-dee-ka-meng-toosh

**message** *mensagem* ⓘ meng-saa-zheng

**mobile phone** *telemóvel* ⓘ te-le-mo-vel

**month** *mês* ⓘ mesh

**morning** *manhã* ⓘ ma-nyang

**motorcycle** *mota* ⓘ mo-ta

**mouth** *boca* ⓘ bo-ka

**movie** *filme* ⓘ feel-me

**MSG** *MSG* ⓘ e-me-e-se-zhe

**museum** *museu* ⓘ moo-ze-oo

**music** *música* ⓘ moo-zee-ka

**N**

**name** *nome* ⓘ no-me

**napkin** *guardanapo* ⓘ gwar-da-naa-poo

**nappy** *fralda* ⓘ fraal-da

**national park** *parque nacional* ⓘ

*paar-ke na-syoo-naal*

**nausea** *náusea* ⓘ now-zee-a

**neck** *pescoco* ⓘ pesh-ko-soo

**new** *novo/a* ⓘ/a no-voo/a

**news** *notícias* ⓘ pl noo-tee-syash

**newspaper** *jornal* ⓘ zhorr-naal

**night** *noite* ⓘ noy-te

**noisy** *barulhento/a* ⓘ/a ba-roo-lyeng-too/a

**non-smoking** *não-fumador* nowng-foo-ma-dor

**north** *norte* nor-te

**nose** *nariz* ⓘ na-reesh

**now** *agora* a-go-ra

**number** *número* ⓘ noo-me-roo

**nuts** *oleaginosas* ⓘ pl o-lee-a-zhee-no-zash

**O**

**oil (engine)** *petróleo* ⓘ pe-tro-lyoo

**OK** *bem* beng

**old** *velho/a* ⓘ/a ve-lyoo/a

**open** ⓘ *aberto/a* ⓘ/a a-ber-too/a

**outside** *fora* fo-ra

**P**

**package** *embrulho* ⓘ eng-broo-lyoo

**pain** *dor* ⓘ dor

**paper** *papel* ⓘ pa-pel

**park (car)** ⓘ *estacionar* shta-syoo-naar

**passport** *passaporte* ⓘ paa-sa-por-te

**pay** *pagar* pa-gaar

**pen** *caneta* ⓘ ka-ne-ta

**petrol** *gasolina* ⓘ ga-zoo-lee-na

**pharmacy** *farmácia* ⓘ far-maa-sya

**plate** *prato* ⓘ praa-too

**postcard** *postal* ⓘ poosh-taal

**post office** *correio* ⓘ koo-rray-oo

**pregnant** *grávida* ⓘ graa-vee-da

**R**

**rain** *chuva* ⓘ shoo-va

**razor** *gillete* ⓘ zhee-le-te

**registered mail** *correo registrado* ⓘ

*koo-rray-oo re-zhee-shtaa-doo*

**rent** ⓘ *alugar* a-loo-gaar

**repair** ⓘ *consertar* kong-ser-taar

**reservation** *reserva* ⓘ rre-zer-va

**restaurant** *restaurante* ⓘ rresh-tow-rang-te

**return** ⓘ *voltar* vol-taar

**road** *estrada* ⓘ shtraa-da

**room** *quarto* ⓘ kwaar-too

**S**

**sad** *triste* treesh-te

**safe** ⓘ *seguro/a* ⓘ/a se-goo-roo/a

**sanitary napkin** *lenço higiênico* ⓘ

*peng-soo ee-zhee-e-nie-ko*

**seafood** *marisco* ⓘ ma-reesh-koo

**seat** *assento* ⓘ a-seng-too

**send** *enviar* eng-vee-aar

**sex** *sexo* ⓘ sek-soo

**shampoo** *champô* ⓘ shang-poo

**share (a dorm)** *partilhar* par-tee-lyaar

**shaving cream** *creme de barbear* ⓘ

*kre-me de bar-bee-aar*

**she** *ela* e-la

**sheet (bed)** *lençol* ⓘ leng-sol

**shirt** *camisa* ⓘ ka-mee-za

**shoes** *sapatos* ⓘ pl sa-paa-toosh

**shop** ⓘ *loja* ⓘ lo-za

**shower** ⓘ *chuveiro* ⓘ shoo-vay-roo

**skin** *pele* ⓘ pe-le

**skirt** *sai* ⓘ sai-a

**sleep** ⓘ *dormir* door-meer

**small** *pequeno/a* ⓘ/a pe-ke-noo/a

**smoke (cigarettes)** *fumar* foo-maar

**soap** *sabonete* ⓘ sa-boo-no-te

**some** *uns/umas* ⓘ/a pl oongsh/oo-mash

**soon** *em breve* eng bre-ve

**sore throat** *dores de garganta* ⓘ pl

*do-resh de gar-gang-ta*

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south *sul* *sool*  
souvenir shop *loja de lembranças* ⓘ

lo-zha de leng-brang-sash

speak *falar* *fa-lar*

spoon *colher* ⓘ *koo-lyer*

stamp *selo* ⓘ *se-loo*

stand-by ticket *bilhete sem garantia* ⓘ  
bee-lye-te seng ga-rang-tee-a

station (train) *estaçao* ⓘ *shta-sowng*

stomach *estômago* ⓘ *shto-ma-goo*

stop ⚡ *parar* *pa-raar*

stop (bus) *paragem* ⓘ *pa-raa-zheng*

street *rua* ⓘ *rroo-a*

student *estudante* ⓘ& ⓘ *shtoo-dang-te*

sunscreen *proteção anti-solar* ⓘ

proo-te-sowng ang-tee-soo-laar

swim ⚡ *nadar* *na-daar*

## T

tampons *tampões* ⓘ pl *tang-powngsh*

teeth *dentes* ⓘ pl *deng-tesh*

telephone *telefone* ⓘ *te-le-fo-ne*

television *televisão* ⓘ *te-le-vee-zowng*

temperature (weather) *temperatura* ⓘ

teng-pe-ra-too-ra

tent *tenda* ⓘ *teng-da*

that one *aquele/a* ⓘ/ ⓘ *a-ke-le-a*

they *eles/elas* ⓘ/ ⓘ *e-lesh/e-lash*

thirsty *sedento/a* ⓘ/ ⓘ *se-deng-too/a*

this one *este/a* ⓘ/ ⓘ *esh-te-a*

throat *garganta* ⓘ *gar-gang-ta*

ticket *bilhete* ⓘ *bee-lye-te*

time *tempo* ⓘ *teng-poo*

tired *cansado/a* ⓘ/ ⓘ *kang-saa-doo/a*

tissues *lenços de papel* ⓘ pl *leng-soosh de pa-pel*

today *hoje* *o-zhe*

toilet *casa de banho* ⓘ *kaa-za de ba-nyoo*

tonight *hoje à noite* *o-zhe aa noy-te*

toothache *dor de dentes* ⓘ *dor de deng-tesh*

toothbrush *escova de dentes* ⓘ *shko-va de deng-tesh*

toothpaste *pasta de dentes* ⓘ *paash-ta de deng-tesh*

torch (flashlight) *lanterna eléctrica* ⓘ

lang-ter-na ee-le-tree-ka

tourist office *escritório de turismo* ⓘ

shkree-to-ryoو *too-reezh-moo*

towel *toalha* ⓘ *twaa-lya*

translate *traduzir* *tra-doo-zeer*

travel agency *agência de viagens* ⓘ

a-zheng-sya de vee-aa-zhengsh

travellers cheque *travellers cheque* ⓘ *tra-vé-ler shek*

trousers *calças* ⓘ pl *kaal-sash*

twin beds *camas gémeas* ⓘ pl *ka-mash zhe-me-ash*

tyre *pneu* ⓘ *pe-ne-oo*

## U

underwear *roupa interior* ⓘ *rroh-pa eeng-te-ree-or*

urgent *urgente* ⓘ& ⓘ *oor-zheng-te*

## V

vacant *vago/a* ⓘ/ ⓘ *vaa-goo/a*

vegetable *legume* ⓘ *le-goo-me*

vegetarian a *vegetariano/a* ⓘ/ ⓘ *ve-zhe-ta-ree-a-noo/a*

visa visto ⓘ *veesh-too*

## W

waiter *criado/a de mesa* ⓘ/ ⓘ *kree-aa-doo/a de me-za*

walk ⚡ *caminhar* *ka-mee-nyaar*

wallet *carteira* ⓘ *kar-tay-ra*

warm a *morno/a* ⓘ/ ⓘ *mor-noo/a*

wash (something) *lavar* *la-vaar*

watch *relógio* ⓘ *rre-lo-zhyoo*

water *água* ⓘ *aa-gwa*

we nós *nosh*

weekend *firm-de-semana* ⓘ *feeng-de-se-ma-na*

west *oeste* *o-esh-te*

wheelchair *cadeira de rodas* ⓘ *ka-day-ra de rro-dash*

when *quando* *kwang-doo*

where *onde* *ong-de*

who *quem* *keng*

why *porquê* *poor-ke*

window *janela* ⓘ *zha-ne-la*

wine *vinho* ⓘ *vee-nyoo*

with *com* *kong*

without *sem* *seng*

woman *mulher* ⓘ *moo-lyer*

write *escrever* *shkre-ver*

## Y

you inf sg/pl *tu/vocês* *too/vo-sesh*

you pol sg/pl *você/vós* *vo-se/vosh*

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# Shona



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
aa	father	b	bed
e	bet	b'	strong b with air sucked inward
ee	see	ch	cheat
o	pot	d	dog
oo	zoo	d'	strong d with air sucked inward
		dz	adze
		f	fun
		g	go
		h	hat
		j	jar
		k	kit
		m	man
		n	not
		ng	ring
		ny	canyon
		p	pet
		r	run (trilled)
		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		ts	lets
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero
		zh	pleasure

In this chapter,  
the Shona pronunciation  
is given in orange after each phrase.

Each syllable is separated  
by a dot. For example:

Mazviita. maa-zvee-ta

Shona's glottalised consonants,  
simplified as b' and d'  
in our pronunciation guide,  
are made by tightening and releasing  
the space between the vocal cords  
when you pronounce them.  
Both sounds are 'implosive' – instead of  
breathing out to make the sound, you  
breathe in.

## introduction

'Saunter', 'stroll', 'amble', 'march': a few of the English variations on 'walk'. Shona (*ChiShona* chee-sho-na) beats English hands down in this department, though – what about 'walk with buttocks shaking' (*mbwembwera mbwe-mbwe-raa*), 'walk squelchingly through mud' (*chakwaira chaa-kwaa-ee-raa*), 'walk with a stick' (*donzva d'o-nzvaa*), 'walk a long way' (*panha paa-nhaa*) or 'walk in a very short dress' (*pushuka poo-shoo-kaa*)? And that's just a sample of the more than 200 words Shona has for this everyday activity. Shona, a member of the Bantu language family, is spoken by about 11 million people, mainly in the southern African countries of Mozambique, Botswana and Zambia, in addition to a large number in the diaspora. The vast majority of speakers, however, are in Zimbabwe: the three official languages are English, Shona and Ndebele, but Shona is spoken by about 80 per cent of the population. The language has a flourishing literary culture, including novels, short stories, plays and journalism, and an enormous output of poetry – in fact, due to the metaphorical nature of the language, it's as though every Shona speaker is a poet.

 shona (native language)

 shona (generally understood)



## language difficulties

Do you speak English?	<i>Munotaura chiNgezi here?</i>	moo-no-taa-oo-raa chee-nge-zee he-re
Do you understand?	<i>Munonzvisisa here?</i>	moo-no-nzvee-see-saa he-re
I understand.	<i>Ndinonzvisisa.</i>	ndee-no-nzvee-see-saa
I don't understand.	<i>Handinzvisisi.</i>	haa-ndee-nzvee-see-see
Could you please ...? repeat that speak more slowly write it down	<i>Munga ... wo here? dzokorora izvozvo taurisa zvinyoronyoro zvinyorei pasi</i>	moo-nga ... wo he-re dzo-ko-ro-raa i-zvo-zvo taa-oo-ree-saa zvee-nyo-ro-nyo-ro zvee-nyo-re-ee paa-see

## time, dates & numbers

In time and date expressions, Shona uses English-style numbers.

What time is it?	<i>Inguvai?</i>	ee.ngoo.vaa.ee
It's (two) o'clock.	<i>l(tu) kiroko.</i>	ee.(too) kee-ro-ko
Quarter past (one).	<i>Kota pasiti (hwani).</i>	ko-taa paa-see-tee (hwaa-nee)
Half past (one).	<i>Hafu pasiti (hwani).</i>	haa-foo paa-see-tee (hwaa-nee)
Quarter to (eight).	<i>Kota tu(eyiti).</i>	ko-taa too-(e-yee-tee)
At what time ...?	<i>Nenguvai ...?</i>	ne.ngoo.vaa.ee ...
At ...	<i>Na ...</i>	naa ...
It's (15 December).	<i>Ndi (15 Dhisemba).</i>	ndee (fee-fee-tee-nee dee-se-mbaa)

yesterday	<i>nezuro</i>	ne.zoo.ro
today	<i>nhasi</i>	nhaa-see
tomorrow	<i>mangwana</i>	maa.ngwaa-naa
Monday	<i>Muvhuro</i>	moo.vhoo.ro
Tuesday	<i>Chipiri</i>	chee.pee.ree
Wednesday	<i>Chitatu</i>	chee-taa-too
Thursday	<i>China</i>	chee-naa
Friday	<i>Chishanu</i>	chee.shaa.noo
Saturday	<i>Mugovera</i>	mu.go.ve.raa
Sunday	<i>Svondo</i>	svo.ndo

## numbers

0	<i>ziro</i>	zee.ro	20	<i>makumi</i>	ma.koo.mee
1	<i>-mwe</i>	-mwe	21	<i>maviri</i>	maa.vee.ree
2	<i>-viri</i>	-vee.ree		<i>makumi</i>	ma.koo.mee
3	<i>-tatu</i>	-taa-too		<i>maviri</i>	maa.vee.ree
4	<i>-na</i>	-naa		<i>neimwe</i>	ne.ee.mwe
5	<i>-shanu</i>	-shaa.noo	22	<i>makumi</i>	ma.koo.mee
6	<i>-tanhatu</i>	-taa.nhaa.too		<i>maviri</i>	maa.vee.ree
7	<i>-nomwe</i>	-no.mwe		<i>nembiri</i>	ne.mbee.ree
8	<i>-sere</i>	-se.re	30	<i>makumi</i>	maa.koo.mee
9	<i>-pfumbamwe</i>	-pfoo.mbaa.mwe		<i>matatu</i>	maa.taa.too
10	<i>gumi</i>	goo.mee	40	<i>makumi</i>	maa.koo.mee
11	<i>gumi neimwe</i>	goo.mee ne.ee.mwe		<i>mana</i>	maa.naa
12	<i>gumi</i>	goo.mee	50	<i>makumi</i>	maa.koo.mee
	<i>nembiri</i>	ne.mbee.ree		<i>mashanu</i>	maa.shaa.no
13	<i>gumi</i>	goo.mee	60	<i>makumi</i>	maa.koo.mee
	<i>nenhatu</i>	ne.nhaa.too		<i>matanhatu</i>	maa.taa.nhaa.too
14	<i>gumi nena</i>	goo.mee ne.naa	70	<i>makumi</i>	maa.koo.mee
15	<i>gumineshanu</i>	goo.mee.ne.shaa.noo		<i>manomwe</i>	maa.no.mwe
16	<i>gumi</i>	goo.mee	80	<i>makumi</i>	maa.koo.mee
	<i>nenhanhatu</i>	ne.nhaa.nhaa.too		<i>masere</i>	maa.se.re
17	<i>gumi</i>	goo.mee	90	<i>makumi</i>	maa.koo.mee
	<i>nenomwe</i>	ne.no.mwe		<i>mapfu-</i>	maa.pfoo-
18	<i>gumi nesere</i>	goo.mee ne.se.re		<i>mbamwe</i>	mbaa.mwe
19	<i>gumi nepfu- mbamwe</i>	goo.me ne.pfoo- mbaa.mwe	100	<i>zana</i>	zaa.naa
			1000	<i>chiuru</i>	chee.oo.roo

## border crossing

I'm here ... in transit on business on holiday	<i>Ndiri muno ... patiranziti nezve bhizinesi pahorodhi</i>	ndee.ree moo.no ... paa.tee.ra.nzee.tee ne.zve bee.zee.ne.see paa.ho.ro.dee
I'm here for ... (10) days (three) weeks (two) months	<i>Ndiri muno kwe ... mazuva (gumi) mavhiki (matatu) mwedzi (miviri)</i>	ndee.ree moo.no kwe ... maa.zoo.vaa (goo.mee) maa.vhee.kee (maa.ta.too) mwe.dzee (mee.vee.ree)

I'm going to (Gweru).

*Ndiri kuenda ku (Gweru).*

I'm staying at the (Midland Hotel).

*Ndiri kugara pa  
(Midland Hotera).*



## tickets

One ... ticket  
(to Bulawayo),  
please.

one-way  
return

I'd like to ... my  
ticket, please.  
cancel  
change  
collect

Is there a ...?  
toilet  
air conditioning

I'd like a smoking/nonsmoking seat, please.

*Ndingadawo pasiti  
panoputirwa/  
pasingaputirwi.*

How long does the trip take?  
*Pane mufambo wakadii?*

Is it a direct route?  
*Iyi ndiyo nzira inonanga  
ikoko here?*

*Ndinodawo tiketi  
rimwe ... (roku  
Bhuruwayo).*

*rehwaniweyi  
rokuenta  
ndichidzoka*

*Ndinodawo ku ...  
tiketi rangu.*

*kanzura  
chinja  
korekita*

*Pane ... here?*

*chimbudzi  
eya kondishina*

*ndee-no-daa-wo tee-ke-tee  
ree-mwe ... (ro-koo  
boo-roo-waa-yo)*

*re-hwaa-nee-we-yee  
ro-koo-e-ndaa  
ndee-chee-dzo-kaa*

*ndee-no-daa-wo koo ...  
tee-ke-tee raa-ngoo  
kaa-nzoo-raa  
chee-njaa  
ko-re-kee-ta*

*paa-ne ... he-re  
che-mboo-dzee  
e-ya ko-ndee-shee-naa*

*ndee-ngaa-daa-wo paa-see-tee  
paa-no-poo-tee-rwaa/  
paa-see-ngaa-poo-tee-rwee*

*paa-ne moo-faa-mbo waa-kaa-dee-ee*

*ee-yee ndee-yo nzee-raa ee-no-naa-ngaa  
ee-ko-ko he-re*

## transport

Where does the flight (to Victoria Falls) arrive/depart?

*Ndege ye (ku) Victoria Falls)  
inosvikira/inosimukira  
kupi?*

*nde-ge ye (koo-vee-kee-to-ree-ya-fols)  
ee-no-svee-kee-raa/ee-no-see-moo-kee-raa  
koo-pee*

How long will it be delayed?

*Ichanonoka zvakadii?*

*ee-chaa-no-no-kaa zva-kaa-d'ee-ee*

Is this the bus to (Chivhu)?

*Iri ndiro bhazi roku  
(Chivhu) here?*

*ee-ree ndee-ro baa-zee ro-koo  
(chee-vhoo) he-re*

Is this the train to (Mutare)?

*Ichi ndicho chitima chokwa  
(Mutare) here?*

*ee-che ndee-cho chee-tee-maa cho-kwaa  
(moo-taa-re) he-re*

How much is it to ...?

*Kunoita marii kuenda ku ...?*

*koo-no-ee-taa maa-ree-ee koo-e-ndaa koo ...*

Please take me to (this address).

*Nditakureiwo kuenda  
ku (adhiresi iyi).*

*ndee-taa-koo-re-ee-wo koo-e-ndaa  
koo (aa-dee-re-see ee-yee)*

I'd like to hire a ...  
(with air conditioning).

*car  
4WD*

*Ndinoda kuhaya ...  
(ine eya kondishina).*

*motokari  
ye fohwiri  
dhiraivhi*

*ndee-no-d'a koo-haa-ya ...  
(ee-ne e-ya ko-ndee-shee-naa)*

*mo-to-kaa-ree  
ye fo-hwee-ree  
dee-raa-ee-vhee*

How much is it for (three) days/weeks?

*Inoita marii kwemazuva/  
mavhiki (matatu)?*

*ee-no-ee-taa maa-ree-ee kwe-maa-zoo-va/  
maa-vhee-kee (maa-taa-too)*

## directions

Where's the (nearest) internet café?

*Ko indaneti kafe  
(iri pedyo pedyo) iri kupi?*

*ko ee-ndaa-ne-tee kaa-fe  
(ee-ree pe-jgo pe-jgo) ee-ree koo-pee*

Where's the (nearest) market?

*Ko musika (uri pedyo pedyo)  
uri kupi?*

*ko moo-see-kaa (oo-ree pe-jgo pe-jgo)  
oo-ree koo-pee*

**Is this the road to (Mozambique)?**

*Uyu ndiwo mugwagwa woku  
(Mozambiki) here?*

oo-yoo ndee-wo moo-gwaa-gwaa wo-koo  
(mo-zaa-mbee-kee) he-re

**Can you show me (on the map)?**

*Munganditaridzawo  
(pamepu) here?*

moo-ngaa-ndee-taa-ree-dzaa-wo  
(paa-me-poo) he-re

**What's the address?****How far is it?****How do I get there?****Turn left/right.**

*Kero yacho ndiyani?*

*Kure zvakadii?*

*Ndinosvikako sei?*

*Konera kuruboshwe/  
kurudyi.*

ke-ro yaa-cho ndee-yaa-nee

koo-re zvaa-kaa-d'ee-ee

ndee-no-svee-kaa-ko se-ee

ko-ne-raa koo-roo-bo-shwe/  
koo-roo-jgee

**It's ...**

*Iri ...*

ee-ree ...

**behind ...**

*seri ...*

se-ree ...

**in front of ...**

*mberi kwe ...*

mbe-ree kwe

**near (to ...)**

*pedyo (ne ...)*

pe-jgo (ne ...)

**next to ...**

*padivi pe ...*

pa-d'ee-vee pe ...

**on the corner**

*pakona*

paa-ko-naa

**opposite ...**

*pakatarisana ne ...*

paa-kaa-taa-ree-saa-naa ne ...

**straight ahead**

*nanga mberi*

naa-nga mbe-ree

**there**

*apo*

aa-po

## accommodation

**Where's a ...?****camping ground****guesthouse****hotel****youth hostel**

*Ndokupi ...?*

*kunokembwa*

*kuimba yavaenzi*

*kuhotera*

*kuhositeri*

ndo-koo-peee ...

koo-no-ke-mbwaa

koo-ee-mbaa yaa-vaa-e-nzee

koo-ho-te-raa

koo-ho-see-te-ree

**Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?****Ungarekomenda kumwe****kwakachipa/kwakanaka?**

oo-ngaa-re-ko-me-ndaa koo-mwe

kwa-a-kaa-chee-paa/kwaa-kaa-naa-kaa

**I'd like to book a room, please.****Ndinokumbirawo****kubhuka rumu.**

ndeeno-koo-mbee-raa-wo

koo-boo-kaa roo-moo

**I have a reservation.****Ndakarizevha.**

ndaa-kaa-ree-ze-vha

**Do you have a ... room?  
single  
double  
twin****Mune rumu  
... here?  
yomunhu mumwe  
yavanhu vaviri  
ine mibhedha miviri**

moo-ne roo-moo  
... he-re  
yo-moo-nhoo moo-mwe  
yaa-vaa-nhoo vaa-vee-ree  
ee-ne mee-be-daa mee-vee-ree

**How much is it per (night/person)?**

*Imarii pa(zuva/munhu)?*

ee-maa-ree-ee paa-(zoo-vaa/moo-nhoo)

**I'd like to stay for (two) nights.**

*Ndingada kugara  
kweusiku (huviri).*

ndeengaa-daa koo-gaa-raa  
kwe-oo-see-koo (hoo-vee-ree)

**What time is check-out?**

*Cheki auti iriko nenguai?*

che-kee aa-oo-tee ee-ree-ko ne-ngoo-vaa-ee

**Am I allowed to camp here?**

*Ndinobvumirwa kukemba  
panohere?*

ndeeno-bvoo-mee-rwaa koo-ke-mbaa  
paa-no-he-re

## banking & communications

**I'd like to ...  
arrange a transfer  
cash a cheque  
change a travellers  
cheque  
change money  
withdraw money****Ndinoda ku-...  
ronga zvetiranzifeya  
kesha cheki  
chinja macheki  
okufambisa  
chinja mari  
dhirowa mari**

ndeeno-daa koo-...  
ro-ngaa zve-tee-raa-nzee-fe-ya  
ke-shaa che-kee  
chee-njaa maa-che-kee  
o-koo-faa-mbee-saa  
chee-njaa maa-ree  
dee-ro-waa maa-ree

**I want to ...  
buy a phonecard  
call (Singapore)  
reverse the charges  
use a printer  
use the internet****Ndinoda ku-...  
tenga kadhi refoni  
fonera (kuSingapo)  
rivhesa machaji  
shandsai purinda  
shandsai indaneti**

ndeeno-daa koo-...  
te-ngaa kaa-dee re-fo-nee  
fo-ne-raa (koo-see-ngaa-po)  
ree-vhe-saa maa-chaa-jee  
shaa-ndee-saa-ee poo-ree-ndaa  
shaa-ndee-saa-ee ee-ndaa-ne-tee

**How much is it per hour?**

*Imarii paawa?*

ee-maa-ree-ee paa-aa-waa

**How much does a (three-minute) call cost?**

*Kufona kwe (maminitsi matatu)  
kunoita marii?*

koo-fo-naa kwe (maa-mee-nee-tsee maa-taa-too)  
koo-no-ee-taa maa-ree-ee

**(One dollar) per minute/hour.**

*(Dhora rimwe) paminiti/paawa.* (do-raa ree-mwe) paa-mee-nee-tee/paa-aa-waa

## tours

**When's the next ...?**

day trip

*Ko ... rini?*

*rwendo rwanhasi*

*runotevera ruriko*

tour

*tuwa inotevera*

*iriko*

**Is ... included?**

*Ko ... -kasanganiswa here?*

accommodation

*pokurara pa*

the admission charge

*mari yokupindisa ya*

food

*mari yokudya ya*

transport

*mari yokufambisa ya*

ko ... ree-nee

*rwe-ndo rwaa-nhaa-see*

*roo-no-te-ve-raa roo-re-ko*

*too-waa ee-no-te-ve-raa*

*ee-ree-ko*

*ko ... -kaa-saa.ngaa-née-swaa he-re*

*po-koo-raa-raa paa*

*maa-ree yo-koo-peen-dee-saa*

*yaa*

*maa-ree yo-koo-jgaa yaa-*

*maa-ree yo-koo-faa-mbee-saa*

*yaa*

**How long is the tour?**

*Tuwa ichatora nguva yakadii?* too-waa ee-chaa-to-raa ngoo-vaa yaa-kaa-d'ee-ee

**What time should we be back?**

*Tinofanira kudzoka nenguvaii?* tee-no-faa-nee-raa koo-dzo-kaa ne-ngoo-vaa-ee-ee

## shopping

**I'm looking for ...**

*Ndiri kutsvaga ...*

ndee-ree koo-tscaa-gaa ...

**I need film for this camera.**

*Ndinoda firimu rekamera iyi.*

ndee-no-da fee-ree-moo re-kaa-me-raa ee-yee

**Can I listen to this?**

*Ndingateererawo kune izvi here?*

ndee-ngaa-te-e-re-raa-wo koo-nee  
ee-zvee he-re

**Can I have my ... repaired?**

*Ndingagadzirirwa ... yangu here?*

ndee-ngaa-gaa-dzee-ree-rwaa ...  
yaa-ngoo he-re

**When will it be ready?**

*Inenge yaper a rini?*

ee-ne-nge yaa-pe-raa ree-nee

**How much is it?**

*Inoita marii?*

ee-o-ee-taa maa-ree-ee

**Can you write down the price?**

*Unganyora mutengo wacho pasi here?*

oo-ngaa-nyo-raa moo-te-ngo  
waa-cho paa-see he-re

**What's your lowest price?**

*Mutengo wakachipisa ndoupi?* moo-te-ngo waa-kaa-chee-pee-saa ndo-oo-pee

**I'll give you (five) dollars.**

*Ndinokupai madhora (mashanu).* ndee-no-koo-paa-ee maa-do-raa (maa-shaa-noo)

**There's a mistake in the bill.**

*Pane chakanganiswa pabhiri.* pa-ne chaa-kaa-nga-ne-swaa paa-bee-ree

**It's faulty.**

*Rakanyangara.* raa-kaa-nya-nga-a-ree

**I'd like a receipt/refund, please.**

*Ndinodawo risiti/rifandi.* ndee-no-daa-wo ree-see-tee/ree-faa-ndee

**Do you accept ...?**

*Munobvuma ... here?* moo-no-bvoo-maa ... he-re

*makiredhiti kadzi* maa-kee-re-dee-tee kaa-dzee

*madhebhiti kadzi* ma-de-bee-tee ka-dzee

*macheki* maa-che-kee

*okufambisa* oo-koo-faa-mbee-saa

**Could you ...?**

*Munga ... here?* moo-nga ... he-re

*pisa CD kubva* pee-sa see-dee koo-bvaa

*mumemori* moo-me-mo-ree

*kadhi rangu* kaa-dee raa-ngoo

*dhevheropai* dee-vhe-ro-pa-ee

*firimu iri* fee-ree-moo ee-ree

## making conversation

**Hello.**

*Mhoroi.*

mho-ro-ee

**Good night.**

*Rarai zvakanaaka.*

raa-aa-ee zvaa-kaa-naa-kaa

**Goodbye.**

*Tichaonana.*

tee-chaa-o-naa-naa

**Mr**

*Va-*

vaa-

**Mrs**

*Mai*

maa-ee

**Ms/Miss**

*Muzvare*

moo-zvaa-re

**How are you?**

*Makadii?*

maa-kaa-d'ee-ee

**Fine, and you?**

*Ndiripo makadiwo?*

ndee-ree-po maa-kaa-d'ee-ee-wo

**What's your name?**

*Zita renyu ndiani?*

zee-taa re-nyoo ndee-aa-nee

**My name's ...**

*Zita rangu ndinonzi ...*

zee-taa raa-ngoo ndee-no-nzee ...

**I'm pleased to meet you.**

*Ndinofara kukuzivai.*

ndee-no-faa-raa

*koo-koo-zee-vaa-ee*

This is my ... boyfriend	<i>Uyu mukomana wangu.</i>	oo·yoo moo·ko·maa·naa waa·ngoo
daughter	<i>Uyu mwanasikana wangu.</i>	oo·yoo mwaa·naa·see·kaa·naa waa·ngoo
father friend	<i>Ava ndi-baba vangu.</i> <i>Iyi ishamwari yangu.</i>	aa·vaa ndee·b'aa·b'aa vaa·ngoo ee·yee ee·shaa·mwaa·ree yaa·ngoo
girlfriend	<i>Uyu musikana wangu.</i>	oo·yoo moo·see·kaa·naa waa·ngoo
husband	<i>Uyu murume wangu.</i>	oo·yoo moo·roo·me waa·ngoo
mother	<i>Ava ndi-amai vangu.</i>	aa·vaa ndee·aa·maa·ee vaa·ngoo
sibling (of the opposite sex)	<i>Iyi ihanzvadzi yangu.</i>	ee·yee ee·haa·nzvaa·dzee yaa·ngoo
sibling (elder of the same sex)	<i>Uyu mukoma wangu.</i>	oo·yoo moo·ko·maa waa·ngoo
sibling (younger of the same sex)	<i>Uyu munin'ina wangu.</i>	oo·yoo moo·nee·nghee·naa waa·ngoo
son	<i>Uyu mwankomana wangu.</i>	oo·yoo mwaa·naa·ko·maa·naa waa·ngoo
wife	<i>Ava vadzimai vangu.</i>	aa·vaa vaa·dzee·maa·ee vaa·ngoo
Here's my ...	<i>Heyi ... yangu.</i>	he·yee ... yaa·ngoo
What's your ...? (email) address	<i>Ko ... yenyu ndiani?</i>	ko ... ye·nyoo ndee·aa·nee
phone number	<i>(imeiri) adhiresi nhamba yefoni</i>	(ee·me·ree) a·dee·re·see nhaa·mbaa ye·fo·nee
Where are you from?	<i>Munobva kupi?</i>	moo·no·bvaa koo·pee
I'm from ... Australia	<i>Ndinobva ku ... Ositireriya</i>	ndee·no·bvaa koo ... o·see·tee·re·ree·yaa
Canada	<i>Kanadha</i>	kaa·naa·daa
New Zealand	<i>Nyuzirandi</i>	nyoo·zee·raa·ndee
I'm married. m	<i>Ndakaroora.</i>	ndaa·kaa·ro·o·raa
I'm married. f	<i>Ndakaroorwa.</i>	ndaa·kaa·ro·o·rwaa
I'm not married. m	<i>Handina kuroora.</i>	haa·ndee·naa koo·ro·o·raa
I'm not married. f	<i>Handina kuroorwa.</i>	haa·ndee·naa koo·ro·o·rwaa
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Ndingatora pikicha (inewe) here?</i>	ndee·ngaa·to·raa pee·kee·chaa (ee·ne·we) he·re

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Munga-rekomenda ... here?</i>	moo·nga·re·ko·me·ndaa ... he·re
bar	<i>bhawa</i>	baa·waa
dish	<i>chokudya</i>	cho·koo·jgaa
place to eat	<i>nzvimbo yokudyira</i>	nzvee·mbo yo·koo·jgee·raa
I'd like ..., please.	<i>Ndingadawo ... bhiri</i>	ndee·ngaa·daa·wo ... bee·ree
the bill	<i>minyu</i>	mee·nyoo
the menu	<i>tebhuru ye (vaviri)</i>	te·boo·roo ye (vaa·vee·ree)
a table for (two)	<i>chikafu icho</i>	chee·kaa·foo ee·cho
that dish		
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Mune kudya kwechi-vhegiterieni here?</i>	moo·ne koo·jga kwe·chee-vhe·gee·te·ree·e·nee he·re
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	<i>Mungagadzira kudya kusina ... here?</i>	moo·ngaa·gaa·dzee·raa koo·jga koo·see·naa ... he·re
eggs	<i>mazai</i>	maa·zaa·ee
meat stock	<i>muto wenyama</i>	mo·to we·nyaa·maa
(cup of) coffee/tea ...	<i>(kapu ye-)kofi/tii ...</i>	(kaa·poo ye-)ko·fee/tee·ee ...
with milk	<i>ine mukaka</i>	ee·ne moo·kaa·kaa
without sugar	<i>isina shuga</i>	ee·see·naa shoo·gaa
(boiled) water	<i>mvura (yakavidzwa)</i>	mvoo·raa (yaa·kaa·vee·dzwa)

## emergencies

Call ...!	<i>Daidzai ...!</i>	d'aa·ee·dzaa·ee ...
an ambulance	<i>ambhurenzi</i>	aam·boo·re·nzee
a doctor	<i>dhokotera</i>	do·ko·te·raa
the police	<i>mapurisa</i>	maa·poo·ree·saa
Could you help me, please?	<i>Mungandibatsirawo here?</i>	moo·ngaa·ndee·b'aa·tsee·raa·wo he·re
Where are the toilets?	<i>Zvimbudzi zviri kupi?</i>	zvee·mboo·dzee zvee·ree koo·pee
I want to report an offence.	<i>Ndinoda kumhan'ara mhosva.</i>	ndee·no·daa koo·mha·ngaa·raa mho·svaa

I have insurance.

*Ndine ishuwarenzi.*

ndee-ne ee-shoo-waa-re-nzee

I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

*Ndinoda kutaura neEmbasi yangu.*

ndee-no-d'aa koo-taa-oo-raa ne-e-mba-see  
yaa-ngoo

My bags were stolen.

*Mabhegi angu abiwa.*

maa-bhe-gee aa-ngoo aa-b'ee-waa

My passport was stolen.

*Pasipoti rangu rabiwa.*

paa-see-po-tee raa-ngoo raa-b'ee-waa

My wallet was stolen.

*Chikwama changu chabiwa.*

chee-kwaa-maa chaa-ngoo chaa-b'ee-waa

I've been assaulted.

*Ndarohwa.*

ndaa-roh-waa

I've been raped.

*Ndabatwa chibharo.*

ndaa-baa-twaa chee-ba-ro

I've been robbed.

*Ndabirwa.*

ndaa-bee-rwaa

## medical needs

Where's the nearest dentist?

*Chiremba wemazino ari pedyo pedyo ari kupi?*

chee-re-mbaa we-maa-zee-no aa-re  
pe-jgo pe-jgo aa-re koo-pee

Where's the nearest doctor?

*Dhokotera ari pedyo  
pedyo ari kupi?*

do-ko-te-raa aa-re pe-jgo  
pe-jgo aa-re koo-pee

Where's the nearest pharmacist?

*Famasi iri pedyo pedyo iri kupi?*

faa-maa-see ee-re-ree pe-jgo pe-jgo ee-re-ree koo-pee

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Ndinoda dhokotera  
(anotaura chiNgezi).*

ndee-no-d'aa do-ke-te-raa  
(aa-no-taa-oo-raa chee-nge-zee)

Could I see a female doctor?

*Ndingaonawo dhokotera  
wechikadzi here?*

ndee-ngaa-o-naa-wo do-ko-te-raa  
we-chee-kaa-dzee he-re

It hurts here.

*Panorwadza ndapapa.*

paa-no-rwaa-dzaa ndaa-paa-paa

I'm allergic to (penicillin).

*Muviri wangu unosema  
(penesirini).*

moo-vee-ree waa-ngoo oo-no-se-maa  
(pe-ne-see-ree-nee)

## english–shona dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as **n** (noun), **a** (adjective), **v** (verb), **sg** (singular), **pl** (plural), **inf** (informal) and **pol** (polite) where necessary.

### A

accommodation *pokurara* po-koo-raa-raa  
adaptor *adhaputa* aa-daa-poo-taa  
after *musure* moo-soo-re  
airport *nhandare yendege* nhaa-ndaa-re ye-nde-ge  
alcohol *hwahwa* hwaa-hwaa  
all -ose -o-se  
allergy *rusemo* roo-se-mo  
and *na- na-*  
ankle *ziso regumbo* zee-so re-goo-mbo  
antibiotics *mapiritsi* okudzivirira  
  maa-pee-ree-tsee o-koo-dzee-vee-ree-raa  
arm *ruoko* roo-o-ko  
asthma *asima* a-see-maa  
ATM *ATM* ay-tee-em

### B

baby *muchache* moo-che-che  
back (body) *musana* moo-saa-naa  
backpack *nhava yokumusana*  
  nhaa-vaa yoo-koo-moo-saa-naa  
bad -ipa -ee-paa  
baggage claim *kunotorwa mabhegi*  
  koo-no-to-rwaa maa-be-gee  
bank *bhangi* baa-ngee  
bathroom *imba yokugezeraa* ee-mbaa yo-koo-ge-ze-ra  
battery *bhatiraa* baa-tie-ree  
beautiful *kunaka* koo-naa-kaa  
bed *mhbedha* moo-be-daa  
beer *doro* do-ro  
bees *nyuchi* nyoo-chee  
before *pasure* paa-soo-re  
bicycle *bhasikoro* baa-bee-ko-ro  
big -kuru -koo-roo  
blanket *jira jee-rraa*  
blood group *chikamu cheropa* chee-kaa-moo che-ro-paa  
bottle *bhadhoro* bo-do-ro  
bottle opener *chivhuro chebhodhoro*  
  chee-vhoo-ro che-bo-do-ro  
boy *mukomana* moo-ko-maa-naa  
brakes (car) *mabhureki* maa-boo-re-kee  
breakfast *bhurekifasi* boo-re-kee-faa-see  
bronchitis *chirwere chemapapu*  
  chee-rwe-re che-maa-paa-pu

### C

café *kafe* kaa-fe  
cancel *kanzura* kaa-nzoo-raa  
can opener *chivhuro chegaba*  
  chee-vhoo-ro che-gaa-b'aa  
cash **n** *keshi* ke-shee  
cell phone *serifoni* se-ree-fo-nee  
centre **n** *pakati* paa-kaa-tee  
cheap *chipa* chee-paa  
check (bill) *cheki* che-kee  
check-in **n** *pokuchekaini* po-koo-che-kaa-ee-nee  
chest *chipuva* chee-pfoo-vaa  
child *mwana* mwaa-naa  
cigarette *mudzanga* moo-dzaa-ngaag  
city *guta* goo-taa  
clean **a** *chena* che-naa  
closed *vharwa* vhaa-rwaa  
cold **a** -tonhra -to-nho-raa  
collect call *rivhesi chaji* ree-ve-see chaa-jee  
condom *kondomu* ko-ndo-moo  
constipation *kupatirwa* koo-paa-tee-rwaa  
contact lenses *makondakati renzi*  
  maa-ko-ndaa-kee-tee re-nzee  
cough **n** -kosora -ko-so-raa  
currency exchange *kuchinjiwa kwemari*  
  koo-chee-njee-waa kwe-maa-ree  
customs (immigration) *kupinda nokubuda*  
  koo-pee-ndaa no-koo-b'oo-d'aa

### D

dairy products *zvine mukaka* zvee-ne moo-ka-ka  
dangerous -ne *ngazi* -ne ngo-zee  
date (time) *musi we* (*nguva*) moo-see we (ngoo-vaa)  
day *zuva* zoo-vaa  
diaper *napukeni* naa-poo-ke-nee  
diarrhoea *manyoka* maa-nyo-kaa  
dinner *zvokudya* zo-koo-jgaa  
dirty *tsving* tsvee-naa  
disabled *chikosa* chee-ko-shaa  
double bed *mhbedha wevanhu* vaviri  
  moo-be-daa we-vaahnoo vaa-vee-ree  
drink **n** *chokunwa* cho-koo-nwaa  
drivers licence *raisenzi yemotokari*  
  raa-ee-se-nzee ye-mo-to-kaa-ree  
drug (illicit) *dhiragi* deea-raa-gee

**E**  
**ear** *nzeve* nze-ve  
**east** *madokero* maa-do-ke-ro  
**economy class** *mbombhera* mbo-mbe-raa  
**elevator** *rifuti* ree-foo-tee  
**email** *imeri* ee-me-ree  
**English (language)** *chiNgezi* chee-nge-zee  
**exchange rate** *reti yokochinjira mari*  
 re-tee yo-ko-chee-njaa maa-ree  
**exit** *pokubuda napo* po-koo-b'oo-d'aa naa-po  
**expensive** *-dhura* -doo-raa  
**eye** *ziso* zee-so

**F**  
**fast** *-kurumidza* -koo-roo-mee-dzaa  
**fever** *hosha* ho-shaa  
**finger** *munwe* moo-nwe  
**first-aid kit** *bhokisi refesiti eidhi*  
 bo-kee-re see re-see-tee e-ee-dee  
**first class** *kutopa* koo-to-paa  
**fish** *n hove* ho-ve  
**food** *kudyia* koo-jgaa  
**foot** *tsoka* tso-kaa  
**fork** *foroko* fo-ro-kaa  
**free (of charge)** *mahara* ma-haa-raa  
**fruit** *muchero* moo-che-ro  
**funny** *-setsa* -se-tsaa

**G**  
**game park** *gemupaki* maa-ge-moo-paa-kee  
**gift** *chipo* chee-po  
**girl** *musikana* moo-see-kaa-naa  
**glass (drinking)** *girazi* gee-raa-zee  
**glasses** *magirazi* ma-gee-raa-nee  
**gluten** *-rembuka* -re-mbo-kaa  
**good** *-naka* -na-kaa  
**gram** *giramu* gee-raa-moo  
**guide** *n mutungamiriri* moo-too-nga-a-mee-ree-ree

**H**  
**hand** *ruoko* roo-o-ko  
**happy** *-fara* -faa-raa  
**have** *-ne* -ne  
**he** *a* -aa-  
**head** *musoro* moo-so-ro  
**headache** *kutemwa nemusoro* koo-te-mwaa ne-moo-so-ro  
**heart** *moyo* mo-yo

**heart condition** *chirwere chemoyo* chee-rwe-re che-mo-yo  
**heat** *n kudziya* koo-dzee-yaa  
**here** *pano* paa-no  
**high** *-refu* -re-foo  
**highway** *mugwagwa* moo-gwaa-gwaa  
**homosexual** *n ngochani* ngo-chaa-nee  
**homosexual** *a hungochani* hoo-ngo-chaa-nee  
**hot** *-pisa* -pee-saa  
**hungry** *-ne nzara* -ne nzaa-rraa

**I**  
*In* ee-nee  
**identification (card)** *chitupa* chee-too-paa  
**ill** *-rwara* -rwaa-rraa  
**important** *-koshia* -ko-shaa  
**internet** *Indaneti* ee-ndaa-ne-tee  
**interpreter** *muturikiri* moo-too-ree-kee-ree

**K**  
**key** *kiyi* kee-yee  
**kilogram** *kirogiramu* kee-ro-gee-raa-moo  
**kitchen** *imba yokubikira* ee-mbaa yo-koo-b'ee-kee-raa  
**knife** *banga* b'aa-ngaas

**L**  
**laundry (place)** *imba yokuwashira*  
 ee-mbaa yo-koo-waa-chee-raa  
**lawyer** *gweta* gwe-taa  
**left-luggage office** *pahofisi panosiiwa nhumbi*  
 paa-ho-fee-see pa-no-see-ee-waa nhoo-mbee

**leg** *gumbo* goo-mbo  
**lesbian** *n ngochani* ngo-chaa-nee  
**lesbian** *a hungochani* hoo-ngo-chaa-nee  
**less** *hafuka* haa-foo-ka  
**letter (mail)** *tsamba* tsaa-mbaa  
**like** *v -da* -d'aa  
**lost-property office**  
*pahofisi panochengetedzwazvakarasi*  
 paa-ho-fee-see paa-no-che-nge-te-dzwa  
 zva-kaa-raa-see-kaa  
**love** *v -da* -daa  
**lunch** *ranji* raa-njee

**M**  
**man** *murume* moo-roo-me  
**matches** *machisi* maa-chee-see  
**meat** *nyama* nyaa-maa

**medicine** *mushonga* moo-sho-ngaas  
**message** *shoko* sho-ko  
**mobile phone** *serifoni* se-ree-fo-nee  
**month** *mwedzi* mwe-dzee  
**morning** *mangwanani* ma-ngwaa-naa-nee  
**motorcycle** *mudhudhudhu* moo-doo-doo-doo  
**mouth** *muromo* moo-ro-mo  
**movie** *firimu* fee-ree-moo  
**MSG** *MSG* em-es-jee  
**museum** *muziyamu* moo-zee-ya-moo  
**music** *mumanzi* moo-maa-nzee

**N**  
**name** *n zita zee-taa*  
**napkin** *napukeni* naa-poo-ke-nee  
**nappy** *mutambo* moo-taa-mbo  
**national park** *neshinari pakini* ne-shee-naa-ree paa-kee  
**nausea** *chisvoto* chee-swo-to  
**neck** *huro* hoo-ro  
**new** *-tsva* -tsva  
**news** *nhau* nha-oo  
**newspaper** *bepanhau* be-paa-nha-oo  
**night** *usiku* oo-see-koo  
**nightclub** *naiti kirabhu* na-e-tee kee-raa-bu  
**noisy** *ruzha* roo-zha  
**nonsmoking** *hapaputirwi fodya*  
 haa-paa-poo-tee-rwee fo-jgaa  
**north** *maodzanyemba* ma-o-dzaa-nye-mbaa  
**nose** *mhino* m-hee-no  
**now** *ikozvino* ee-ko-zvее-no  
**number** *nhamba* nhaa-mbaa  
**nuts** *nzungu* nzoo-ngoo

**O**  
**oil (engine)** *oiri* o-ee-ree  
**OK** *okeyi* o-ke-ye  
**old** *tsaru* tsaa-roo  
**open** *a vhurika* vhoo-ree-kaa  
**outside** *panze* paa-nze

**P**  
**package** *pakeji* paa-ke-je  
**pain** *chirwadzo* chee-rwaa-dzo  
**palace** *dzimbabwe* dzee-mbaa-bwe  
**paper** *bepo* b'e-paa  
**park (car)** *v -paka* -paa-kaa  
**passport** *pasipoti* paa-see-po-tee  
**pay** *-bhadhara* -baa-daa-raa  
**pen** *chinyoreso* chee-nyo-re-so

**petrol** *peturo* pe-tu-ro  
**pharmacy** *famasi* faa-maa-see  
**plate** *ndiro* ndee-ro  
**postcard** *positikadhi* po-see-tee-kaa-dee  
**post office** *hofisi yetumba* ho-fee-see ye-tsaa-mbaa  
**pregnant** *-ne nhumbu* -ne noo-mboo

**R**

**rain** *n mvura* mvoo-ra  
**registered mail** *tsamba yaka rejisitiwa*  
 tsaa-mbaa yaa-kaa re-je-see-tee-waa  
**rent** *v -renda* -re-ndaa  
**repair** *v -gadzira* -gaa-dzee-raa  
**reservation** *kurizevha* koo-ree-ze-vhaa  
**restaurant** *resitorendi* re-see-to-re-ndee  
**return** *v -dzoka* -dzo-kaa  
**road** *mugwagwa* moo-gwaa-gwaa  
**room** *imba* ee-mbaa

**S**

**sad** *-suruvara* -soo-roo-vaa-raa  
**safe** *a banya* baa-nyaa  
**sanitary napkin** *chidhende* chee-de-nde  
**seafood** *chokudya chomumvura*  
 cho-koogjaa cho-moo-mvoo-raa  
**seat** *chigaro* chee-gaa-ro  
**send** *-tuma* -tuo-maa  
**(have) sex** *-svirana* -swee-raa-naa  
**shampoo** *shambu* shaa-mboo  
**share (a dorm, etc)** *kusheyia* koo-she-ya  
**shaving cream** *kirimu yokushevha*  
 kee-ree-moo yo-koo-she-vhaa  
**she** *a* -aa-  
**sheet (bed)** *shiti (bhedha)* shee-tee (be-daa)

**shirt** *hembe* he-mbe  
**shoes** *shangu* shaa-ngoo  
**shop** *n chitoro* chee-to-ro  
**shower** *n shawa* shaa-waa  
**skin** *ganda* gaa-ndaa  
**skirt** *siketi* see-ke-tee  
**sleep** *v -rara* -raa-rraa  
**small** *-diki* -d'ee-kee  
**smoke (cigarettes)** *v -puta* -poo-taa  
**soap** *sipo* see-po  
**some** *-mwe* -mwe  
**soon** *iko zvino* ee-ko zvее-no  
**sore throat** *-karakata* -kaa-raa-kaa-taa  
**south** *chamhembe* chaa-mhe-mbe  
**souvenir shop** *chitoro chesuvheniya*  
 chee-to-ro chee-soo-vhe-nya-ya

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**speak** -taura-taa-oo-raa  
**spoon** chipunu chee-poo-noo  
**stamp** n chitambi chee-taa-mbee  
**station (train)** chiteshi chechitima  
 chee-te-shee che-chee-tee-maa  
**stomach** dumbu d'oo-mboo  
**stop** v -mira -mee-raa  
**stop (bus)** n chiteshi chebhazi chee-te-shee che-baa-zee  
**street** mugwaga moo-gwaa-gwaa  
**student** mudzidi moo-dzee-dzee  
**sunscreen** mafuta okudzivirira zuva  
 maa-foo-taa o-koo-dzee-vee-ree-rea zoo-vaa  
**swim** v -shambira -sha-mbee-raa

T

**tampons** matambuni maa-taa-mboo-nee  
**teeth** mazino maa-zee-no  
**telephone** n foni fo-nee  
**television** terevhizhini te-re-vhee-zhee-nee  
**temperature (weather)** temburicha te-mboo-ree-chaa  
**tent** tende te-nde  
**that (one)** icho ee-cho  
**they (lit: people)** lvo ee-vo  
**thirsty** -ne nyota -ne nyotaa  
**this (one)** ichi ee-chee  
**throat** huro hoo-ro  
**ticket** tikiti tee-kee-tee  
**time** nguva ngoo-vaa  
**tired** -neta -ne-taa  
**tissues** matishu maa-tee-shoo  
**today** nhasi nhaa-see  
**toilet** chimbudzi chee-mboo-dzee  
**tonight** usiku hwuno oo-see-koo hwoo-no  
**toothache** kurwadza kwezino koo-rwaa-dza kwe-zee-no  
**toothbrush** bhurashi remazino boo-raa-shee re-maa-zee-no  
**toothpaste** mushonga wemazino  
 moo-sho-ngaaw we-maa-zee-no  
**torch (flashlight)** tochi to-chee  
**tourist office** hofisi yetuwarizimu  
 ho-fee-see ye-too-waa-ree-zee-moo  
**towel** tauro taa-oo-ro  
**translate** -turikira -too-ree-kee-raa  
**travel agency** tiraveri ajendi tee-raa-ve-ree aa-je-ndee  
**travellers cheque** macheki okufambisa  
 maa-che-kee o-koo-faa-mbee-saa  
**trousers** mabhrukwa maa-boo-roo-kwaa

**twin beds** imba ine mibhedha miviri  
 ee-mba ee-ne mee-be-daa mee-vee-ree  
**tyre** taya taa-ya

U

**underwear** nduwe ndoo-we  
**urgent** kukurumidza koo-koo-roo-mee-dzaa

V

**vacant** pane nzvimbo paa-ne nvee-mbo  
**vegetable** n muriwo moo-ree-wo  
**vegetarian** a muvhejiteriyeni moo-vhe-jee-te-ree-ye-nee  
**visa** vhiiza vhee-zaa

W

**waiter** hweta hwe-taa  
**walk** v -famba -faa-mbaa  
**wallet** chikwama chee-kwaa-maa  
**warm** a -dziya -dzee-ya  
**wash (something)** -geza -ge-zaa  
**watch** n wachi waa-chee  
**water** mvura mvoo-raa  
**we** ti-tee-  
**weekend** hwikendi hwee-ke-ndee  
**west** madokero maa-d'o-ke-ro  
**wheelchair** hwiricheya hwee-ree-che-yaa  
**when** rini ree-nee  
**where (at what place)** papi paa-pee  
**where (in what place)** mupi moo-pee  
**where (to where)** kupi koo-pee  
**who** ani aa-nee  
**why** sei se-ee  
**window** hwindo hwee-ndo  
**wine** waini waa-ee-nee  
**with** ne- ne-  
**without** -sina -see-naa  
**woman** mukadzi moo-kaa-dzee  
**write** nyora nyo-raa

Y

**you** sg inf/pol iwe/imy ee-we/ee-mee  
**you** pl inf&pol imy ee-mee

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# Swahili



Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
aa	father	b	bed
ee	see	ch	cheat
ey	as in 'bet', but longer	d	dog
oh	note	dh	that
oo	zoo	f	fun
		g	go
		h	hat
		j	jar
		k	kit
		l	lot
		m	man
		n	not
		ng	ring
		ny	canyon
		p	pet
		r	run (but softer, more like a light 'd')
		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		th	thin
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero

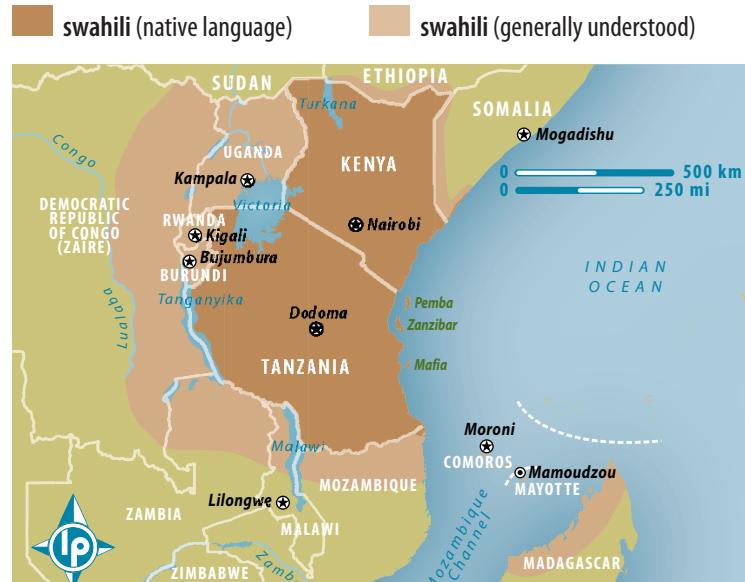
In this chapter, the Swahili pronunciation is given in brown after each phrase.

Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised.

For example:  
*Habari.* haa-baa-ree

## introduction

Swahili (*kiswahili* kee-swa-hee-lee) is one of the most widely spoken African languages, with an estimated 50 million-plus speakers throughout East Africa. Though it's the mother tongue of only about 4 to 5 million people, it's used as a second language or a lingua franca by speakers of many other African languages. Swahili is the national language of Tanzania and Kenya and is widely used in Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi, as well as in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo and on the Indian Ocean islands of Zanzibar and the Comoros. There are speakers of Swahili in the southern parts of Ethiopia and Somalia, the north of Mozambique and Zambia, and even on the northwestern coast of Madagascar. Swahili belongs to the Bantu group of languages from the Niger-Congo family and can be traced back to the first millennium AD. Standard Swahili developed from the urban dialect of Zanzibar City, dominant from precolonial times. Although there are many dialects of Swahili, you'll be understood if you stick to the standard coastal form, as used in this book.



# language difficulties

Do you speak (English)?	<i>Unasema</i> ( <i>Kiingereza</i> )?	oo-naa-sey-maa (kee-een-gey-rey-zaa)
Do you understand? I understand.	<i>Unaelewa?</i> <i>Naelewa.</i>	oo-naa-ey-ley-waa naa-ey-ley-waa
I don't understand.	<i>Sielewi.</i>	see-ey-ley-wee
Could you please ...? repeat that speak more slowly write it down	<i>Tafadhalii ...</i> <i>sema tena</i> <i>sema pole pole</i> <i>andika</i>	taa-faa-dhaa-lee ... sey-maa tey-naa sey-maa poh-ley poh-ley aan-dee-kaa

# time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	<i>Ni saa ngapi?</i>	nee saa n-gaa-pee
It's one o'clock.	<i>Ni saa saba.</i>	nee saa <i>saa-baa</i>
It's (two) o'clock.	<i>Ni saa (nane).</i>	nee saa ( <i>naa-ne</i> )
Quarter past (one).	<i>Ni saa (saba) na robo.</i>	nee saa ( <i>saa-baa</i> ) naa <i>roh-boh</i>
Half past (one).	<i>Ni saa (saba) na nusu.</i>	nee saa ( <i>saa-baa</i> ) naa <i>noo-soo</i>
Quarter to (ten).	<i>Ni saa (nne) kasarobo.</i>	nee saa ( <i>n-ney</i> ) <i>caa-saa-roh-boh</i>
At what time ...?	... <i>saa ngapi?</i>	... saa n-gaa-pee
At ...	<i>Saa ...</i>	saa ...
It's (18 October).	<i>Ni (tarehe kumi na nane, mwezi wa kumi).</i>	nee ( <i>taa-rey-hey koo-mee naa nane, mwezi wa kumi</i> ). (lit: date eighteen, month tenth)
yesterday	<i>jana</i>	<i>jaa-naa</i>
today	<i>leo</i>	<i>ley-oh</i>
tomorrow	<i>kesho</i>	<i>key-shoh</i>
Monday	<i>Jumatatu</i>	<i>joo-maa-taa-too</i>
Tuesday	<i>Jumanne</i>	<i>joo-maa-n-ney</i>
Wednesday	<i>Jumatano</i>	<i>joo-maa-taa-noh</i>
Thursday	<i>Alhamisi</i>	<i>aal-haa-mee-see</i>
Friday	<i>Ijumaa</i>	<i>ee-joo-maa</i>
Saturday	<i>Jumamosi</i>	<i>joo-maa-moh-see</i>
Sunday	<i>Jumapili</i>	<i>joo-maa-peel-lee</i>

# numbers

0	<i>sifuri</i>	see-foo-ree	17	<i>kumi na saba</i>	<i>koo-mee naa saa-baa</i>
1	<i>moja</i>	<i>moh-jaa</i>	18	<i>kumi na nane</i>	<i>koo-mee naa naa-ney</i>
2	<i>mbili</i>	<i>m-bee-lee</i>	19	<i>kumi na tisa</i>	<i>koo-mee naa tee-saa</i>
3	<i>tatu</i>	<i>taa-too</i>	20	<i>ishirini</i>	<i>ee-shee-ree-nee</i>
4	<i>nne</i>	<i>n-ney</i>	21	<i>ishirini</i>	<i>ee-shee-ree-nee</i>
5	<i>tano</i>	<i>taa-noh</i>	22	<i>na moja</i>	<i>naa moh-jaa</i>
6	<i>sita</i>	<i>see-taa</i>	23	<i>ishirini</i>	<i>ee-shee-ree-nee</i>
7	<i>saba</i>	<i>saa-baa</i>	24	<i>na mbili</i>	<i>naa m-bee-lee</i>
8	<i>nane</i>	<i>naa-ney</i>	25	<i>thelathini</i>	<i>they-laa-thee-nee</i>
9	<i>tisa</i>	<i>tee-saa</i>	26	<i>arobaini</i>	<i>aa-roh-baa-ee-nee</i>
10	<i>kumi</i>	<i>koo-mee</i>	27	<i>hamsini</i>	<i>haam-see-nee</i>
11	<i>kumi na moja</i>	<i>koo-mee naa moh-jaa</i>	28	<i>sitini</i>	<i>see-tee-nee</i>
12	<i>kumi na mbili</i>	<i>koo-mee naa m-bee-lee</i>	29	<i>sabini</i>	<i>saa-bee-nee</i>
13	<i>kumi na tatu</i>	<i>koo-mee naa taa-too</i>	30	<i>themanini</i>	<i>they-maa-nee-nee</i>
14	<i>kumi na nne</i>	<i>koo-mee naa n-ney</i>	31	<i>tisini</i>	<i>tee-see-nee</i>
15	<i>kumi na tano</i>	<i>koo-mee naa taa-noh</i>	32	<i>mia moja</i>	<i>mee-aa moh-jaa</i>
16	<i>kumi na sita</i>	<i>koo-mee naa see-taa</i>	33	<i>elfu</i>	<i>eyl-foo</i>
1000					



# border crossing

I'm ...	<i>Mimi ni ...</i>	mee-mee nee ...
in transit	<i>safarini</i>	saa-faa-ree-nee
on business	<i>kwa biashara</i>	kwaa bee-aa-shaa-raa
on holiday	<i>kwa likizo</i>	kwaa lee-kee-zoh
I'm here for ...	<i>Nipo kwa ...</i>	nee-poh kwaa ...
(three) days	<i>siku (tatu)</i>	see-koo ( <i>taa-too</i> )
(two) weeks	<i>wiki (mbili)</i>	wee-kee ( <i>m-bee-lee</i> )
(four) months	<i>miezi (minne)</i>	mee-ey-zee ( <i>mee-n-ney</i> )
I'm going to (Malindi). <i>Naenda (Malindi).</i>		naa-eyn-daa (maa-leen-dee)
I'm staying at (the Pendo Inn). <i>Nakaa (Pendo Inn).</i>		naa-kaa (peyn-doh een)

## tickets

One ... ticket to (Iringa), please. one-way return	<i>Tiketi moja ya ... kwenda (Iringa). kwenda tu kwenda na kurudi</i>	tee-key-tee <i>moh-jaa yaa ... kweyn-daa (ee-reen-gaa) kweyn-daa too kweyn-daa naa koo-roo-dee</i>
I'd like to ... my ticket, please. cancel change confirm	<i>Nataka ... tiketi yangu, tafadhalii. kufuta kubadilisha kuhakikisha</i>	naa-taa-kaa ... tee-key-tee <i>yaan-goo taa-faa-dhaa-lee koo-foo-taa koo-baa-dee-lee-shaa koo-haa-kee-kee-shaa</i>
I'd like a smoking/nonsmoking seat, please.		
<i>Nataka kiti kuvuta/ kutovuta sigara.</i>	naa-taa-kaa <i>kee-tee koo-voo-taa/ koo-toh-voo-taa see-gaa-raa</i>	
Is there a toilet? <i>Kuna choo?</i>		koo-naa choh
Is there a air conditioning? <i>Kuna a/c?</i>		koo-naa ey-see
How long does the trip take? <i>Safari huchukua muda gani?</i>		saa-faa-ree <i>hoo-choo-koo-aa moo-daa gaa-nee</i>
Is it a direct route? <i>Njia ni moja kwa moja?</i>		n-jee-aa <i>nee moh-jaa kwaa moh-jaa</i>



## transport

Where does flight (number 432) arrive/depart? <i>Ndege (namba mia nne thelathini na mbili) itaifika/itaondoka wapi?</i>	n-dey-gey ( <i>naam-baa mee-aa n-ney they-laa-thee-nee naa m-bee-lee</i> ) ee-taa-fee-kaa/ee-taa-ohn-doh-kaa waa-pee
How long will it be delayed? <i>Itachelewa kwa muda gani?</i>	ee-taa-chey-ley-waa kwaa <i>moo-daa gaa-nee</i>

Is this the ... to (Mombasa)?	<i>Hii ni ... kwenda (Mombasa)?</i>	hee nee ... <i>kweyn-daa (mohm-baa-saa)</i>
boat	<i>Boti</i>	<i>boh-tee</i>
bus	<i>Basi</i>	<i>baa-see</i>
plane	<i>Ndege</i>	<i>n-dey-gey</i>
train	<i>Treni</i>	<i>trey-nee</i>

How much is it to ...?	<i>Ni bei gani kwenda ...?</i>	nee bey <i>gaa-nee kweyn-daa ...</i>
Please take me to (this address).	<i>Tafadhalii niendeshe mpaka (anwani hii).</i>	<i>taa-faa-dhaa-lee nee-eyn-dey-shey m-paa-kaa (aan-waa-nee hee)</i>
I'd like to hire a car/4WD (with air conditioning).	<i>Nataka kukodi gari/ forbaifor (kwenye a/c).</i>	<i>naa-taa-kaa koo-koh-dee gaa-ree/ fohr-baa-ee-fohr (kwey-nyey ey-see)</i>
How much is it for (three) days/weeks?	<i>Ni bei gani kwa siku/wiki (tatu)?</i>	nee bey <i>gaa-nee kwaa see-koo/wee-kee (taa-too)</i>

## directions

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>... hapo karibuni iko wapi?</i>	<i>... haa-poh kaa-ree-boo-nee ee-koh waa-pee</i>
internet café market	<i>Intaneti Kafe Soko</i>	<i>een-taa-ney-tee kaa-fey soh-koh</i>

Is this the road to (Embu)? <i>Hii ni barabara kwenda (Embu)?</i>	hee nee baa-rraa-baa-rraa <i>kweyn-daa (eym-booo)</i>
Can you show me (on the map)? <i>Unaweza kunionyesha (katika ramani)?</i>	oo-naa-wey-zaa <i>koo-nee-oh-nyey-shaa (kaa-tee-kaa raa-maa-nee)</i>
What's the address? <i>Anwani ni nini?</i>	aan-waa-nee <i>nee nee-nee</i>
How far is it? <i>Ni umbali gani?</i>	nee oom-baa-lee <i>gaa-nee</i>
How do I get there? <i>Nifikaje?</i>	nee-fee-kaa-jey
Turn left/right. <i>Geuza kushoto/kulia.</i>	gey-oo-zaa <i>koo-shoh-toh/koo-lee-aa</i>

It's ...	Iko ...	ee-koh ...
behind ...	nyuma ya ...	nyoo·maa yaa ...
in front of ...	mbele ya ...	m·bey·ley yaa ...
near ...	karibu na ...	kaa·ree·boo naa ...
next to ...	jirani ya ...	jee·raa·nee yaa ...
on the corner	pembeni	peym·bey·nee
opposite ...	ng'ambo ya ...	ng·aam·boh yaa ...
straight ahead	moja kwa moja	moh·jaa kwaa moh·jaa
there	hapo	haa·poh

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	... iko wapi?	... ee-koh waa·pee
camping ground	Uwanja wa kambi	oo·waan·ja wa kaam·bee
guesthouse	Gesti	gey·stee
hotel	Hoteli	hoh·tey·lee
youth hostel	Hosteli ya vijana	hoh·stey·lee yaa vee·jaa·naa

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

Unaweza kunipendeke oo-naa·wey·zaa koo·nee·peyn·dey·key  
zea malazi rahisi/nzuri? zey·aa maa·laa·zee raa·hee·see/n·zoo·ree

I'd like to book a room, please.

Nataka kufanya buking, tafadhali. naa·taa·kaa koo·faa·nyaa boo·keeng taa·faa·dhaa·lee

I have a reservation.

Nina buking. nee·naa boo·keeng

How much is it per night/person?

Ni bei gani kwa usiku/mtu? nee bey gaa·ne kwaa oo·see·koo/m·too

Do you have a ... room?	Kuna chumba kwa ...?	koo·naa choom·baa kwaa ...
single	mtu mmoja	m·too m·moh·jaa
double	watu wawili,	waa·too waa·wee·lee
twin	kitanda kimoja	kee·taan·daa kee·moh·jaa
	watu wawili, vitanda viwili	waa·too waa·wee·lee vee·taan·daa vee·wee·lee

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

Nataka kukaa kwa usiku (mbili). naa·taa·kaa koo·kaa kwaa oo·see·koo (m·bee·lee)

What time is check-out?

Muda wa kuachia chumba ni saa ngapi? moo·daa waa koo·aa·chee·aa choom·baa nee saa n·gaa·pee

Am I allowed to camp here?

Naweza kuwa hapa kwa usiku? naa·wey·zaa koo·waa haa·paa kwaa oo·see·koo

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...	Nataka ...	naa·taa·kaa ...
cash a cheque	kulipwa fedha	koo·leep·waa fey·dhaa
	kutokana na hundi	koo·toh·kaa·naa naa hoon·dee
change a travellers cheque	kubadilisha	koo·baa·dee·lee·shaa
change money	hundi ya msafiri	hoon·dee yaa m·saa·fee·ree
transfer money	kubadilisha hela	koo·baa·dee·lee·shaa hey·laa
withdraw money	kufikisha hela	koo·fee·kee·shaa hey·laa
	kuondoa hela	koo·ohn·doh·aa hey·laa

I want to ...	Nataka ...	naa·taa·kaa ...
buy a phonecard	kununuua kadi	koo·noo·noo·aa kaa·dee
	ya simu	yaa see·moo
call (Singapore)	kupiga simu kwa (Singapore)	koo·pee·gaa see·moo kwaa (seen·gaa·pohr)
reverse the charges	kugeuza gharama	koo·gey·oo·zaa gaa·raa·maa
use a printer	kutumia printa	koo·too·mee·aa preen·taa
use the internet	kutumia intaneti	koo·too·mee·aa een·taa·ney·tee

How much is it per hour?

Ni bei gani kwa saa? nee bey gaa·ne kwaa saa

How much does a (three)-minute call cost?

Kupiga simu kwa dakika (tatu) ni bei gani? koo·pee·gaa see·moo kwaa daa·kee·kaa (taa·too) nee bey gaa·nee

(1000 shillings) per minute/hour.

(Shilingi elfu moja) kwa dakika/saa. (shee·leen·gee eyl·foo moh·jaa) kwaa daa·kee·kaa/saa

## tours

When's the next ...?	... <i>ijayo</i> <i>itakuwa lini?</i>	... ee: <i>jaa-yoh</i> ee: <i>taa-koo-waa lee-nee</i>
day trip	<i>Safari ya siku</i>	saa: <i>faa-ree yaa see-koo</i>
	<i>moja</i>	<i>moh-jaa</i>
tour	<i>Safari</i>	saa: <i>faa-ree</i>
Is ... included?	<i>Inazingatia ...?</i>	ee: <i>naa-zeen-gaa-tee-aa</i> ...
accommodation	<i>malazi</i>	maa: <i>laa-zee</i>
food	<i>chakula</i>	cha: <i>a-koo-laa</i>
the park entrance fee	<i>ada za hifadhi</i>	aa: <i>daa zaa hee-faa-dhee</i>
transport	<i>usafiri</i>	oo: <i>saa-fee-ree</i>
How long is the tour?	<i>Safari itachukua muda gani?</i>	saa: <i>faa-ree ee-taa-choo-koo-aa</i> moo: <i>daa gaa-nee</i>
What time should we be back?	<i>Turudi saa ngapi?</i>	too: <i>roo-dee saa n-gaa-pee</i>

## shopping

I'm looking for ...	<i>Natafuta ...</i>	naa: <i>taa-foo-taa</i> ...
I need film for this camera.	<i>Nahitaji filamu kwa kemra hii.</i>	naa: <i>hee-taa-jee fee-laa-moo</i> kwaa <i>keym-raa hee</i>
Can I listen to this?	<i>Naomba tusikilize.</i>	naa: <i>ohm-baa too-see-kee-lee-zey</i>
Can I have my ... repaired?	<i>Mnawenza kutengeneza ... yangu hapa?</i>	m-naa: <i>wey-zaa koo-teyn-gey-ney-zaa</i> ... <i>yaan-goo ha-a-paa</i>
When will it be ready?	<i>Itakuwa tayari lini?</i>	ee: <i>taa-koo-waa taa-yaa-ree lee-nee</i>
How much is it?	<i>Ni bei gani?</i>	ni <i>bey gaa-nee</i>

## Can you write down the price?

*Andika bei.*

aan-dee-kaa bey

## What's your lowest price?

*Niambie bei ya mwisho.*

nee-aam-bee-ey bey yaa-koh yaa mwee-shoh

## I'll give you (500 shillings).

*Nitakupa (shilingi mia tano).*

nee-taa-koo-paa (shee-leen-gee mee-aa taa-noh)

## There's a mistake in the bill.

*Kuna kosa kwenye bili.*

koo-naa koh-saa kweyn-yey bee-lee

## It's faulty.

*Haifanyi kazi.*

haa-ee-faa-nyee kaa-zee

## I'd like a receipt, please.

*Naomba risiti, tafadhalii.*

naa-ohm-baa ree-see-tee taa-faa-dhaa-lee

## I'd like a refund, please.

*Nataka unirudishie  
hela, tafadhalii.*

naa-taa-kaa oo-nee-roo-dee-shee-ey  
hey-la taa-faa-dhaa-lee

## Do you accept ...?

credit cards  
travellers cheques

*Mnakubali ...*

*kadi ya benki*  
*hundi ya msafiri*

m-naa-koo-baa-lee ...

*kaa-dee yaa beyn-kee*  
*hoon-dee yaa m-saa-fee-ree*

## Could you ...?

burn a CD from  
my memory card

*Mnaweza ...?*

*kurekodi CD*  
*kutoka kadi ya*  
*kunakili ya*  
*kemra yangu*

m-naa-wey-zaa ...

*koo-ree-koh-dee see-dee*  
*koo-toh-kaa kaa-dee yaa*  
*koo-naa-kee-lee yaa*  
*keym-raa yaan-goo*

develop this film

*kusafisha*  
*picha hizi*

koo-saa-fee-shaa

*pee-chaa hee-zee*

## making conversation

Hello.

*Habari.*

haa-baa-ree

Good night.

*Usiku mwema.*

oo-see-koo mwey-maa

Goodbye.

*Tutaonana.*

too-taa-oh-naa-naa

Mr

*Bwana*

bwaa-naa

Mrs

*Bi*

bee

Ms/Miss

*Bibi*

bee-bee

How are you?	<i>Habari?</i>	haa·baa·ree
Fine, and you?	<i>Nzuri, wewe je?</i>	n·zoo·ree wey·wey jey
What's your name?	<i>Jina lako nani?</i>	jee·naa laa·koh naa·nee
My name's ...	<i>Jina langu ni ...</i>	jee·naa laan·goo nee ...
I'm pleased to meet you.	<i>Nafurahi kukufahamu.</i>	naa·foo·raa·hee koo·koo·faa·haa·moo
This is my ... boyfriend	<i>Huyu ni ... mpenzi wangu</i>	hoo·yoo nee ... m·peyn·zee waan·goo
brother	<i>kakangu</i>	kaa·kaan·gooo
daughter	<i>binti yangu</i>	been·tee yaan·goo
father	<i>babangu</i>	baa·baan·gooo
friend	<i>rafiki yangu</i>	raa·fee·kee yaan·goo
girlfriend	<i>mpenzi wangu</i>	m·peyn·zee waan·goo
husband	<i>mume wangu</i>	moo·mey waan·goo
mother	<i>mamangu</i>	maa·maan·gooo
sister	<i>dadangu</i>	daa·daan·gooo
son	<i>mwanangu</i>	mwaad·naan·gooo
wife	<i>mke wangu</i>	m·key waan·gooo
Here's my ... address	<i>Hii ni ... yangu. anwani</i>	hee nee ... yaan·gooo aan·waa·neee
email address	<i>anwani ya</i>	aan·waa·neee yaa
phone number	<i>barua pepe simu</i>	baa·roo·aa pey·pey see·moo
Where are you from?	<i>Unatoka wapi?</i>	oo·naa·toh·kaa waa·pee
I'm from ... Australia	<i>Natoka ... Australia</i>	naa·toh·kaa ... aa·oo·straal·lee·aa
Canada	<i>Kanada</i>	kaa·naa·daa
New Zealand	<i>Nyuzilandi</i>	nyoo·zee·laan·dee
the UK	<i>Uingereza</i>	oo·een·gey·rey·zaa
the USA	<i>Marekani</i>	maa·rey·kaa·nee
I'm married.	<i>Nimeoa. m Nimeolewa. f</i>	nee·mey·oh·aa nee·mey·oh·ley·waa
I'm single.	<i>Mimi sina mpenzi.</i>	mee·mee see·naa m·peyn·zee
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Ni sawa nikipiga picha (ya wewe)?</i>	nee saa·waa nee·kee·pee·gaa pee·chaa (yaa wey·wey)

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Unaweza kupendekeza ...?</i>	oo·naa·wey·zaa koo·peyn·dey·key·zaa ...
bar	<i>baa</i>	baa
dish	<i>chakula</i>	cha·koo·laa
place to eat	<i>hoteli kwa chakula</i>	hoh·tey·lee kwaa chaa·koo·laa
I'd like ..., please.	<i>Naomba ..., tafadhalii.</i>	naa·ohm·baa ... taa·faa·dhaa·lee
the bill	<i>bili</i>	bee·lee
the menu	<i>menyu</i>	mey·nyoo
a table for (two)	<i>meza kwa (wawili)</i>	mey·zaa kwaa (wa·wee·lee)
that dish	<i>chakula kile</i>	cha·koo·la kee·ley
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Mna chakula bila nyama?</i>	m·naa chaa·koo·laa bee·laa nyaa·maa
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	<i>Unaweza kuandaa mlo bila ...?</i>	oo·naa·wey·zaa koo·aan·daa m·loh bee·laa ...
eggs	<i>mayai</i>	maa·yaa·ee
meat stock	<i>supu ya nyama</i>	soo·poo yaa nyaa·maa
(cup of) coffee/tea ...	<i>(kikombe cha) kahawa/chai ...</i>	(kee·kohm·bey chaa) kaa·haa·waa/chaa·ee ...
with milk	<i>na maziwa</i>	naa maa·zee·waa
without sugar	<i>bila sukari</i>	bee·laa soo·kaa·ree
(boiled) water	<i>maji (ya kuchemshwa)</i>	maa·jee (yaa koo·cheym·shwaa)

## emergencies

Call an ambulance!	<i>Ita gari la hospitali.</i>	ee·taa gaa·ree laa ho·spee·taa·lee
Call a doctor!	<i>Mwite daktari.</i>	m·wee·tey daak·taa·ree
Call the police!	<i>Waite polisi.</i>	waa·ee·tey poh·lee·see
Help me, please.	<i>Saidia, tafadhalii.</i>	saa·ee·dee·aa taa·faa·dhaa·lee
I'm lost.	<i>Nimejipotea.</i>	nee·mey·jee·poh·tey·aa
Where are the toilets?	<i>Vyoo viko wapi?</i>	vyoh vee·ko waa·pee

I have insurance.

*Nina bima.*

nee-naa bee·maa

I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

*Nataka kuwasiliana  
na ubalozi wangu.*

naa-taa·kaa koo·waa·see·lee·aa·naa  
naa oo·baa·loh·zee waan·goo

I've been assaulted.

*Nilishambuliwa.*

nee·lee·shaam·boo·lee·waa

I've been raped.

*Nilibakwa.*

nee·lee·baa·kwaa

I've been robbed.

*Niliibiwa.*

nee·lee·ee·bee·waa

I've lost my ...

*Nilipoteza ...*

nee·lee·poh·tey·zaa ...

bags

*mizigo yangu*

mee·zee·gooh yaan·goo

credit card

*kadi ya benki*

kaa·dee yaa beyn·kee

handbag

*mkoba wangu*

m·koh·baa waan·goo

jewellery

*vipuli vyangu*

vee·poo·lee vyaaan·goo

money

*pesa yangu*

pey·saa yaan·goo

passport

*pasipoti yangu*

paa·see·poh·tee yaan·goo

travellers

*hundi za msafiri*

hoon·dee zaa m·saa·fee·ree

cheques

*zangu*

zaan·goo

wallet

*pochi ya pesa*

poh·chee ya pey·sa

## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?

*... hapo karibuni iko wapi?*

... haa·poh kaa·ree·boo·hee  
ee·koh waa·pee

dentist

*Daktari wa meno*

daak·taa·ree waa mey·noh

doctor

*Daktari*

daak·taa·ree

hospital

*Hospitali*

hoh·spee·taa·lee

pharmacist

*Duka la madawa*

doo·kaa laa maa·daa·waa

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Nahitaji daktari*

naa-hee·taa·jee daak·taa·ree  
(aa·naa·yey·sey·maa kee·een·gey·rey·zaa)

(anayesema Kiingereza).

Could I see a female doctor?

*Inawezekana nione  
daktari mwanaamke?*

ee·naa·wey·zey·kaa·naa nee·oh·ney  
daak·taa·ree mwaa·naam·key

It hurts here.

*Inauma hapa.*

ee·naa·oo·maa haa·paa

I'm allergic to (penicillin).

*Nina mzio wa (penisilini).*

nee·naa m·zee·oh waa (pey·nee·see·lee·nee)

## english–swahili dictionary

Swahili verbs are shown in their root (basic) forms, with a hyphen in front. To express a series of functions in a sentence, the verb can have several elements added: prefixes, infixes and suffixes. Some adjectives also have a hyphen in front, as they take different prefixes depending on the characteristics of the thing described. Words are also marked as a (adjective), n (noun), v (verb), sg (singular) or pl (plural) as necessary.

### A

accommodation *malazi maa·laa·zee*  
adaptor *adapta aa·daap·taa*  
after *baada ya baa·aa·daa yaa*  
airport *uwanja wa ndege oo·waan·jaa waa n·dey·gey*  
alcohol *kilevi kee·ley·vee*  
all *zote zoh·tey*  
allergy *mzio m·zee·oh*  
and *na naa*  
ankle *kiwiko cha mguu kee·wee·koh chaa m·goo*  
antibiotic *kuavijasumu kee·oo·aa·vee·ja·soo·moo*  
arm *mkono m·koh·noh*  
aspirin *aspirini aa·spee·ree·nee*  
asthma *pumu poo·moo*  
ATM *maschine ya kutolea pesa*  
maa·shee·ney yaa koo·toh·ley·aa pey·saa

### B

baby *mtoto mchanga m·toh·toh m·chaan·gaa*  
back (body) *mgongo m·gooh·gooh*  
backpack *shanta shaan·taa*  
bad *mbaya m·baa·ya*  
bank *benki beyn·kee*  
bathroom *bafuni baa·foo·nee*  
battery *betri bey·tree*  
beautiful *ya kupendeza yaa koo·peyn·dey·zaa*  
bed *kitanda kee·taan·daa*  
beer *bia bee·aa*  
bee *nyuki nyoo·kee*  
before *kabla kaa·bla*  
bicycle *baisikeli baa·ee·see·key·lee*  
big *kubwa koob·waa*  
blanket *blanketi blaan·key·tee*  
blood group *aina ya damu aa·ee·naa yaa daa·moo*  
bottle *chupa choo·paa*  
bottle opener *kifungua chupa kee·foon·goo·aa choo·paa*  
boy *mvulana m·voo·laa·naa*  
brakes (car) *breki brey·kee*  
breakfast *chai ya abusuhi chaa·ee yaa aa·soo·boo·hee*

### C

café *mgahaha m·gaa·haa·waa*  
cancel *futa ·foo·taa*  
can opener *opena ya kopo oh·pey·naa yaa koh·poh*  
cash *n fedha Fey·dha*  
cell phone *simu ya mkononi see·moo yaa m·koh·noh·ne*  
centre *n katikati kaa·tee·kaa·tee*  
cheap *rahisi raa·hee·see*  
check (bill) *bili bee·lee*  
check-in *n mapokezi maa·poh·key·zee*  
chest *kufua koo·foo·aa*  
child *mtoto m·toh·toh*  
cigarette *sigara see·gaa·raa*  
clean *a safi saa·fee*  
closed *ya kufungwa yaa koo·foon·gwaa*  
cold *a baridi baa·ree·dee*  
condom *kondom kohn·dohm*  
constipation *yabishi wa tumbo*  
oo·yaa·bee·see waa toom·boh  
contact lenses *lenzi mboni leyn·zee m·boh·nee*  
cough *n kikohizi kee·koh·hoh·zee*  
currency exchange *kubadilisha hela*  
koo·baa·dee·lee·shaay·laa  
customs (immigration) *forodha foh·roh·dhaa*

### D

dairy products *mazao ya maziwa*  
maa·zaa·oh yaa maa·zee·waa  
dangerous *hatari haa·taa·ree*  
day *siku see·koo*  
diaper *nepi ney·pee*  
diarrhoea *kuhara koo·haa·raa*  
dinner *chakula cha jioni chaa·koo·laa chaa jee·oh·nee*  
dirty *chafu chaa·foo*  
disabled *waslojiweza waa see·oh·je·wey·zaa*  
drink *n kinywaji kee·nywaa·jee*  
drug (illicit) *madawa (ya kulevyaa)*  
maa·daa·waa (yaa koo·ley·vyaa)

### A

**E**  
**ear** *sikio* see-kee-oh  
**east** *mashariki* maa-shaa-ree-kee  
**economy class** *daraja la tatu* daa-raa-jaa laa taa-too  
**elevator** *lifti* leef-tee  
**email** *barua pepe* baa-roo-aa pey-pey  
**English (language)** *Kiingereza* kee-een-gey-rey-zaa  
**exit** *n kutoka* koo-toh-kaa  
**expensive** *ghali* gaa-lee  
**eye** *jicho* jee-choh

**F**

**fast** *ya kasi* yaa kaa-see  
**fever** *homa* hoh-maa  
**finger** *kidole* kee-doh-ley  
**first class** *daraja la kwanza* daa-raa-jaa laa kwaan-zaa  
**fish** *n samaki* saa-maa-kee  
**food** *chakula* chaa-koo-la  
**foot** *mguu* m-goo  
**fork** *uma* oo-maa  
**free (of charge)** *bure* boo-rey  
**fruit** *tunda* toon-daa  
**funny** *ya kuchekesha* yaa koo-chey-key-shaa

**G**

**game park** *hifadhi ya wanyama* hee-faa-dhee yaa waa-nyaa-maa  
**gift** *zawadi* zaa-waa-dee  
**girl** *msichana* m-see-chaa-naa  
**glass (drinking)** *glesi* gley-see  
**glasses** *miwani* mee-waa-nee  
**good** *nzuri* n-zoo-ree  
**gram** *gramu* gra-moo  
**guide** *n kiongozi* kee-ohn-goh-zee

**H**

**hand** *mkono* m-koh-noh  
**happy** *mwenye furaha* mwey-nyey foo-raa-haa  
**have** *-wa na* -waa naa  
**he** *yeye* yey-ye  
**head** *kichwa* keech-waa  
**headache** *maunivu* ya kichwa maa-oo-mee-voo yaa keech-waa  
**heart** *moyo* moh-yoh

**heart condition** *ugonjwa wa moyo* oo-gohn-jwaa waa moh-yoh  
**heat** *n joto* joh-toh  
**here** *hapa* haa-paa  
**high** *juu* joo  
**highway** *barabara* baa-raa-baa-raa  
**homosexual** *msenge* m-seyn-gey  
**hot** *joto* joh-toh  
**hungry** *njaa* n-jaa

**I**

**I** *mimi* mee-mee  
**identification (card)** *kitambulisho* e-taam-boo-lee-shoh  
**ill** *mgonjwa* m-gohn-jwaa  
**important** *muhimu* moo-hee-moo  
**internet** *intaneti* een-taa-ney-tee  
**interpreter** *mkalimani* m-kaa-lee-maa-nee

**K**

**key** *ufunguo* oo-foon-goo-oh  
**kilogram** *kilo* kee-loh  
**kitchen** *jiko* jee-koh  
**knife** *kisu* kee-soo

**L**

**laundry (place)** *udobi* oo-doh-bee  
**lawyer** *mwanasheria* mwaa-naa-shay-ree-aa  
**leg** *mguu* m-goo  
**lesbian** *msagaji* m-saa-gaa-jee  
**less** *chache* chaa-chey  
**letter (mail)** *barua* baa-roo-aa  
**like** *v -penda* -peyn-daa  
**love** *v -penda* -peyn-daa  
**lunch** *chakula cha mchana* chaa-koo-la chaa m-chaa-naa

**M**

**man** *mwanamume* mwaa-naa-moo-mey  
**matches** *vibiriti* vee-bee-ree-tee  
**meat** *nyama* nyaa-maa  
**medicine** *dawa* daa-waa  
**message** *ujumbe* oo-joom-bey  
**mobile phone** *simu ya mkononi* see-moo yaa m-koh-noh-nee  
**month** *mwezi* mwey-zee  
**morning** *asubuhi* aa-soo-booh-hee

**motorcycle** *pikipiki* pee-kee-pee-kee  
**mouth** *mdomo* m-doh-moh  
**movie** *filamu* fee-laa-moo  
**MSG** *msg* eym-eyz-gee  
**museum** *makumbusho* maa-koom-boo-shoh  
**music** *muziki* moo-zee-kee

**N**

**name** *n jina* jee-naa  
**napkin** *kitambaa cha mkono* kee-taam-baa chaa m-koh-noh  
**nappy** *nepi* ney-pee  
**national park** *hifadhi ya wanyama* hee-faa-dhee yaa waa-nyaa-maa  
**nausea** *kichechefu* kee-chey-foo-chey-foo  
**neck** *shingo* sheen-go  
**new** *mpya* m-mpya  
**news** *habari* haa-baa-ree  
**newspaper** *gazeti* gaa-zey-tee  
**night** *usiku* oo-see-koo  
**nightclub** *klabu ya usiku* klabu ya usiku kaa-boo yaa oo-see-koo  
**noisy** *yenyene* kelele yaa ney-ney key-ley-ley  
**nonsmoking** *hakuna sigara* haa-koo-naa see-gaa-raa  
**north** *kaskazini* kaas-kaa-zee-nee  
**nose** *pua* poo-aa  
**now** *sasa* saa-saa  
**number** *namba* naam-baa  
**nut** *kokwa* kohk-waa

**O**

**oil (engine)** *mafuta* maa-foo-taa  
**OK** *sawa tu* saa-waa too  
**old** *ya zamani* yaa zaa-maa-nee  
**open** *a wazi* waa-zee  
**outside** *nje* n-jey

**P**

**package** *furushi* foo-roo-shee  
**pain** *maunivu* maa-oo-mee-voo  
**paper** *karatasi* kaa-raa-taa-see  
**park (car)** *v -egesha* -ey-gey-shaa  
**passport** *pasipoti* paa-see-poh-tee  
**pay** *-lipa* -le-paa  
**pen** *kalamu* kaa-laa-moo  
**petrol** *mafuta* maa-foo-taa  
**pharmacy** *duka la dawa* doo-kaa laa daa-waa

**plate** *sahani* saa-haa-nee  
**postcard** *postikadi* poh-stee-kaa-dee  
**post office** *posta* poh-staa  
**pregnant** *mjamzito* m-jaa-m-zee-toh

**R**

**rain** *n mvua* m-voo-aa  
**razor** *wembe* weym-bey  
**registered mail** *barua ya rejista* baa-roo-aa yaa rey-jee-staa  
**rent** *v -kodi* -koh-dee  
**repair** *v -tengeneza* -teyn-gey-ney-zaa  
**reservation** *buking* boo-keeng  
**restaurant** *mgahawa* m-gaa-haa-waa  
**return** *v -rudi* -roo-dee  
**road** *barabara* baa-raa-baa-raa  
**room** *chumba* choom-baa

**S**

**sad** *masikitiko* maa-see-kee-teef-koh  
**safe** *a salama* saa-laa-maa  
**sanitary napkin** *sodo* soh-doh  
**seafood** *vyakula* kutoka baharini vyaa-ko-la koo-toh-kaa baa-haa-ree-nee  
**seat** *kiti* kee-tee  
**send** *-peleka* -pey-ley-kaa  
**sex** *mapenzi* maa-peyn-zee  
**shampoo** *shampuu* shaam-poo  
**share (a dorm, etc)** *-gawana* -gaa-waa-naa  
**shaving cream** *sabuni* ya kunyolee saa-boo-nee yaa koo-nyoh-ley-aa  
**she** *yeye* yey-ye  
**sheet (bed)** *shuka* shoo-kaa  
**shirt** *shati* shaa-tee  
**shoes** *viatu* vee-aa-too  
**shop** *n duka* doo-kaa  
**shower** *n batuni* baa-foo-nee  
**skin** *ngozni* n-goh-zee  
**skirt** *skati* skaa-tee  
**sleep** *v -sinzia* seen-zee-aa  
**small** *-doga* -doh-goh  
**smoke (cigarettes)** *v -vuta* -vo-tee-aa  
**soap** *sabuni* saa-boo-nee  
**some** *kadhaa* kaa-dhaa  
**soon** *sasa* hivi saa-saa hee-vee  
**sore throat** *koo lenye* maumivu koh ley-nyey maa-oo-mee-voo

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**south** *kusini* koo-see-nee

**souvenir shop** *duka la kumbukumbu*

doona-kaa laa koom-boo-koom-boo

**speak** -sema- sey-maa

**spoon** *kijiko* kee-jee-koh

**stamp** ✓ *stempu* steym-poo

**station (train)** *stesheni* stey-shay-nee

**stomach** *tumbo* toom-boh

**stop** v -simama- see-maa-maa

**stop (bus)** n *kituo* kee-too-oh

**street** *njia* n-jee-aa

**student** *mwanafunzi* mwaa-naa-foon-zee

**sunscreen** *dawa la kukinga jua*

daa-waa laa koo-keen-gaa joo-aa

**swim** ✓ *-ogelea* -oh-gey-ley-aa

## T

**tampon** *sodo* soh-doh

**teeth** *meno* mey-noh

**telephone** n *simu* see-moo

**television** *televisheni* tey-ley-vee-shay-nee

**temperature (weather)** *halijoto* haa-lee-joh-toh

**tent** *hemu* hey-maa

**that (one)** *hiyo* hee-yoh

**they** *wao* waa-oh

**(to be) thirsty (-sikia)** *kiu* (-see-kee-aa) kee-oo

**this (one)** *hii* hee

**throat** *koo* koh

**ticket** *tiketi/tikitiki* tee-key-tee/tee-kee-tee

**time** *saa* saa

**tired** *ya kuchoka* yaa koo-choh-kaa

**tissues** *karatasi za shashi* kaa-raa-taa-see zaa shaa-shee

**today** *leo* ley-oh

**toilet** *choo* choh

**tonight** *usiku* huu oo-see-koo hoo

**toothache** *maumivu ya jino*

maa-oo-mee-voo yaa jee-noh

**toothbrush** *mswaki* m-swa-ah-kee

**toothpaste** *dawa la meno* daa-waa laa mey-noh

**torch (flashlight)** *tochi* toh-chee

**tourist office** *ofisi ya watalii* o-fee-see yaa waa-taa-lee

**towel** *taulo* taa-oo-loh

**translate** -*tafsiri* -taaf-see-ree

**travel agency** *uwakala wa safari*

oo-waa-kaa-laa waa saa-faa-ree

**travellers cheque** *hundi ya msafiri*

hoon-dee yaa m-saa-fee-ree

**trousers** *suruali* soo-roo-aa-lee

**twin beds** *vitanda* viwili vee-taan-daa vee-wee-lee

**tyre** *tairi* taa-ee-ree

## U

**underwear** *chupi* choo-pee

**urgent** *muhimu* sana moo-hee-moo saa-naa

## V

**vacant** *tupu* too-poo

**vegetable** a *mboga* m-boh-gaa

**vegetarian** a *mlaji wa mboga za majani* tu

m-/aa-jee waa m-boh-gaa zaa maa-jaa-nee too

**visa** *viza/visa* vee-zaa/vee-saa

## W

**waiter** *mhudumu* m-hoo-doo-moo

**walk** v -*tembea* -teym-bey-aa

**warm** a *ya joto* yaa joh-toh

**wash (something)** -*osha* -oh-shaa

**watch** n *saa* saa

**water** *maji* maa-jee

**we** *sisi* see-see

**weekend** *wikendi* wee-keyn-dee

**west** *magharibi* maa-ghaa-re-ree-bee

**wheelchair** *kiti cha magurudumu*

kee-tee chaa maa-goo-roo-doo-moo

**when** *wakati* waa-kaa-tee

**where** *wapi* waa-pee

**who** *nani* naa-nee

**why** *kwa nini* kwaa nee-nee

**window** *dirisha* dee-ree-shaa

**wine** *mvinyo* m-vee-nyoh

**with** naa

**without** *bila* bee-la

**woman** *mwanamke* mwaan-aam-key

**write** -*andika* -aan-dee-kaa

## Y

**you** sg *wewe* wey-wey

**you** pl *nyinyi* nyee-nyee

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# Wolof



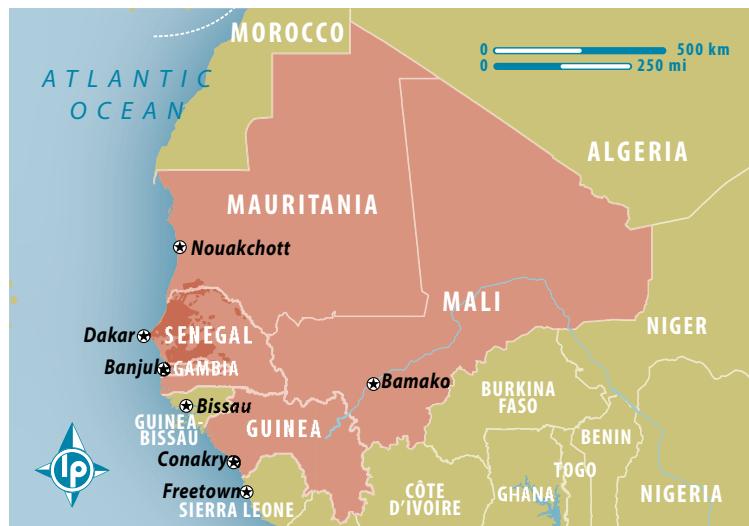
Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	act	b	bed
aa	father	ch	cheat
ai	aisle	d	dog
aw	law	f	fun
ay	say	g	go
e	bet	h	hat
ee	see	j	jar
ey	as in ‘bet’, but longer	k	kit
i	hit	kh	as the ‘ch’ in the Scottish <i>loch</i>
o	pot	l	lot
oh	cold	m	man
oo	zoo	n	not
ow	now	ng	ring
u	put	ny	canyon
uh	ago	p	pet
In this chapter, the Wolof pronunciation is given in dark brown after each phrase.		r	run (trilled)
Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised.		s	sun
For example:		t	top
<i>Mangi.</i> <i>maan·gee</i>		w	win
		y	yes

## introduction

Dig this, man: there's an intriguing, though controversial, theory that Wolof-speaking West Africans introduced words like 'hip', 'dig' and 'jive' to American English while they were enslaved in North America in the 17th century. The origin of the name 'Wolof' (*wolof wo-lof*) itself is hotly debated, too, but perhaps the most likely suggestion is that it comes from the name of the area called 'Lof'. The Lebu people, to whom Wolof is commonly linked, were one of a number of different ethnic groups who joined together and founded the Jolof Empire in Lof at the end of the 14th century. Wolof is a member of the West Atlantic group of the Niger-Congo language family, and is the lingua franca of the northwestern African nations of Senegal and Gambia, where it's spoken by about 80 per cent of their inhabitants (eight million people) as a first or second language. It's also spoken on a smaller scale in the neighbouring countries of Mauritania, Mali and Guinea.

 **wolof** (native language)

 **wolof** (generally understood)



# language difficulties

Do you speak English?	<i>Ndax dégg nga angale?</i>	ndakh deg nguh <i>an-ga-ley</i>
Do you understand?	<i>Dégg nga?</i>	deg nguh
I understand.	<i>Dégg naa.</i>	deg naa
I don't understand.	<i>Déguma.</i>	<i>deg-goo-ma</i>
Could you please ...?	<i>Ndax mën nga ... su la neexee?</i>	ndakh muhn nga ... soo luh <i>ney-khey</i>
repeat that	<i>ko waxaat</i>	<i>koh wa-khaat</i>
speak more slowly	<i>wax ndànk</i>	<i>wakh ndank</i>
write it down	<i>ko bind</i>	<i>koh bind</i>

# time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	<i>Ban waxtu moo jot?</i>	ban <i>wakh-too</i> moh <i>jot</i>
It's one o'clock.	<i>Benn waxtu moo jot.</i>	ben <i>wakh-too</i> moh <i>jot</i>
It's (two) o'clock.	<i>(Ñaari) waxtu moo jot.</i>	(nyaa-ree) <i>wakh-too</i> moh <i>jot</i>
Quarter past (one).	<i>(Benn) waxtu teggalna fukki minii ak juróom.</i>	(ben) <i>wakh-too</i> <i>teg-gal-na</i> <i>fuk-kee mi-neet</i> ak <i>joo-rohm</i>
Half past (one).	<i>(Benn) waxtu ak xaaj.</i>	(ben) <i>wakh-too</i> ak <i>khaaj</i>
Quarter to (eight).	<i>(Juróom ñetti) waxtu des na fukki minii ak juróom.</i>	(joo-rohm <i>nyet-tee</i> ) <i>wakh-too</i> <i>des nuh fuk-kee mi-neet</i> ak <i>joo-rohm</i>
At what time ...?	<i>Ban waxtu ...?</i>	ban <i>wakh-too</i> ...
It's (15 December).	<i>Tey la (fukkeeli fan ak juróom ci weeru desaambar).</i>	tay luh ( <i>fuk-key-lee</i> fan ak <i>joo-rohm</i> chee <i>wey-roo</i> <i>dey-saam-bar</i> )
yesterday	dém'b	<i>dem-buh</i>
today	tey	<i>tay</i>
tomorrow	suba	<i>soo-ba</i>
Monday	altine	<i>al-ti-ney</i>
Tuesday	talaata	<i>ta-laa-ta</i>
Wednesday	àllarba	<i>al-lar-ba</i>
Thursday	alxames	<i>al-kha-mes</i>
Friday	àjjuma	<i>aj-ju·ma</i>
Saturday	gaawwu	<i>gaa-woo</i>
Sunday	dibéer	<i>dee-beyr</i>

# numbers

0	<i>tus</i>	toos	18	<i>fukk ak</i>	fuk ak
1	<i>benn</i>	ben	19	<i>juróom ñett</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyet</i>
2	<i>ñaar</i>	nyaar		<i>fukk ak</i>	fuk ak
3	<i>ñett</i>	nyet		<i>juróom ñeent</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyeynt</i>
4	<i>ñeent</i>	nyeynt	20	<i>ñaar fukk</i>	nyaar fuk
5	<i>juróom</i>	<i>joo-rohm</i>	21	<i>ñaar fukk ak</i>	nyaar fuk ak
				<i>benn</i>	ben
6	<i>juróom benn</i>	<i>joo-rohm ben</i>	22	<i>ñaar fukk ak</i>	nyaar fuk ak
7	<i>juróom ñaar</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyaar</i>		<i>ñaar</i>	nyaar
8	<i>juróom ñett</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyet</i>	30	<i>fan weer</i>	fan weyr
9	<i>juróom ñeent</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyeynt</i>	40	<i>ñeent fukk</i>	nyeynt fuk
10	<i>fukk</i>	<i>fuk</i>	50	<i>juróom fukk</i>	<i>joo-rohm fuk</i>
11	<i>fukk ak benn</i>	<i>fuk ak ben</i>	60	<i>juróom benn</i>	<i>joo-rohm ben</i>
12	<i>fukk ak ñaar</i>	<i>fuk ak nyaar</i>		<i>fukk</i>	fuk
13	<i>fukk ak ñett</i>	<i>fuk ak nyet</i>	70	<i>juróom ñaar</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyaar</i>
14	<i>fukk ak ñeent</i>	<i>fuk ak nyeynt</i>		<i>fukk</i>	fuk
15	<i>fukk ak juróom</i>	<i>fuk ak joo-rohm</i>	80	<i>juróom ñett</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyet</i>
				<i>fukk</i>	fuk
16	<i>fukk ak juróom benn</i>	<i>fuk ak</i>	90	<i>juróom ñent</i>	<i>joo-rohm nyent</i>
17	<i>fukk ak juróom ñaar</i>	<i>joo-rohm ben</i>	90	<i>fukk</i>	fuk
				<i>téeméer</i>	<i>tey-meyr</i>
			100	<i>junni</i>	<i>jun-nee</i>

# border crossing

I'm here ...	<i>Mangi fii ...</i>	maan-gee fee ...
in transit	<i>ci transit</i>	chee <i>tran-seet</i>
on business	<i>ndax afeer</i>	ndakh <i>a-feyr</i>
on holiday	<i>ci vacances</i>	chee <i>wa-kaans</i>
I'm here for ...	<i>Mangi fii ba ...</i>	maan-gee fee buh ...
(10) days	<i>(fukki) fan</i>	( <i>fuk-kee</i> ) fan
(three) weeks	<i>(ñetti) ay bés</i>	( <i>nyet-tee</i> ) ai bes
(two) months	<i>(ñaari) weer</i>	( <i>nyaa-ree</i> ) weyr
I'm going to (Dakar).		
	<i>Maangi dem (Ndakaaru).</i>	<i>maan-gee dem (nda·kaa·roo)</i>
I'm staying at the (Ganalé Hotel).		
	<i>Maangi dal ci (oteelu Ganale).</i>	<i>maan-gee dal chee (oh-tey-lu ga-na-le)</i>

## tickets

**One ... ticket  
(to Tambacounda),  
please.  
one-way  
return**

*Benn ... tike (ba  
Tambakunda) bu  
la neexee.  
benn yoon  
dem ak dikk*

*ben ... ti-ke (ba  
tam-ba-kun-da) boo  
la ney-khey  
ben yawn  
dem ak dik*

**I'd like to ... my  
ticket, please.  
cancel  
change  
collect**

*Dama bëgga ... sama  
tike, bu la neexee.  
far  
soppi  
jél*

*da-ma buhg-ga ... sa-ma  
ti-ke boo la ney-khey  
far  
sop-pee  
jel*

**I'd like a ... seat,  
please.  
nonsmoking  
smoking**

*Dama bëgga palaas  
fuñu ... bu la neexee.  
dul töxe  
mëna tóx*

*da-ma buhg-ga pa-laas  
foo-nyoo ... boo la ney-khey  
dul toh-khe  
muh-na tokh*

**Is there a toilet/air conditioning?**

*Ndax am na wanag/kilimaatisér?*

*ndakh am na wa-nak/ki-li-maa-ti-suhr*

**How long does the trip take?**

*Ñaata waxtu la tutki bi di jél?*

*nyaa-ta wakh-too la tuk-kee bee dee jel*

**Is it a direct route?**

*Ndax amul taxaw?*

*ndakh a-mul ta-khow*



## transport

**Where does flight (Air France 07) arrive/depart?**

*Fan la volu (Air France juróom ñaar)  
di eggxi/deme?* fan la vo-loo (er fa-raans joo-rohm nyaar)  
dee eg-see/de-mey

**How long will it be delayed?**

*Ñaata waxtu lañu xaar  
balaa muy dem?* nyaa-ta wakh-tu la-nyoo khaar  
ba-laa mu-ee dem

**Is this the ... to  
(Foundiougne)?**

*boat  
bus  
plane  
train*

*Ndax bii ... mooy  
dem (Funjuñ)?*

*gaal  
kaar  
awijyon  
saxaar*

*ndakh bee ... mohy  
dem (fun-juny)?*

*gaal  
kaar  
a-wee-yong  
sa-kaar*

**How much is it to ...?**

*Paasu fii ba ... ñaata la?*

*paa-soo fee ba ... nyaa-ta la*

**Please take me to (this address).**

*Yóbbu ma ci (adres bii).*

*yob-boo ma chee (ad-res bee)*

**I'd like to hire a car/4WD (with air conditioning).**

*Beg naa luwe oto/kat-kat  
(bu am kilimaatisér).*

*buhg naa lu-we o-to/kat-kat  
(boo am ki-li-maa-tee-suhr)*

**How much is it for (three) days/weeks?**

*Ñaata lay jar suma ko bëggée  
luwe (ñetti) fan/ay bés?*

*nyaa-ta lai jar su-ma koh buhg-gey  
lu-we (nyet-tee) fan/ai bes*

## directions

**Where's the  
(nearest) ...?**

*internet café  
market*

*... (bi gëna jege fii),  
fan la feete?*

*Siberkafe  
Marse*

*... (bee guh-na je-gey fee)  
fan la fey-te*

*see-ber-ka-fey  
mar-sey*

**Is this the road to (Banjul)?**

*Ndax yoon bii yoonu (Banjul) la?*

*ndakh yawn bee yaw-nu (ban-jul) la*

**Can you show me (on the map)?**

*Ndax mën nga ma  
ko won(ci kart bi)?*

*ndakh muhn nga ma  
koh won (chee kart bee)*

**What's the address?**

*Lan mooy adres bi?*

*lan mohy ad-res bee*

**Is it far?**

*Ndax sore na?*

*ndakh so-re na*

**How do I get there?**

*Naka laa fay yegge?*

*na-ka laa fai yeg-ge*

**Turn left/right.**

*Jaddal ci sa càmmoñ/ndeyjoor.*

*jad-dal chee sa cham-mony/nday-johr*

It's ...	Mungi ...	mun·gee ...
behind ...	ci ginnaaw ...	chee gin-naaw ...
in front of ...	ci kanamu ...	chee ka-na-moo ...
near (to ...)	jégena ak ...	je-ge-na ak ...
next to ...	ci wetu ...	chee we-tu ...
on the corner	ci angal bi	chee an-gal bee
opposite ...	jàkkaarlook ...	jaak-kaar-lohk ...
straight ahead	ci sa kanam	chee sa ka-nam
there	fèle	fuuh-le

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	Fan la ... nekk?	fan la ... nek
camping ground	kampamaan bi	kam-pa-maan bee
guesthouse	auberge bi	oh-beyrs bee
hotel	oteel	oh-teyl
youth hostel	auberge de jeunesse	oh-beyrs duh juh-nes

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

Ndax mën nga ma digal fu yomb/baax?	ndakh muhn nga ma dig-uhl foo yomb/baakh
--	---

I'd like to book a room, please.

Bëgg naa jél ab néeg, su la neexee.	buhg naa jel ab neyg soo la ney-khey
--	---

I have a reservation.

Am naa reserwaasiyon ba pare.	am naa rey-ser-waa-see-yon ba pa-re
-------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Do you have a ... room?	Am ngeen néeg ...?	am ngeyn neyg ...
single	pur kenn	pur ken
double	pur ñaari nit	pur nyaa·ree nit
twin	bu am ñaari lal	bu am nyaa·ree lal

How much is it per night?

Benn bés, ñaata lay jar?	ben bes nyaa·ta lai jar
--------------------------	-------------------------

How much is it per person?

Ku nekk, ñaata lay fey?	ku nek nyaa·ta lai fay
-------------------------	------------------------

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

Dinaa fii nekk (ñaaari) fan.	dee·naa fee nek (nyaa·ree) fan
------------------------------	--------------------------------

Mungi ...	mun·gee ...
ci ginnaaw ...	chee gin-naaw ...
ci kanamu ...	chee ka-na-moo ...
jégena ak ...	je-ge-na ak ...
ci wetu ...	chee we-tu ...
ci angal bi	chee an-gal bee
jàkkaarlook ...	jaak-kaar-lohk ...
ci sa kanam	chee sa ka-nam
fèle	fuuh-le

What time is check-out?

Ban waxtu laa wara delloo caabi bi?	ban wakh-too laa wa-ra del-loh chaa-bee bee
--	--

Am I allowed to camp here?

Ndax mën naa kampe fii?	ndakh muhn naa kam-pey fee
-------------------------	----------------------------



## banking & communications

Note that prices in Senegal are calculated in lots of five CFA francs – so téeméer tey-meyr means '100', but in the context of money it translates as 500 CFA francs.

I'd like to ...	Bëgg naa ...	buhg naa ...
arrange a transfer	jàllale xaalis	jaal-la-le khaa-lis
cash a cheque	aankese sek bi	an-ke-sey sek bee
change a travellers cheque	aankese	an-ke-sey
change money	traveler bi	tra-ve-ler bee
withdraw money	saanse xaalis	saan-sey khaa-lis
I want to ...	génne xaalis	gen-ney khaa-lis
buy a phonecard	Bëgg naa ...	buhg naa ...
call (the US)	jénd kart telefoniik	jend kart te-le-fo-neek
reverse the charges	woote ci (Ameriik)	woh-te chee (a-me-reek)
use a printer	moom mu fey	mohm moo fay
use the internet	jéfandikoo	juh-fan-di-koh
	amprimaan bi	am-pree-maan bee
	jéfandikoo	juh-fan-di-koh
	anternet bi	an-ter-net bee

How much is it per hour?

Benn waxtu, ñaata lay jar?	ben wakh-too nyaa·ta lai jar
----------------------------	------------------------------

How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

Wooteek (ñetti miniit), ñaata lay jar?	woh-teyk (nyet-tee mi-neet) nyaa·ta lai jar
--	---

(1000 CFA francs) per minute/hour.

Waxtu/Minii bu nekk, (ñaaari) la.	wakh-too/mi-neet bu nek, (nyaa·ree tey-meyr) la
--------------------------------------	--

## tours

When's the ...?	... <i>kañ la?</i>	<i>kany la ...</i>
next day trip	<i>Beneen exkursiyon bi</i>	<i>ben-eyn ek-skur-si-yon bee</i>
next tour	<i>Beneen wisiiit bi</i>	<i>ben-eyn wi-seet bee</i>
Is ... included?	<i>Ndax ... dafa ci bokk?</i>	<i>ndakh ... da-fa chee bok</i>
accommodation	<i>oteel bi</i>	<i>oh-teyl bee</i>
the admission charge	<i>antere</i>	<i>an-te-rey</i>
food	<i>lekk</i>	<i>lek</i>
transport	<i>tukki</i>	<i>tuk-kee</i>
How long is the tour?	<i>Wisiiit bi ñaata waxtu lay jël?</i>	<i>wi-seet bee nyaa-ta wakh-too lai jel</i>
What time should we be back?	<i>Ban waxtu lañu wara ñibbsi?</i>	<i>ban wakh-too la-nyoo wa-ra nyib-see</i>

## shopping

I'm looking for ...	... <i>laay wut.</i>	... <i>lai wut</i>
I need film for this camera.	<i>Pelikiil laa soxla pur aparee bii.</i>	<i>pe-lee-keel laa sokh-la pur a-pa-rey bee</i>
Can I listen to this?	<i>Ndax mën naa dégglu lii?</i>	<i>ndakh muhn naa deg-loo lee</i>
Can I have my ... repaired?	<i>Ndax mën nga ma jagalal sama ...?</i>	<i>ndakh muhn nga ma ja-ga-lal sa-ma ...</i>
When will it be ready?	<i>Kañ lay pare?</i>	<i>kany lai pa-re</i>
How much is it?	<i>Ñaata lay jar?</i>	<i>nyaa-ta lai jar</i>
Can you write down the price?	<i>Ndax mën nga bind piri bi?</i>	<i>ndakh muhn nga bind pee-rey bee</i>
What's your lowest price?	<i>Lan mooy sa derñe piri?</i>	<i>lan mohy sa der-nye pi-ri</i>

I'll give you (500) CFA francs.

*(Témeér) laa mën.*

*(tey-meyr) laa muhn*

There's a mistake in the bill.

*Dangeen juum ci adisiyon bi.*

*dan-geyn joom chi a-di-si-yon bee*

It's faulty.

*Baaxul.*

*baa-khul*

I'd like a receipt, please.

*Bindal ma resi bu la neexee.*

*bin-duhl ma re-si boo la ney-khey*

I'd like a refund.

*Begh naa nga delloo ma sama xaalis.*

*buhg naa nga del-loh ma sa-ma khaa-lis*

Do you accept ...?

credit cards

debit cards

travellers cheques

*Dingeen nangu ...?*

*kart keredi*

*kart bankeer*

*traveleer*

*din-geyn nan-goo ...*

*kart ke-re-dee*

*kart ban-keyr*

*tra-ve-leer*

Could you ...?

burn a CD from

my memory card

develop this film

*Ndax mën ngeen ...?*

*sottil ma foto*

*yi ci CD*

*sottil foto yi*

*ndakh muhn ngeyn ...*

*sot-til ma fo-to*

*yee chee se-de*

*sot-til fo-to yee*



## making conversation

Hello.	<i>Salaam aleekum.</i>	<i>sa-laam a-ley-kum</i>
Good night.	<i>Fanaanleen jàmm.</i>	<i>fa-naan-leyn jam</i>
Goodbye.	<i>Mangi dem.</i>	<i>maan-gee dem</i>
Mr	<i>Góor gi</i>	<i>goehr gee</i>
Mrs	<i>Soxna si</i>	<i>sokh-na see</i>
Miss (young girl)	<i>Jang bi</i>	<i>jank bee</i>
How are you?	<i>Na nga def?</i>	<i>na nga def</i>
Fine, and you?	<i>Mangi fi rekk, na nga def?</i>	<i>maan-gee fee rek na nga def</i>
What's your name?	<i>Noo tudd?</i>	<i>noh tud</i>
My name's ...	<i>... laa tudd.</i>	<i>... laa tud</i>

This is my ...	<i>Kii, sama ... la.</i>	kee sa-ma ... la
boyfriend	<i>far</i>	far
brother (older)	<i>mag</i>	mak
brother (younger)	<i>rakk</i>	rak
daughter	<i>doom bu jigéen</i>	dohm boo ji-geyn
father	<i>baay</i>	ba-ai
friend	<i>xarit</i>	kha-rit
girlfriend	<i>coro</i>	cho-ro
husband	<i>jëkkér</i>	juhk-kuhr
mother	<i>yaay</i>	yaa-i
sister (older)	<i>mag bu jigéen</i>	mak boo ji-geyn
sister (younger)	<i>rakk bu jigéen</i>	rak boo ji-geyn
son	<i>doom bu góor</i>	dohm boo gohr
wife	<i>jabar</i>	ja-bar
Here's my ...	<i>Sama ... angi.</i>	sa-ma ... an-gee
What's your ...?	<i>Lan mooy sa ...?</i>	lan mohy sa ...
address	<i>adres</i>	ad-res
email address	<i>imel</i>	ee-mel
phone number	<i>nimero telefon</i>	ni-me-ro te-le-fon
Where are you from?	<i>Fan nga joge?</i>	fan nga jo-ge
I'm from ...	<i>... laa joge.</i>	... laa jo-ge
Australia	<i>Ostrali</i>	os-tra-lee
New Zealand	<i>Nuwel Selaand</i>	nu-wel se-laand
the UK	<i>Anglateer</i>	an-gla-teyr
the USA	<i>Ameriik</i>	a-me-reek
I'm married. <b>m</b>	<i>Am naa Jékér.</i>	am naa juh-kuhr
I'm married. <b>f</b>	<i>Am naa jabar.</i>	am naa ja-bar
I'm not married.	<i>Séyaguma.</i>	say-a-gu-ma
Can I take a photo of you?	<i>Ndax mén naa la foto?</i>	ndakh muhn naa la fo-to
Can I take a photo of this?	<i>Ndax mén naa foto lii?</i>	ndakh muhn naa fo-to lee

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Mén nga ma digal ...</i>	muhn nga ma dig-uhl ...
bar	<i>baar</i>	baar
dish	<i>benn palaat</i>	ben pa-laat
place to eat	<i>benn restoraan</i>	ben res-to-raan

I'd like ..., please.	<i>Dama bëgg ...</i>	da·ma buhg ...
the bill	<i>adisiyon</i>	a-di-si-yon
the menu	<i>kart bi</i>	kart bee
a table for (two)	<i>taabalu (ñaari) nit</i>	taa·ba·lu (nyaa·ree) nit
that dish	<i>palaat bale</i>	pa-laat ba-le
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Ndax am ngeen palaat yu wejetariyan?</i>	ndakh am ngeyn pa-laat yoo we-je-ta-ri-yan
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	<i>Ndax men nga togg ñam bu andul ak ...</i>	ndakh muhn nga tog nyam boo an-dul ak ...
eggs	<i>nen</i>	nen
meat stock	<i>soos yäpp</i>	sohs yaap
(cup of) coffee ...	<i>(kaasu) kafe ...</i>	(kaa-su) ka-fe ...
(cup of) Senegalese tea ...	<i>(kaasu) àttaaya ...</i>	(kaa-su) at-tai-ya ...
(cup of) regular tea ...	<i>(kaasu) lipton ...</i>	(kaa-su) lip-ton ...
with milk	<i>ak meew</i>	ak meyw
without sugar	<i>bu amul suukar</i>	boo a·mul soo-kuhr
(boiled) water	<i>ndox mu</i> <i>(ñu baxal ba pare)</i>	ndokh moo (nyoo ba-khal ba pa-re)

## emergencies

Help!	<i>Wóoy!</i>	wohy
Call ...!	<i>Wooyal ma ...!</i>	woh-yal ma ...
an ambulance	<i>ambilaans bi</i>	am-bi-laans bee
a doctor	<i>doktoor</i>	dok-tohr
the police	<i>alkaati</i>	al-kaa-tee
Could you help me, please?	<i>Mén nga ma dimmali, bu la neexee?</i>	muhn nga ma dim-ma-lee boo la ney-khey
I'm lost.	<i>Dama réer.</i>	da·ma reyr
Where are the toilets?	<i>Ana wanag wi?</i>	a-na wa-nak wee
I have insurance.	<i>Am naa asiraans.</i>	am naa a-si-raans

I've ...	<i>Dañu ...</i>	<i>da-nyoo ...</i>
been assaulted	<i>dal sama kow</i>	<i>dal sa-ma koh</i>
had my pockets picked	<i>ma tafu</i>	<i>ma ta-foo</i>
been raped	<i>ma yakkataan</i>	<i>ma yak-ka-taan</i>
been robbed	<i>ma sàcc</i>	<i>ma sach</i>
I've lost my ...	<i>Sama ... daf ma réer.</i>	<i>sa-ma ... daf ma reyr</i>
My ... was/were stolen.	<i>Dañu sàcc sama ...</i>	<i>da-nyoo sach sa-ma ...</i>
bags	<i>sak yi</i>	<i>sak yee</i>
credit card	<i>kart keredi</i>	<i>kart ke-re-dee</i>
handbag	<i>sak bi</i>	<i>sak bee</i>
jewellery	<i>takkuaay</i>	<i>tak-koo-kaiy</i>
money	<i>xaalis</i>	<i>khaa-lis</i>
passport	<i>paspoor</i>	<i>pas-pohr</i>
travellers cheques	<i>traveler</i>	<i>tra-ve-leyr</i>
wallet	<i>kalpe</i>	<i>kal-pe</i>

#### I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

Bègg naa yeganteek sama  
konsulaa/ambasaad.  
buhg naa ye-gan-teyk sa-ma  
kon-su-laa/am-ba-saad

## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>... bi gëna jege fii, fan la feete?</i>	<i>... bee guh-na je-ge fee fan la fey-te</i>
dentist	<i>Daantist</i>	<i>daan-teest</i>
doctor	<i>Doktoor</i>	<i>dok-tohr</i>
hospital	<i>Opitaal</i>	<i>o-pi-taal</i>
pharmacist	<i>Farmasyeng</i>	<i>far-mas-yeng</i>

#### I need a doctor (who speaks English).

Dama soxla doktoor  
(bu dégg angale).

#### Could I see a female doctor?

Ndax mén naa gis doktoor  
bu jigéen?

#### It hurts here.

Fii lay metti.  
fee ley met-tee

#### I'm allergic to (penicillin).

Dama am alersi ci (penisilin).  
da-ma am a-ler-see chee (pe-ni-si-lin)

## english–wolof dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular) and pl (plural) where necessary.

### A

accommodation *dal dal*  
adaptor *adaptér a-dap-tuhr*  
airport *ayropoor ai-roh-pawr*  
alcohol *sàngara saan-ga-wr*  
all /épp/yépp sg/pl lip/yip  
all (people) *niépp nyip*  
allergy *alersi a-ler-see*  
and *ak ak*  
ankle *waq waak*  
antibiotics *antibiotik an-tee-bee-yoh-teen*  
anti-inflammatories *antinflamatwaar an-tee-an-fla-mat-waar*  
arm *loxo lo-kho*  
aspirin *aspirin as-pe-reen*  
asthma *asma as-ma*  
ATM *masiinu xaalis ma-see-noo khaa-lis*

### B

baby *bebe be-be*  
back (body) *diggu-gannaaw dig-goo-gan-now*  
backpack *sakado sa-ka-doh*  
bad *bon bon*  
baggage claim *teerukaayu bagaas tey-roo-kai-yoo ba-gaas*  
bank *bank baank*  
bathroom *wanag wa-nak*  
battery *piil peel*  
beautiful *rafet ra-fet*  
bed *lal lal*  
beer *beer beyr*  
bees *yamb yamb*  
before *balaa ba-laah*  
bicycle *velo ve-loh*  
big *réy ray*  
blanket *mbàjj mbaaj*  
blood group *xetu deret khey-too de-ret*  
bottle *butéel boo-teyl*  
bottle opener *ubbikaayu butéel ub-bee-kai-yoo boo-teyl*  
boy *xale bu góor kha-le boo gohr*  
brakes (car) *fere fe-re*  
breakfast *ndekki ndek-kee*  
bronchitis *bronsiit bron-seet*

### C

café *kafe ka-fay*  
cancel *bayyi baiy-ye*  
can opener *ubbikaayu pot ub-bee-kai-yoo pot*  
cash n *espes es-pes*  
cell phone *portaabál por-taa-bal*  
centre n *biir beer*  
cheap *yomb yomb*  
check (bill) *adisiyon a-di-see-yon*  
check-in n *jél caabi juhl chaa-bee*  
chest *dénn duhn*  
child *xale kha-le*  
cigarette *sigaret see-ga-ret*  
city *dékk duhk*  
clean a *set set*  
closed téj tij  
codeine *kodeyin koh-de-yeen*  
cold a *sedd sed*  
collect call *PCV pe-se-ve*  
condom *preservatif prey-seyr-va-teef*  
constipation *seere sey-re*  
contact lenses *lanti lan-tee*  
cough n *séqét suh-kuht*  
currency exchange *dëwiis duh-wees*  
customs (immigration) *duwaan doo-waan*

### D

dairy products *lu jóge ci meew loo joh-ge chee meyw*  
dangerous *dansére daa-suh-ruh*  
date (time) *dat dat*  
day *bés buhs*  
diaper *ngemb ngemb*  
diarrhoea *biir buy daw beer boo-ee dow*  
dinner *reer rey*  
dirty *tilim ti-lim*  
disabled (person) *andikape an-dee-ka-pey*  
double bed *lalu ñaari nit la-loo nyaa-reé nit*  
drink n *buwaason boo-waa-son*  
drivers licence *permi kondiir per-mee kon-deer*  
drug (illegal) *dorog do-rog*

**E**

**ear** *nopp* *nop*  
**east** *penku* *pen-koo*  
**economy class** *kalaas bu yomb* *ka-laas boo yomb*  
**elevator** *asansëer* *a-san-suhr*  
**email** *in* *imel ee-mel*  
**English (language)** *angale* *an-ga-ley*  
**exchange rate** *kuru weccee koo-roo we-cheey*  
**exit** *in* *bunt bunt*  
**expensive** *jafe ja-fe*  
**eye** *bët buht*

**F**

**fast** *gaaw* *gow*  
**fever** *yaram wuy* *tàng ya-ram woo-ee taang*  
**finger** *baaraam* *baa-raam*  
**first class** *përemiyeer* *kalas puh-ruh-mee-yeyr ka-las*  
**fish** *n* *jén juhn*  
**food** *lekk* *lek*  
**foot** *tank* *taank*  
**fork** *furset* *fur-set*  
**free (of charge)** *amul fey* *a-mul fay*  
**fruit** *furiwi* *fur-wee*  
**funny** *reetaanlu* *rey-taan-loo*

**G**

**game park** *reserv* *rey-serv*  
**gift** *kado* *ka-do*  
**girl** *xale bu jigeen* *kha-le boo ji-geyn*  
**glass (drinking)** *kaas* *kaas*  
**glasses** *linet* *li-net*  
**good** *baax* *baakh*  
**gram** *garam* *ga-ram*  
**guide** *njiit* *nejjet*

**H**

**hand** *loxo* *lo-kho*  
**happy** *kontaan* *kon-taan*  
**have** *am* *am*  
**he** *moom* *mohm*  
**head** *bopp* *bop*  
**headache** *bopp buy* *metti bop boo-ee met-tee*  
**heart** *xol* *khol*  
**heat condition** *feebaru* *xol fey-ba-roo khol*  
**heat** *n* *tàngaay* *taan-gaai*  
**here** *fi* *fee*  
**high** *kawe* *ka-we*  
**highway** *otoruut* *ot-to-root*

**homosexual** *n&a* *góor-jigéen* *gohr-ji-geyn*  
**hot** *tàng* *taang*  
**hungry** *xiif* *kheef*

**I**

**I man** *maan*  
**identification (card)** *dantite* *dan-tee-te*  
**ill** *wopp* *wop*  
**important** *am solo* *am so-lo*  
**Internet** *anternet* *an-ter-net*  
**interpreter** *lapto* *lap-to*

**J**

**job** *ligeey* *li-gay*

**K**

**key** *caabi* *cha-a-bee*  
**kilogram** *kilo* *kee-lo*  
**kitchen** *waan* *waany*  
**knife** *paaka* *paa-ka*

**L**

**laundry (place)** *fóotukaay* *foh-too-kaai*  
**lawyer** *awokaa* *a-woh-kaa*  
**left-luggage office** *konseeñ* *kon-seeny*  
**leg** *tank* *taank*  
**lesbian** *n&a* *lesbiyen* *les-bee-yen*  
**letter (mail)** *bataaxal* *ba-taa-khal*  
**like** *v* *bëgg* *buhg*  
**love** *v* *nob* *nob*  
**lunch** *añ* *any*

**M**

**man** *góor* *gohr*  
**matches** *almet* *al-met*  
**meat** *yäpp* *yaap*  
**medicine** *garab* *ga-rab*  
**message** *yóbbante* *yohb-ban-te*  
**mobile phone** *portaabsl* *por-taa-bal*  
**month** *weer* *weyr*  
**morning** *suba* *soo-ba*  
**motorcycle** *moto* *mo-to*  
**mouth** *gémjniñ* *gem-meeny*  
**movie film** *film*  
**museum** *mise* *mee-se*  
**music** *misik* *mee-seek*

**N**

**name (first)** *tur* *tur*  
**name (surname)** *n* *sant* *sant*  
**napkin** *serwyet* *ser-wee-yet*  
**nappy** *ngemb* *ngemb*  
**national park** *park* *nasyonaal*  
**park** *nas-jo-naal*  
**nausea** *xel mu teey* *khel moo tey*  
**neck** *baat* *baat*  
**new bees** *beys*  
**news** *xabaar* *kha-baar*  
**newspaper** *surnaal* *sur-naal*  
**night** *guddi* *gud-dee*  
**nightclub** *bwat* *bwat*  
**noisy** *bare* *coow ba-re* *coh*  
**nonsmoking** *fu kenn dul* *tóx*  
**foo** *ken* *dul* *tohkh*  
**north** *béj-gánnhaar*  
**buhj-gaan**  
**nose** *bakkán* *bak-kan*  
**now** *léegi* *ley-gee*  
**number** *nimero* *nee-me-ro*  
**nuts (peanuts)** *gerte* *ger-te*

**O**

**oil (engine)** *iwil* *ee-weel*  
**OK** *baax* *na baakh* *na*  
**old** *mögget* *maag-get*  
**open** *a ubbi* *ub-bee*  
**outside** *ci biti* *chee bee-tee*

**P**

**package** *paket* *pa-ke-t*  
**pain** *metti* *met-teet*  
**palace** *pale* *pa-le*  
**paper** *kéiyit* *kuh-yit*  
**park (car)** *v* *gaare* *gaa-re*  
**passport** *paadpoor* *paas-pawr*  
**pay** *v* *fey* *fay*  
**pen** *bindukaay* *bin-doo-kai*  
**petrol** *esas* *e-saas*  
**pharmacy** *farmasi* *far-ma-see*  
**plate** *palaat* *pa-laat*  
**postcard** *kart* *postaal*  
**post office** *post* *post*  
**pregnant** *ëmb* *uhmb*

**Q**

**quiet** *teey* *teey*

**R**

**rain** *n* *taw* *tow*  
**razor** *raasuuwaar* *raa-su-waarr*  
**registered mail** *leetar* *rekomande* *lee-tar re-ko-man-de*  
**rent** *v* *luwe* *loo-we*  
**repair** *v* *defar* *de-far*  
**reservation** *reservaasiyon* *rey-ser-waa-see-yon*  
**restaurant** *restoraan* *res-to-raan*  
**return** *v* *dellu* *del-loo*  
**road** *yoon* *yawn*  
**room** *néeg* *nayg*

**S**

**sad** *trist* *treest*  
**safe** *a* *wóor* *woohr*  
**sanitary napkin** *fridom* *free-dom*  
**seat** *toogu* *taw-gu*  
**send (someone)** *yónni* *yon-nee*  
**send (something)** *yónnee* *yon-ney*  
**(to have) sex** *tédd* *ak tuhd* *ak*  
**shampoo** *sampowe* *sam-po-we*  
**share (a dorm)** *bokk* *(néeg)* *bok* *(neyyg)*  
**shaving cream** *krem* *pur* *watu* *krem* *pur* *wa-too*  
**she** *moom* *mohn*  
**sheet (bed)** *darab* *da-rap*  
**shirt** *simis* *si-mis*  
**shoes** *dàll* *daal*  
**shop** *n* *bitik* *bee-teek*  
**shower (place)** *n* *sanguwaay* *san-goo-waai*  
**skin** *der* *der*  
**skirt** *siip* *seep*  
**sleep** *v* *nelaw* *ne-low*  
**small** *tuuti* *too-tee*  
**smoke (cigarettes)** *v* *tóx* *tohkh*  
**soap** *sabu* *saa-boö*  
**some (a little)** *tuuti* *too-tee*  
**soon** *léegi* *ley-gee*  
**sore throat** *baat* *bu metti* *baat* *boo met-tee*  
**south** *béj-saadum* *buhj-saa-loom*  
**souvenir shop** *bitiku* *suweniir* *bee-tee-koo* *soo-we-neer*  
**speak wax** *wakh*  
**speak (a language)** *dégg* *deg*  
**spoon** *kuddu* *kood-doo*  
**stamp** *tambar* *tam-bar*  
**station (train)** *gaar* *gaar*  
**stomach** *biir* *beer*

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**stop** v *taxaw ta-khow*  
**stop (bus)** n *are kaar a-re kaar*  
**street** *mbedd mbed*  
**student** *jàngkat jaang-kat*  
**sunscreen** *krem soleer krem so-leyr*  
**swim** v *feéy faay*

## T

**tampons** *tampong tam-pong*  
**teeth** *bëñ buhny*  
**telephone** n *telefon te-le-phon*  
**television** *televíyon te-le-wis-yon*  
**temperature (weather)** *tamperatir tam-pe-ra-teer*  
**tent** *xayma khai-ma*  
**that (one)** *bee bey*  
**that (one over there)** *béle buh-le*  
**they** *ñoom nyohm*  
**thirsty** *mar mar*  
**this (one)** *bii bee*  
**throat** *put put*  
**ticket (admission)** *tiye ti-ke*  
**ticket (transport)** *biye bee-ye*  
**time (for something)** *jot jot*  
**time (o'clock)** *waxtu wakh-too*  
**tired** *sonn son*  
**tissues** *muswaar mus-waar*  
**today** *tey tay*  
**toilet** *wanag wa-nak*  
**tonight** *tey ci guddi tay chee gud-dee*  
**toothache** *bëñ buy metti buhny boo-ee met-tee*  
**toothbrush** *borosada bo-ro-sa-da*  
**toothpaste** *kolgat kol-gat*  
**torch (flashlight)** *lampu tors lam-poo tors*  
**tourist office** *sandika dinisiativ*  
  san-dee-ka dee-nee-see-ya-teev  
**towel** *serwiyet ser-wee-yet*  
**translate** *tekki tek-kee*  
**travel agency** *asansu woyaas a-saan-su wo-yaas*  
**travellers cheque** *traveeler tra-ve-leyr*  
**trousers** *tubéy too-bay*  
**twin beds** *lal lal*  
**tyre** *péné puh-nuh*

## U

**underwear (underpants)** *silip si-lip*  
**urgent** *jmpa jmpa*

## V

**vegetable** n *lejum le-jum*  
**vegetarian** a *nit ku dul lekk yápp*  
  nit koo dul lek yaap  
**visa** *visa vee-sa*

## W

**waiter** *servér seyr-vuhr*  
**walk** v *dox dokh*  
**wallet** *kalpe kal-pe*  
**warm** a *tàng taang*  
**wash (something)** *raxas ra-khas*  
**watch** n *montar mon-tar*  
**water** n *ndox ndokh*  
**we** *ñun nyun*  
**weekend** *wikend wee-kend*  
**west** *sowu soh-woo*  
**wheelchair** *puus-puus*  
  poos-poos  
**when** *kañ kany*  
**where** *fan fan*  
**who** *kan kan*  
**why** *lutax loo-takh*  
**window** *palanteer pa-lan-teyr*  
**wine** *biiñ beeny*  
**with** *ak ak*  
**without** *bu amul boo a-mul*  
**woman** *jigéen ji-geyn*  
**write** *bind bind*

## Y

**you** sg *yow yohw*  
**you** pl *yeen yeyn*

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# Xhosa



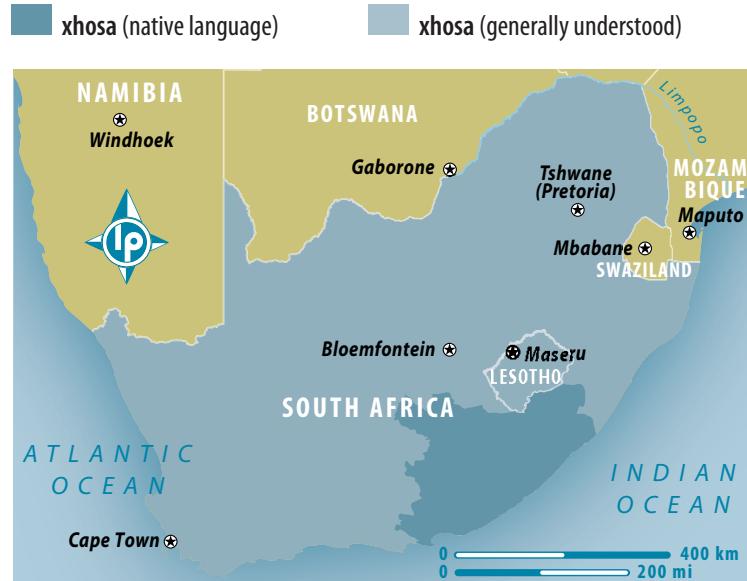
# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
aa	father	b	as in rib-punch
aw	law	b'	strong b with air sucked in
e	bet	ch'	as in 'let-show', but spat out'
ee	see	d	as in 'hard-times'
u	put	dl	like a voiced hl
In this chapter, the Xhosa pronunciation is given in teal after each phrase.		f	fun
Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised.		g	as in 'big-kick'
For example:		h	hat
<i>Enkosi.</i> e-nk'aw-see		hl	as in the Welsh 'llewellyn'
Xhosa's glottalised consonants, simplified as b', ch', k', p', t' and ts' in our pronunciation guide, are made by tightening and releasing the space between the vocal cords when you pronounce the sound, a bit like combining it with the sound in the middle of the word 'uh- oh'. The sound b' has an extra twist – instead of breathing out to make the sound, you breathe in.		j	jar
For information on Xhosa's distinctive click sounds, see the box on page 184.		k	kit
The term 'voiced' used in relation to the dl sound means that it's produced with the vocal cords vibrating.		k'	strong k
		l	lot
		m	man
		n	not
		ng	finger
		ny	canyon
		p	pet
		p'	popping p
		r	run (rolled)
		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		t'	spitting t
		ts'	as in 'lets', but spat out
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero

# XHOSA isixhosa

## introduction

Learn some Xhosa (*Funda isiXhosa fu·ndaa ee·see·kh'aw·saa*) words and not only will you be able to communicate with the Xhosa people in their own language, but you'll have something in common with one of Africa's greatest heroes. Nelson Mandela is arguably the world's most famous Xhosa speaker – incidentally, his Xhosa name is the somewhat prophetic *Rolihlahla* raw-lee-hlaa-hlaa (troublemaker). Xhosa is the most widely distributed African language in South Africa (although most of its speakers live in the southeastern Cape Province) and one of the country's official languages. About 18 per cent of South Africans, or six and a half million people, speak Xhosa. It belongs to the Nguni subfamily of the Bantu languages, along with Zulu, Swati and Ndebele. The Bantu-speaking groups migrated south over the centuries along the coast of East Africa and through Central Africa. In southern Africa, they encountered Khoisan-speaking people and borrowed elements of their language – in particular, the 'click' sounds, a distinctive feature of Xhosa and other South African languages.



# language difficulties

Do you speak English?	<i>Uyasithetha isinges!</i>	u·yaa·see·te·taa ee·see·nge·see
Do you understand?	<i>Uyaqonda?</i>	u·yaa·kjaw·ndaa
I (don't) understand.	<i>(Andi)qondi.</i>	(aa·ndee-)kjaw·ndee
Could you please ...?	<i>Unakho ukunceda ...?</i>	u·naa·kaw u·k'u·nle·daa ...
repeat that	<i>khawuphinde</i>	kaa·wu·pee·nde
speak more	<i>thetha ngoku</i>	te·taa ngaw·k'u
slowly	<i>cothisisa</i>	klaw·tee·see·saa
write it down	<i>yibhale phantsi</i>	yee·baa·le paa·nts'ee

## click sounds

Xhosa has a series of click sounds: some clicks are against the front teeth (like a 'tsk' sound), some are against the roof of the mouth at the front (like a 'tock' sound) and some are against the side teeth (like the chirrup you make to get a horse to start walking).

front teeth	roof of the mouth	side teeth	description
k!	k̊!	k̊!	voiceless
kh!	kh̊!	kh̊!	aspirated (with a puff of air)
g!	g̊!	g̊!	voiced
n!	n̊!	n̊!	nasalized voiceless
gn!	gn̊!	gn̊!	nasalised voiced

# time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	<i>Ngubani ixesha?</i>	ngu·b'aa·nee ee·k;lə·shaa
It's one o'clock.	<i>Nguwani.</i>	ngu·waa·nee
It's (two) o'clock.	<i>Ngu(thu).</i>	ngu·(tu)
Quarter past (one).	<i>Yikota pasti (wani).</i>	yee·k'aw·t'aa p'aa·st'ee (waa·nee)
Half past (one).	<i>Yihaf pasti (wani).</i>	yee·haaf p'aa·st'ee (waa·nee)
Quarter to (eight).	<i>Yikota thu(eyiti).</i>	yee·k'aw·t'aa tu-(e·yee·t'ee)
At what time ...?	<i>Ngobani ixesha ...?</i>	ngaw·b'aa·nee ee·k;lə·shaa ...
At ...	<i>Ngo ...</i>	ngaw ...
It's (15 December).	<i>Yi(fiftini kaDisemba).</i>	yee·(feef·t'ee·nee k'aa·dee·se·mbaa)

yesterday	<i>izolo</i>	ee·zaw·law
today	<i>namhlanje</i>	naam·hlaa·nje
tomorrow	<i>ngomso</i>	ngav·msaw
Monday	<i>mvulo</i>	mvu·law
Tuesday	<i>lwesibini</i>	lwe·see·b'ee·nee
Wednesday	<i>lwesithathu</i>	lwe·see·taa·tu
Thursday	<i>lwesine</i>	lwe·see·ne
Friday	<i>lweshlanu</i>	lwe·see·hlaa·nu
Saturday	<i>mgqibelo</i>	m·gee·b'e·law
Sunday	<i>cawa</i>	klaa·waa

## numbers

In Xhosa, numbers borrowed from English are commonly used and will be understood. They're also given in this chapter, rather than the more complex Xhosa forms. Numbers one to 10 are given below.

1	<i>wani</i>	<i>waa·nee</i>	6	<i>siksi</i>	<i>seek'·see</i>
2	<i>thu</i>	<i>tu</i>	7	<i>seveni</i>	<i>se·ve·nee</i>
3	<i>thri</i>	<i>tree</i>	8	<i>eyithi</i>	<i>e·yee·tee</i>
4	<i>fo</i>	<i>faw</i>	9	<i>nayini</i>	<i>naa·yee·nee</i>
5	<i>fayifu</i>	<i>faa·yee·fu</i>	10	<i>teni</i>	<i>t'e·nee</i>

# border crossing

I'm here ...	<i>Ndilapha ...</i>	ndeelaa·paa ...
in transit	<i>ngothutho</i>	ngaw·tu·taw
on business	<i>shishina</i>	shee·shee·naa
on holiday	<i>eholideyini</i>	e·haw·lee·de·yee·nee
I'm here for ...	<i>Ndilapha ka ...</i>	ndeelaa·paa k'aa ...
(10) days	<i>(teni) imini</i>	(t'e·nee) ee·mee·nee
(three) weeks	<i>(thri) iveki</i>	(tree) ee·ve·k'ee
(two) months	<i>(thu) inyanga</i>	(tu) ee·nyaa·ngaa
I'm going to (Cintsa).	<i>Ndiya kwidolophu (eCintsa).</i>	ndeeyaa k'wee·daw·law·pu (e·le·nts'aa)
I'm staying at the (Buccaneer's).	<i>Ndihlala kwihotelie (eBuccaneer's).</i>	ndeelaa·laa k'wee·haw·t'e·le (e·b'u·klaa·ners)

# tickets

A ... ticket (to Mdantsane), please.	Linye ... itikiti (eliya eMdantsane), nceda.	lee-nye ... ee-t'ee-k'ee-t'ee (e-lee-yaa e-mdaa-nts'aa-ne) n!e-daa
one-way return	ndlelanye buyela	ndle-laa-nye b'u-ye-laa
I'd like to ... my ticket, please.	Ndingathanda uku ... itikiti lam, ndiyacela.	ndee-ngaa-taa-ndaa u-k'u ... ee-t'ee-k'ee-t'ee laam ndee-yaa-le-laa
cancel change collect	rholoxisa tshintsha qokelela	khaw-k'ee-saa ch'ee-ntshaa jaw-k'e-le-laa
I'd like a ... seat, please.	Ndingathanda ... esihlalweni, ndiyacela.	ndee-ngaa-taa-ndaa ... e-see-hlaa-lwe-née ndee-yaa-le-laa
non-smoking smoking	ukutshaya ukungatshayi	u-k'u-ch'aa-yaa u-k'u-ngaa-ch'aa-yee

Is there a toilet/air conditioning?

Ikhona ithoyilethi/umoya  
ogudileyo?  
ee-kaw-naa ee-taw-yee-le-tee/u-maw-yaa  
aw-gu-dee-le-yaw

How long does the trip take?

Luthatha kangakanani  
uhambo?  
lu-taa-taa k'aa-ngaa-k'aa-naa-née  
u-haa-mb'aw

Is it a direct route?

Yindlela ethe tse?  
yee-ndle-laa e-te ts'e

# transport

Where does flight (SAA59) arrive/depart?	ee-flaa-yee-tee (s-aa-aa feef-t'ee naa-yee-née)
Ifayithi (SAA fifth nayini) ifika/ihamba phi?	ee-fee-k'aa/ee-haa-mb'aa pee
How long will it be delayed?	ee-zaa-k'u-lee-b'aa-zee-saa k'aa-ngaa-k'aa-naa-née
Izakulibazisa kangakanani?	

Is this the ... to  
(Port Elizabeth)?

boat	iphenyane
bus	ibhasi
plane	inqwelomoya
train	uloliwe

How much is it to ...?

Kuxabisa njani u ...?  
ku-k'aa-b'ee-saa njaa-née u ...

Please take me to (this address).

Ndicela undise (kule dilesi).  
ndee-kle-laa u-ndee-se (k'u-le dee-le-see)

I'd like to hire a car/4WD (with air conditioning).

Ndifuna ukuhayarisha	ndee-fu-naa u-k'u-haa-yaa-ree-shaa
imoto/4WD	ee-maw-t'aw/ee-faw-weel-draa-yee-vu
(ibe nomoya ogudileyo).	(ee-b'e naw-maw-yaa aw-gu-dee-le-yaw)

How much is it for (three) days/weeks?

Ixabis ka gakanani	ee-k'aa-b'ee-saa k'aa-ngaa-k'aa-naa-née
iintsku (eziyithri)/iiveki?	ee-nts'u-k'u (e-zee-yee-tree)/ee-ve-k'ee

# directions

Where's the  
(nearest) ...?

internet café	lphie (kufutshane) ...? ikhefi	ee-pee e-(k'u-fu-ch'aa-ne) ... ee-ke-fee
market	yeintanethi imakhethi	ye-ee-nt'aa-ne-tee ee-maa-ke-tee

Is this the road to (Grahamstown)?

Ingaba lendlela iya (eRhini)?  
ee-ngaa-b'aa le-ndle-laa ee-yaa (e-khee-née)

Can you show me (on the map)?

Ungandibonisa (kwimaphu)?  
ungaa-ndee-b'aw-née-saa (k'wee-maa-pu)

What's the address?

Ithini idilesi?  
ee-tee-née ee-dee-le-see

How far is it?

Kukude kangakanani?  
k'u-k'u-de k'aa-ngaa-k'aa-naa-née

How do I get there?

Ndifikasi njani apho?  
ndee-fee-k'aa njaa-née aa-paw

Turn left/right.

Jika ekhohlo/ekunene.  
jee-k'aa e-kaw-hlaw/e-k'u-ne-ne

It's ...	I ...	ee ...
behind ...	<i>emva</i> ...	e·mva· ...
in front of ...	<i>ngaphambi</i> <i>ko</i> ...	ngaa·paa·mb'ee k'aw ...
near (to ...)	<i>kufutshane</i> ...	k'u·fu·ch'aa·ne ...
next to ...	<i>landelayo</i> ...	laa·nde·laa·yaw ...
on the corner	<i>ekoneni</i>	e·kaw·ne·nee
opposite ...	<i>chaseneyo</i> ...	kh!aa·se·ne·yaw ...
straight ahead	<i>nkqo-ngaphambili</i>	nkjaw·ngaa·paa·mb'ee·lee
there	<i>apho</i>	aa·paw

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	<i>Iphi i</i> ...?	ee·pee ee ...
camping	<i>ibala</i>	ee·b'aa·laa
ground	<i>lokukhempisha</i>	law·k'u·ke·mp'ee·shaa
guesthouse	<i>indlu yamandwendwe</i>	ee·ndl lu yaa·maa·ndwe·ndwe
hotel	<i>ihotele</i>	ee·haw·t'e·le
youth hostel	<i>ihostele yolutsha</i>	ee·haw·st'e·le yaw·lu·ch'aa

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

*Ungancoma naphina tshipu/kakuhle?*

u·ngaa·nk'law·maa naa·pee·naa  
ch'ee·p'u/k'aa·k'u·hle

I'd like to book a room, please.

*Ndingathanda ukubhukisha igumbi, ndiyacela.*

ndee·ngaa·taa·ndaa u·k'u·bu·k'ee·shaa  
ee·gu·mb'ee ndee·yaa·k!e·laa

I have a reservation.

*Ndinamalungiselelo.*

ndee·naa·maa·lu·ngee·se·le·law

Do you have a ... room?

*Unalo igumbi ...?*

u·naa·law  
ee·gu·mb'ee ...  
k'aa·nye  
k'aa·b'ee·nee  
we·le

How much is it per night/person?

*Yimalini ubusuku/umntu?*

yee·maa·lee·nee u·b'u·su·k'u/um·nt'u

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

*Ndingathanda ukuhlala ubusuku ka(bini).*

ndee·ngaa·taa·ndaa u·k'u·hlaa·laa  
u·b'u·su·k'u k'aa·(b'ee·nee)

What time is check-out?

*Lithini ixesha lokuphonononga phandle?*

lee·tee·nee ee·k!e·shaa  
law·k'u·paw·naw·naw·ngaa paa·ndle

Am I allowed to camp here?

*Ndivumelekile ukukhempisha apha?*

ndee·vu·me·le·k'ee·le  
u·k'u·ke·mp'ee·shaa aa·paa

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...	<i>Ndingathanda ...</i>	ndee·ngaa·taa·ndaa ...
arrange a transfer	<i>cwangcisela</i>	k!waa·ng!ee·se·laa
	<i>utshintsho</i>	u·ch'ee·nch'aw
cash a cheque	<i>itsheki yemali</i>	ee·ch'ee·k'ee ye·maa·lee
change a travellers cheque	<i>tshintsha itsheki</i>	ch'ee·nch'aa ee·ch'ee·k'ee
change money	<i>yabahambi</i>	yaa·b'aa·haa·mb'ee
withdraw money	<i>tshintsha imali</i>	ch'ee·nch'aa ee·maa·lee
	<i>tsala imali</i>	ts'aa·laa ee·maa·lee

I want to ...	<i>Ndifuna uku ...</i>	ndee·fu·naa u·k'u ...
buy a phonecard	<i>thenga ikhadi</i>	te·ngaa ee·kaa·dee
	<i>lokufowuna</i>	law·k'u·faw·wu·naa
call (Singapore)	<i>fowuna e</i> (Singapore)	faw·wu·naa e (see·ngaa·p'aw·re)
reverse the charges	<i>buyisela i</i>	b'u·yee·se·laa ee
use a printer	<i>intlawulo</i>	ee·ntlaa·wu·law
	<i>sebenzisa</i>	se·b'e·nzee·saa
use the internet	<i>iprinta</i>	ee·pree·nt'aa
	<i>sebenzisa i</i>	se·b'e·nzee·saa ee
	<i>intanethi</i>	ee·nt'aa·ne·tee

How much is it per hour?

*Ingaxabiswa kangakanani ngeawari?*

ee·ngaa·k!aa·b'ee·saa  
k'aa·ngaa·k'aa·naa·nee nge·aa·waa·ree

How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

*Ingaba ixabiswa kangakanani (imizuzu eyithri) yocingo?*

ee·ngaa·b'aa ee·k!aa·b'ee·saa  
k'aa·ngaa·k'aa·naa·nee (ee·mee·zu·zu e·yee·tree) yaw·k!ee·ngaw

(One rand) per minute/hour.

*(Wani randi) umzuzu/ngeawari.*

(waa·nee raa·ndee)  
um·zu·zu/nge·aa·waa·ree

## tours

When's the next ...?	<i>Yeyiphi landelayo ...?</i>	ye-yee-peee laa-nde-laa-yaw ...
day trip tour	<i>usuku lohamba ukhenketho</i>	u-su-k'u law-haa-mb'aa u-ke-nk'e-taw
Is ... included?	<i>I ... idityanisiwe?</i>	ee ... dee-ty'aa-nnee-see-we
accommodation	<i>indawo yokuhlala</i>	ee-ndaa-waw yaw-k'u-hlaa-laa
the admission charge	<i>ixabiso elibizwayo</i>	ee-k'aa-b'ee-saw e-lee-b'ee-zwaa-yaw
food transport	<i>intlawulo ukutya isithuthi</i>	ee-ntlaa-wu-law u-k'u-ty'aa ee-see-tu-tee
How long is the tour?	<i>Lude kangakanani ukhenketho?</i>	lu-de k'aa-ngaa-k'aa-naa-nnee u-ke-nk'e-taw
What time should we be back?	<i>Ngubani ixesha esinokubuya ngalo?</i>	ngu-b'aa-nnee ee-k'e-shaa e-see-naw-k'u-b'u-yaa ngaa-law

## shopping

I'm looking for ...	<i>Ndifuna ...</i>	ndee-fu-naa ...
I need film for this camera.	<i>Ndifuna ifilimu yekhamera.</i>	ndee-fu-naa ee-fee-lee-mu ye-kaa-me-raa
Can I listen to this?	<i>Ndingamamela le?</i>	ndee-ngaa-maa-me-laa le
Can I have my ... repaired?	<i>Ndiyafuna ilungisiwe ...?</i>	ndee-yaa-fu-naa ee-lu-ngee-swe ...
When will it be ready?	<i>Izakulunga nini?</i>	ee-zaa-k'u-lu-ngaa nee-nnee
How much is it?	<i>Yimalini?</i>	yee-maa-li-nnee
Can you write down the price?	<i>Ungabhala phantsi ixabiso?</i>	u-ngaa-baa-laapaa-nts'ee ee-k'aa-b'ee-saw

## What's your lowest price?

*Lithini ixabiso elingezantsi?* lee-tee-nnee ee-k'aa-b'ee-saw e-lee-nge-zaa-nts'ee

## I'll give you (five) rand.

*Ndizakunika (ifayifu) randi.* ndee-zaa-k'u-nnee-k'aa (ee-faa-yee-fu) raa-ndee

## There's a mistake in the bill.

*Ikhona impazamo kwibhili.* ee-kaw-naa ee-mp'aa-zaa-maw k'wee-bee-lee

## It's faulty.

*Lyaphazama.* ee-ya-paa-zaa-maa

## I'd like a receipt/refund, please.

*Ndingathanda irisiti/ irifandi, ndiyacela.* ndee-ngea-taa-ndaa ee-ree-see-t'ee/  
ee-ree-faa-ndee ndee-ya-a-k!-laa

## Do you accept ...?

credit cards	<i>Uyayamkela ...?</i> u-ya-yaam-k'e-laa ...
debit cards	<i>ikhredithi khadi</i> ee-kre-dee-tee kaa-dee
travellers	<i>idebhithi khadi</i> ee-de-bee-tee kaa-dee
cheques	<i>itsheki</i> ee-ch'e-k'ee <i>zabahambi</i> zaa-b'aa-haa-mb'ee

## Could you ...?

burn a CD from	<i>Ungakwazi uku ...?</i> u-nga-a-k'waa-zee u-k'u ...
my memory card	<i>tshisa isidi</i> ch'ee-saa ee see-dee
develop this film	<i>kweyam imemori</i> k'we-yam ee-me-maw-ree <i>khadi</i> ka-dee <i>phucula le ifilimu</i> pu-k'u-laa le ee-fee-lee-mu

## making conversation

### Hello.

### Good night.

### Goodbye.

### Mr

### Mrs

### Ms/Miss

### How are you?

### Fine, and you?

### What's your name?

### My name's ...

### Molo.

### Ubusuku benzolo.

### Usale ngoxolo.

### Mhlekazi

### Nkosazana

### Nenekazi

### Kunjani?

### Ndiyaphila,

### unjanji wena?

### Ngubani

### igama lakho?

### lgama lam ngu ...

### maw-law

### u-b'u-su-k'u b'e-nzaw-law

### u-saa-le ngaw-k'law-law

### mhle-k'aa-zee

### nk'aw-saa-zaa-naa

### ne-ne-k'aa-zee

### k'u-njaa-nnee

### ndee-yaa-pee-laa

### u-njaa-nnee we-haa

### ngu-b'aa-nnee

### ee-gaa-maa laa-kaw

### ee-gaa-maa laam ngu ...

I'm pleased to meet you.	<i>Ndiyavuya ukukwazi.</i>	ndee·ya·vu·ya u·k'·u·k'·wa·zee
This is my ... boyfriend brother daughter father friend girlfriend husband mother sister son wife	<i>Yeyam le ... inkwenkwe mntakwethu intombazana utata umhlobo intokazi umyeni umama udade unyana umfazi</i>	ye·ya·am le ... ee·nk'·we·nk'·we mnt'·aa·k'·we·tu ee·nt'·aw·mb'·aa·zaa·naa u·t'·aa·t'·aa um·hlaw·b'·aw ee·nt'·aw·k'·aa·zee u·mye·nee u·maa·maa u·daa·de u·nyaa·naa um·faa·zee
Here's my ... What's your ...? (email) address phone number	<i>Nantsi i ... Ithini i ... ? idilesi (yeimeyli) inombolo yefowni</i>	naa·nts'ee ee ... ee·tee·nee ee ... ee·dee·le·see (ye·ee·mey·lee) ee·naw·mb'aw·law ye·faw·wu·nee
Where are you from?	<i>Ungowaphi?</i>	u·ngaw·waa·pee
I'm from ... Australia Canada New Zealand the UK the USA	<i>Ndingowase ... Ostreliya Khanada eNyuzilendi eUK eUSA</i>	ndee·ngaw·waa·se ... aw·stre·lee·yaa kaa·naa·daa e·nyu·zee·le·ndee e·uk' e·u·saa
I'm (not) married. Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>(Andi)tshatanga. Ndingayithatha ifoto (yakho)?</i>	(aa·ndee-)ch'aa·t'aa·ngaa ndee·ngaa·yee·taa·taa ee·faw·t'aw (yaa·kaw)

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...? bar dish place to eat	<i>Ugakwazi ukukhuthaza ... ? ibhari isitya indawo yokutya</i>	u·ngaa·k'·wa·zee u·k'·u·ku·taa·zaa ... ee·baa·ree ee·see·ty'aa ee·ndaa·waw yaw·k'·u·ty'aa
--	--	--

I'd like ... , please.	<i>Ndiyafuna ... inkukacha ngamabiso isazisi itofile (yababini) esasitya</i>	ndee·ya·fu·naa ... ee·nk!·u·k'·aa·!haa ngaa·maa·k'·aa·b'·ee·saw e·saa·zee·see ee·t'·aa·fee·le (yaa·b'·aa·b'·ee·nee) e·saa·see·ty'aa
the bill		
the menu		
a table for (two)		
that dish		
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Unakho ukutya kwe vejitheriyeni?</i>	u·naa·kaw u·k'·u·ty'aa k'·we ve·jee·te·ree·ye·hee
Could you prepare a meal without ... ? eggs meat stock	<i>Ungalungiselela isidlo ngaphandle ... ? amaqanda umhluzi</i>	u·ngaa·lu·ngree·se·le·laa ee·see·dlaw ngaa·paa·ndlle ... aa·maa·k'·aa·ndaa um·hlu·zee
(cup of) coffee ...	<i>(ikopi) yekofu ...</i>	(ee·k'·aw·p'·ee) ye·k'·aw·fu ...
(cup of) tea ...	<i>(ikopi) yeti ...</i>	(ee·kaw·p'·ee) ye·t'·ee ...
with milk	<i>nobisi</i>	naw·b'·ee·see
without sugar	<i>ngaphandle</i>	ngaa·paa·ndlle
	<i>kweswekile</i>	k'·we·swe·k'·ee·le
(boiled) water	<i>amanzi (ashushu)</i>	aa·maa·nzee (aa·shu·shu)

## emergencies

Help!	<i>Uncedo!</i>	u·nle·daw
I'm lost.	<i>Ndilahlekile.</i>	ndee·laa·hle·k'·ee·le
Call ... !	<i>Biza ... !</i>	b'·ee·zaa ...
an ambulance	<i>iambulensi</i>	ee·aa·mb'·u·le·nsee
a doctor	<i>uggirha</i>	u·gjee·khaa
the police	<i>amapolisa</i>	aa·maa·paw·lee·saa
Could you help me, please?	<i>Ungandinceda, ndiyakucela?</i>	u·ngaa·ndee·nk!·e·daa ndee·ya·k'·u·k!·le·laa
Where are the toilets?	<i>Ziphi itoyethi?</i>	zee·pee ee·taw·yee·le·tee
I want to report an offence.	<i>Ndifuna ukuchaza iofensi.</i>	ndee·fu·naa uk'·u·kh!·aa·zaa ee·aw·fe·nsee
I have insurance.	<i>Ndine inshorensi.</i>	ndee·ne ee·nshaw·re·nsee

## I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

*Ndifuna ukhontaktha umzi/ndee-fu·naa u·kaw·nt'aa·k'taa um·zee/  
kamazukuzaku. kaa-maa-zaa-k'u·zaa-k'u*

I've been assaulted.

*Ndibethiwe.*

*ndee-be-tee-we*

I've been raped.

*Ndidlwengulwe.*

*ndee-dlwe-ngu-lwe*

I've been robbed.

*Ndirojiwe.*

*ndee-raw-jee-we*

I've lost my ...

*Ndilahlekelwe ...*

*ndee-laa-hle-k'e-lwe ...*

My ... was/were stolen.

*Eyam ... ibiwe.*

*e·yam ... ee-b'ee-we*

bags

*ibhegi*

*ee-be-gee*

credit card

*ikhadi lekhrediti*

*ee·kaa-dee le-kre-dee-tee*

handbag

*ibhegi yesandla*

*ee-be-gee ye-saa·ndlaa*

jewellery

*ijuwelari*

*ee·ju·we-laa·ree*

money

*imali*

*ee·maa·lee*

passport

*ipaspoti*

*ee·paas-paw·t'ee*

travellers cheques

*iitsheki*

*ee·ch'e·k'ee*

wallet

*zabahambi*

*zaa-b'aa-haa·mb'ee*

*iwolethi*

*ee·waw·le·tee*

## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?

*Yeyiphi kufutshane ...?*

*ye·yee·pee  
k'u·fu·ch'aa·ne ...*

dentist

*uggirha*

*u·gjee·khaa*

doctor

*wamazinyo*

*waa·maa·zee·nyaw*

hospital

*uggirha*

*u·gjee·khaa*

pharmacist

*isibhedele*

*ee·see·be-dle·le*

*ifamasi*

*ee·faa·maa·see*

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Ndifuna ugqirha ndee-fu·naa u·gjee·khaa  
(othetha isingesi). (aw-te-taa ee-see-nge-see)*

Could I see a female doctor?

*Ndinakho ukubona ugqirha aw-bee-njee-le-yaw*

It hurts here.

*Kubuhlungu apha. k'u·b'u·hlu·ngu aa·paa*

I'm allergic to (penicillin).

*Andidibani ne (penislini). aa·ndee-dee-b'aa·nee ne (p'e·nee-see-lee·nee)*

## english–xhosa dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as n (noun), a (adjective), v (verb), sg (singular), pl (plural), inf (informal) and pol (polite) where necessary.

### A

accommodation *indawo yokuhlala*

*ee·nda-a-waw yaw·ku·hlaa·laa*

adaptor *iadaptha ee·aa·daa·pta*

after *emva e-mva*

airport *isitishi senqwelomoya*

*ee·see·t'ee·shee se-n!we-law-maw·yaa*

alcohol *itywala u·tywaa·laa*

all *onke aw-nk'e*

and *na naa*

ankle *iqatha ee·ja-a-taa*

antibiotics *iyenza lokubulana intsholongwane*

*ee·ye·zaa law·ku·b'u·laa·laa*

*ee·nch'aw·law·ngwaa·ne*

anti-inflammatories *amayenza okukrala*

*aa·maa·ye·zaa aw·k'u·kraa·laa*

arm *ingalo ee·ngaa·law*

aspirin *iyenza lokudambisa intlungu nefiva*

*ee·ye·zaa law·ku·daa·mb'ee·saa ee·ntlu·ngu*

*ne·fee·vaa*

asthma *umbefu u·mb'e·fu*

ATM *umatshini wokugcina imali*

*u·maa·ch'ee·nee waw·ku·g'ee·naa ee·maa·lee*

### B

baby *usana u·saa·naa*

back (body) *emva e-mva*

backpack *ingxowa oyithwala ngomqolo*

*ee·ngk'aw·waa aw·yee·twaa·laa ngaw·m;aw·law*

bad *kohhlakeleyo kaw·hlaa·k'e·le-yaw*

bank *ibhaniki ee·baa·nk'ee*

bathroom *igumbi lokuhlamba*

*ee·gu·mb'ee law·ku·hlu·mb'aa*

battery *ibhetri ee·bee·tree*

beautiful *hle hle*

bed *ibhedzi ee·bee·dee*

beer *ibhija ee·bee·yaa*

bees *iinyosi ee·nyaw·see*

before *ngaphambili ngaa·paa·mb'ee·lee*

bicycle *ibhayisikili ee·baa·ye·see·k'ee·lee*

big *khulu ku·lu*

blanket *ingubo ee·ngu·b'aw*

blood group *udidi lwiegazi u·dee·dee lwe·gaa·zee*

bottle *ibhotile ee·baw·t'ee·le*

bottle opener *isivuli bhotile ee·see·vu·lee baw·t'ee·le*

boy *inkwenkwe ee·nkwe·nkwe*

brakes (car) *ibreki zemoto ee·bre·k'e·ee ze·maw·t'aw*

breakfast *isidlo sakusasa ee·see·dlaw saa·k'u·sa·saa*

bronchitis *isifo semibobho yemiphunga*

*ee·see·faw se-mee-baw·baw ye·mee·pu·ngaa*

### C

café *ikhefi ee·ke·fee*

cancel *rroxisa khaw·k'ee·sa*

can opener *isivuli kani ee·see·vu·lee k'aa·nee*

cash n *imali ee·maa·lee*

cell phone *iselfowuni ee·se·le·faw·wu·nee*

centre n *umbindi u·mb'ee·ndee*

cheap *tshipu ch'ee·pu*

check (bill) *ibhili ee·bee·lee*

check-in n *ikhawuntara yokuzazisa*

*ee·kaa·wu·nt'aa·ra yaw·ku·za·ze·saa*

chest *isifuba ee·see·fu·baa*

child *umntwana um·nt'waa·naa*

cigarette *isigareti ee·see·gaa·re·tee*

city *isixeko ee·see·k'ee·kaw*

clean a *coca klaw·klaa*

closed *valiwe vaa·lee·we*

codeine *ikhoudihini ee·kaw·wu·dhee·nee*

cold a *banda b'a·ndaa*

collect call *irivesikholi ee·ree·ve·see·kaw·lee*

condom *ikhondom ee·kaw·ndawm*

constipation *ukuhqina kwesisu*

*u·k'u·heee·naa k'we·see·su*

cough n *ukhohlokhohlo u·kaw·hlaw·kaw·hlaw*

customs (immigration) *indawo yongenelelo*

*ee·ndaa·waw yaw·ng-e·le·law*

### D

dairy products *imveliso yasederi*

*ee·mve·lee·saw yaa·se·de·ree*

dangerous *ingozi ee·ngaw·zee*

date (time) *ideyithi ee·de·yee·tee*

day *usuku u·su·k'u*

diaper *isishuba ee·see·shu·b'a*

diarrhoea *urhudo u·ru·daw*

dinner *isidlo sangokuhlwa*

*ee·see·dlaw saa·ngaw·ku·hlwa*

**d**irty *mdaka mdaa-k'aa*  
**dis**abled *olimazekileyo aw-lee-maa-ze-k'ee-le-yaw*  
**double bed** *ibhedi eyenzelwe abantu ababini*  
 ee-be-dee e-ye-nze-lwe a-b'a-nt'u a-b'a-b'ee-nee  
**drink** *n isiselo ee-see-se-law*  
**drivers licence** *isazisi sokuqhuba*  
 ee-saa-zee-see saw-k'u;hu-b'aa  
**drug (illicit)** *isiyobisi ee-see-yaw-b'ee-see*

**E**

**ear** *indlebe ee-ndle-b'e*  
**east** *mpumalanga mp'u-maa-laa-ngaa*  
**elevator** *ieliveyitha ee-e-lee-ve-yeet-taa*  
**email** *n i-imeyili ee-ee-me-ye-lee*  
**English (language)** *ulwimi lwesingesi*  
 u-lwee-mee lwe-see-nge-see  
**exchange rate** *utsintsho mali u-ch'ee-nch'aw maa-lee*  
**exit** *n indawo yokuphuma*  
 ee-ndaa-waw yaw-k'u-pu-maa  
**expensive** *duru du-ru*  
**eye** *imehlo ee-me-hlaw*

**F**

**fast** *khawuleza ka-wu-le-zaa*  
**fever** *ifiva ee-fee-vaa*  
**finger** *umnwe um-nwe*  
**first-aid kit** *ikiti yoncedo lokujala*  
 ee-k'ee-t'ee yaw-nk'l-e-daw law-k'u-kjaa-laa  
**first class** *iklasi yokuqala ee-k'laa-see yaw-k'u-kjaa-laa*  
**fish** *n intantsi ee-ntlaa-nts'ee*  
**food** *ukutya u-k'ut'yaa*  
**foot** *unyayo u-nyaa-waw*  
**fork** *ifolokhwe ee-faw-law-kwe*  
**free (of charge)** *simahla see-maa-hlaa*  
**fruit** *isighamo ee-see-kjaa-maw*  
**funny** *hekisayo hle-k'ee-saa-yaw*

**G**

**game park** *indawo yokugcina izilwanyana*  
 ee-ndaa-waw yaw-k'u-glee-naa  
 ee-zee-lwaa-nyaa-naa  
**gift** *isipho ee-see-paw*  
**girl** *intombi ee-nt'aw-mb'ee*  
**glass (drinking)** *iglasi ee-glaa-see*  
**glasses** *izipeki ee-ze-p'e-k'ee*  
**gluten** *ncangathi llaa-nga-a-tee*  
**good** *lungileyo lu-ngee-le-yaw*  
**gram** *umlinganiso wobunzima*  
 um-lee-nga-ne-saw waw-b'u-nzee-maa  
**guide** *n inkokheli ee-nk'aw-ke-lee*

**H**

**hand** *isandla ee-saa-ndlala*  
**happy** *vuya vu-yaa*  
**have** *ukuba na u-k'u-baa naa*  
**he** *u-(followed by name) u-*  
**head** *intloko ee-ntlaw-k'aw*  
**headache** *intloko ebuhlungu*  
 ee-ntlaw-k'aw e-bu-hlu-ngu  
**heart** *intliziyo ee-ntlee-zee-yaw*  
**heart condition** *isifo sentiliziyo*  
 ee-see-faw se-ntlee-zee-yaw  
**heat** *n ubushushu u-b'u-shu-shu*  
**here** *apha aa-paa*  
**high** *phezulu pee-zu-lu*  
**highway** *indlela enkulu ee-ndle-laa e-nk'u-lu*  
**hot** *shushu shu-shu*  
**hungry** *lambilie laa-mb'ee-le*

**I**

**i ee**  
**identification (card)** *ikadi yeld ee-kaa-dee ye-eed*  
**ill** *gula gu-laa*  
**important** *baluleka b'aa-lu-le-k'aa*  
**internet** *intanethi ee-nt'aa-ne-tee*  
**interpreter** *itoliki ee-t'aw-lee-k'ee*

**J**

**job** *umsebenzi um-se-b'e-nzee*

**K**

**key** *isitshiko ee-see-tsee-aw*  
**kilogram** *ikhilogramu ee-kee-law-graa-mu*  
**kitchen** *ikhitshi ee-kee-ch'ee*  
**knife** *imela ee-me-laa*

**L**

**laundry (place)** *indawo yokuhlamba impahla*  
 ee-ndaa-waw yaw-k'u-hlaa-mb'aa ee-mp'aa-hlaa  
**lawyer** *ighwetha ee-khjwe-taa*  
**leg** *umlenze um-le-nze*  
**less** *nganeno ngaa-ne-naw*  
**letter (mail)** *ileta ee-le-t'aa*  
**like** *v thanda taa-ndaa*  
**love** *v uthando u-taa-ndaw*  
**lunch** *isidlo sasemini ee-see-dlaw saa-se-mee-nee*

**M**

**man** *indoda ee-ndaw-daa*  
**matches** *imatshisi ee-maa-ch'ee-see*  
**meat** *inyma ee-nyaa-maa*  
**medicine** *iyenza ee-ye-zaa*  
**message** *umyalezo um-ya-le-zaw*  
**mobile phone** *ifowuni onokuhambanayo*  
 ee-faw-wu-nee aw-naw-K'u-haa-mb'aa-naa-yaw  
**month** *inyanga ee-nyaa-ngaag*  
**morning** *kusasa k'u-saa-saa*  
**motorcycle** *isithuthuthu ee-see-tu-tu-tu*  
**mouth** *umlomo um-law-maw*  
**MSG** *imsg ee-m-sg*  
**museum** *imuziyam ee-mu-zee-yam*  
**music** *umculo um-lu-law*

**N**

**name** *n igama ee-gaa-maa*  
**napkin** *iseviyeti ee-se-vee-ye-t'ee*  
**nappy** *isishuba ee-see-shu-b'aa*  
**nausea** *ubucaphucaphu u-bu-aa-pu-aa-pu*  
**neck** *intamo ee-nt'aa-maw*  
**new** *ntsha nc'h'aa*  
**news** *indaba ee-ndaa-b'aa*  
**newspaper** *iphephandaba ee-pe-paa-ndaa-b'aa*  
**night** *ibusuku u-b'u-su-k'u*  
**noisy** *ngxolayo ng'aw-laay*  
**nonsmoking** *akutshaywa aa-k'u-ch'aa-ywaa*  
**north** *entla e-ntlaa*  
**nose** *impumlo ee-mp'u-mlaw*  
**now** *ngoku ngaw-k'uu*  
**number** *inani ee-naa-nee*  
**nuts** *amaqhele aa-maa-khje-le*

**O**

**oil (engine)** *ioyile ee-aw-yee-le*  
**old** *ndala ndaa-laa*  
**open** *a vulekileyo vu-le-k'ee-le-yaw*  
**outside** *ngaphandle ngaa-paa-ndle*

**P**

**package** *impahla ee-mp'aa-hlaa*  
**pain** *intlungu ee-ntlu-ngu*  
**palace** *ibhotwe ee-baw-t'we*  
**paper** *iphepha ee-pe-paa*  
**park (car)** *v pakisha p'a-a-k'ee-shaa*  
**passport** *ipasipoti ee-p'aa-see-paw-t'ee*  
**pay** *umvuzo u-mvu-zaw*

**pen** *usiba u-see-b'aa*  
**petrol** *ipetrolu ee-p'e-traw-lee*  
**pharmacy** *ifamasi ee-fao-maa-see*  
**plate** *ipleyiti ee-ple-yeet-t'ee*  
**postcard** *iposikhadi ee-p'aw-see-kaa-dee*  
**post office** *iposi ofisi ee-p'aw-see aw-fee-see*  
**pregnant** *khulelwego ku-le-lwe-yaw*

**R**

**rain** *n imvula ee-mvu-laa*  
**razor** *ireyiza ee-re-ye-zaa*  
**registered mail** *iposi ebhaliswayo*  
 ee-p'aw-see e-baa-lee-swaa-yaw  
**rent** *v irente ee-re-nt'e*  
**repair** *v lungisa lu-ngee-saa*  
**reservation** *isigcimelo ee-see-glee-ne-law*  
**restaurant** *irestyu ee-re-sty'u*  
**return** *v buyela b'u-ye-laa*  
**road** *indlela ee-ndle-laa*  
**room** *igumbi ee-gu-mb'ee*

**S**

**sad** *lusizi lu-see-zee*  
**safe** *a gcinakeleyo glee-naa-k'e-le-yaw*  
**sanitary napkin** *iphedi ee-pe-dee*  
**seafood** *ukutya kwaselwandle*  
 u-k'u-t'y'aa k'waa-se-lwaa-ndle  
**seat** *isihlalo ee-see-hlaa-law*  
**send** *thumela tu-me-laa*  
**sex** *isini ee-see-nee*  
**shampoo** *ishampu ee-shaa-mp'u*  
**share (a dorm, etc)** *ukwabelana ngegumbi*  
 uk'waa-b'e-laa-naa nge-gu-mb'ee  
**shaving cream** *ikhrimu yokusheva*  
 ee-kree-mu yaw-k'u-she-va  
**she uno (followed by name)** *un-aw*  
**sheet (bed)** *ishiti ee-shee-t'ee*  
**shirt** *ihempe ee-he-mp'e*  
**shoes** *izihlangu ee-zee-hlaa-ngu*  
**shop** *n ivenkile ee-ve-nk'e-le*  
**shower** *n ishawari ee-shaa-waa-ree*  
**skin** *ulusu u-lu-su*  
**skirt** *isiketi ee-see-k'e-t'ee*  
**sleep** *v lala laa-laa*  
**small** *incini nlee-nlee*  
**smoke (cigarettes)** *v tshaya tshaa-yaa*  
**soap** *isepha ee-se-paa*  
**some** *inxenyi ee-nl'e-nye*  
**soon** *kamsinya k'a-a-msee-nyaa*  
**sore throat** *umqala obuhlungu*  
 um-kjaa-laa aw-b'u-hlu-ngu

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**south** *mzantsi mzaa-nts'ee*  
**souvenir shop** *ivenkile ethengisa izikhumbuzo*  
 ee-ve-nk'ee-le e-te-ngee-saa e-zee-ku-mb'u-zaw  
**speak** *thetha te-taa*  
**spoon** *icephe ee-kle-pe*  
**stamp** *n isitampu ee-see-t'aa-mp'u*  
**stand-by ticket** *itikiti lokulinda*  
 ee-t'ee-k'ee-t'ee law-k'u-lee-ndaa  
**station (train)** *isitishi ee-see-t'ee-shee*  
**tyre** *ithayara ee-taa-yaa-raa*

## T

**tampons** *iithamponi ee-taa-mp'aw-nee*  
**teeth** *amazinyo aa-maa-zee-nyaw*  
**telephone** *n ifowuni ee-faw-wu-nee*  
**television** *umabonakude u-maa-b'aw-naa-k'u-de*  
**temperature (weather)** *iqondo lobushushu*  
 ee-kjaw-ndaw law-b'u-shu-shu  
**tent** *intente ee-nt'e-n'te*  
**that (one)** *leya (inye) le-yaa (e-nyee)*  
**they** *bona b'aw-naa*  
**thirsty** *xanavi n'ja-a-nee-we*  
**this (one)** *le (kanye) le (k'aa-nye)*  
**throat** *umqala um-kja-la*  
**ticket** *itikiti ee-t'ee-k'ee-t'ee*  
**time** *ixesha ee-kle-shaa*  
**tired** *diniwe dee nee-we*  
**tissues** *ithishu ee-tee-shu*  
**today** *namhlarje naam-hlaa-nje*  
**toilet** *ithoyilethi ee-taw-yee-le-tee*  
**tonight** *ngokuhlwa ngaw-k'u-hlwaa*  
**toothache** *izinyo elibuhlungu*  
 ee-zee-nyaw e-lee-b'u-hlu-ngu  
**toothbrush** *ibrashi yokukuxuka amazinyo*  
 ee-b'raa-shee yaw-k'u-k'uu-k'aa aa-maa-zee-nyaw  
**toothpaste** *intlama yamazinyo*  
 ee-ntlaa-maa yaa-maa-zee-nyaw  
**torch (flashlight)** *itotshi ee-t'aw-ch'ee*  
**tourist office** *iofisi yabacandi-zwe*  
 ee-aw-fee-see yaa-b'aa-ka-la-andee-zwe  
**towel** *itawuli ee-t'aa-wu-lee*  
**translate** *gugula gu-kju-la*

**travel agency** *umlungiseleli hambo*  
 um-lu-ngee-se-le-lee haa-mb'aw  
**travellers cheque** *itsheki yabahambi*  
 ee-ch'e-k'ee yaa-b'aa-haa-mb'ee  
**trousers** *iibhulukhwe ee-bu-lu-kwe*  
**twin beds** *jibhedi ezimbini ezifanayo*  
 ee-be-dee e-zee-mb'ee-nee e-zee-faa-naa-yaw  
**tyre** *ithayara ee-taa-yaa-raa*

## U

**underwear** *isinxibo sangaphantsi*  
 ee-see-n'je-b'aw saa-nga-a-paa-nts'ee  
**urgent** *ngxamiseka ng'ja-a-mee-se-k'aa*

## V

**vacant** *ngenanto nge-naa-nt'aw*  
**vegetable** *n umfuno um-fu-naw*  
**vegetarian** *a utsya izihluma u-ty'aa ee-zee-hlu-maa*  
**visa** *iviza ee-vee-zaa*

## W

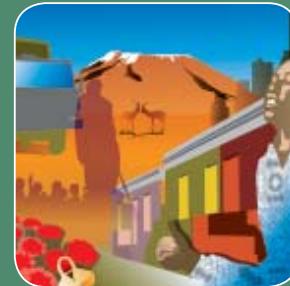
**waiter** *iweyita ee-we-yee-t'aa*  
**walk** *v hamba haa-mb'aa*  
**wallet** *isipaji ee-see-p'a-a-jee*  
**warm** *a fudumeleyo fu-du-me-le-yaw*  
**wash (something)** *vasa vaa-saa*  
**watch** *n iwothsi ee-waw-ch'ee*  
**water** *amanzi aa-maa-nzee*  
**we** *thina tee-naa*  
**weekend** *impelaveki ee-mp'e-laa-ve-k'ee*  
**west** *ntshona nch'aw-naa*  
**wheelchair** *isitulo esinamavili*  
 ee-see-t'u-law e-see-naa-maa-vee-lee  
**when** *nini nee-nee*  
**where** *phi pee*  
**who** *bani b'aa-nee*  
**why** *kutheni k'u-te-nee*  
**window** *ifestile ee-fe-st'ee-le*  
**wine** *iwayini ee-waa-yee-nee*  
**with** *na naa*  
**without** *ngaphandle ngaa-paa-nidle*  
**woman** *umfazi um-faa-zee*  
**write** *bhala baa-la*

## Y

**you** *sg inf/pol wena/nawe we-naa/naa-we*  
**you** *pl inf/pol nina/thina nee-naa/tee-naa*

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# Yoruba



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
a	act	b	bed
ang	as in 'act', but nasal	d	dog
ay	say	f	fun
e	bet	g	go
eng	as in 'bet', but nasal	gb	rugby
i	hit	h	hat
ing	as in 'hit', but nasal	j	jar
o	pot	k	kit
oh	cold	kp	backpack
ong	as in 'pot', but nasal	l	lot
u	put	m	man
ung	as in 'put', but nasal	n	not
The Yoruba pronunciation is given in light green after each phrase.		r	run
Each syllable is separated by a dot.		s	sun
For example:		sh	shot
Osé.                    oh-shay		t	top
Yoruba's nasal vowels, indicated with ng after the vowel symbol, are pronounced as if you're trying to force the sound out of your nose.		w	win
There are a range of accent marks above and below vowels. You won't need to worry about using these, if you follow the pronunciation guides you'll be understood.		y	yes

# YORUBA yorùbá

## introduction

There's a Yoruba proverb, *Ohun tí o bá gbín ni wáá ká* o-hung ti o ba gbing ni wa-a ka, which means 'Whatever you sow, you will reap' – and any efforts to speak to locals in Yoruba will be greatly appreciated. Yoruba (Yorùbá yoh-ru-ba), a language from the Niger-Congo family, is spoken by around 25 million people in West Africa. The Yoruba nation consists of a number of tribes which trace their origins to a leader called Oduduwa, the founder of the city Ile-Ife in what is now southwestern Nigeria, where Yoruba is primarily spoken. There are also Yoruba speakers in the Benin Republic and eastern Togo, and a variety of the language is spoken in Sierra Leone. Yoruba was one of the first West African languages to have a written grammar and a dictionary in the 1840s. It's also one of the first African languages with a novel published in it, and is the mother tongue of Nobel-prize-winning writer Wole Soyinka.

yoruba (native language)

yoruba (generally understood)



## language difficulties

**Do you speak English?**

Sé o ní so gèésí?

shay o n so ge-e-si

**Do you understand?**

Sé ó yé o?

shay oh yay o

**I (don't) understand.**

Èmi (kò) gbó.

ay-mi (koh) gbo

**Could you please ...?**

repeat that

Jòwó sé o lè ...?

tun sò

jo-wo shay oh lay ...

tung so

speak more slowly

rora sòrò

ro-ra so-ro

write it down

kò o sìlè

ko o si-le

## time, dates & numbers

**What time is it?**

Kí ni aago sò?

ki ni a-a-goh so

It's one o'clock.

Aago kan ni.

a-a-goh kang ni

It's (two) o'clock.

Aago (mèjì) ni.

a-a-goh (may-ji) ni

Quarter past (one).

Aago (kan) kojá iṣéjú  
méèdógún.

a-a-goh (kang) ko-ja i-she-ju  
me-e-doh-gung

Half past (one).

Aago (kan) àbò.

a-a-goh (kang) a-bo

Quarter to (eight).

Aago (mèjo) ku iṣéjú  
méèdógún.

a-a-goh (me-jo) ku i-she-ju  
me-e-doh-gung

At what time ...?

Nígbà wo ...?

ni-gba woh ...

At ...

Ní ...?

ni ...

It's (15 December).

Ní (ojó) keèdógún

ni (o-jo ke-e-doh-gung)

osù diséimbà).

oh-shu di-se-m-ba)

yesterday

àná

a-na

today

òní

oh-ni

tomorrow

òla

o-la

Monday

ojó ajé

o-jo a-jay

Tuesday

ojó iségún

o-jo i-she-gung

Wednesday

ojórú

o-jo-ru

Thursday

ojóbò

o-jo-bo

Friday

ojó etí

o-jo e-ti

Saturday

ojó abáméta

o-jo a-ba-me-ta

Sunday

ojó àikú

o-jo a-i-ku

## numbers

0	òdo	o-do	16	èrìndìnlógún	e-ring-ding-loh-gung
1	òkan	o-kang	17	ètàdinlógún	e-ta-ding-loh-gung
2	èjì	ay-ji	18	èjídinlógún	ay-ji-ding-loh-gung
3	èta	e-ta	19	òkàndinlógún	o-kang-ding-loh-gung
4	èrin	e-ring	20	ogún	oh-gung
5	àrun	a-run	21	òkànlélögún	o-kang-lay-loh-gung
6	èfà	e-fa	22	èjilélögún	ay-ji-lay-loh-gung
7	èje	ay-jay	30	ogbòn	o-gbong
8	èjo	e-jo	40	ogójì	oh-goh-ji
9	èsan	e-sang	50	àádóta	a-a-do-ta
10	èwá	e-wa	60	ogóta	o-go-ta
11	òkànla	o-kang-la	70	àádórin	a-a-do-ring
12	èjilá	ay-ji-la	80	ogórin	o-go-ring
13	ètálá	e-ta-la	90	àádòrún	a-a-do-rung
14	èrínlá	e-ring-la	100	ogórún-ún	o-go-rung-ung
15	èdógún	e-do-gung	1000	egbérung	e-gbe-rung



## border crossing

I'm here ...

in transit

on business

on holiday

I'm here for ...

(10) days

(three) weeks

(two) months

I'm going to (Òyó).

Mò ní lò sí (Òyó).

I'm staying at the (Premier Hotel).

Mò ní gbé ní (Ilé Ítura Pírémiá).

Mo wà níbí ...

lénú ìràn-àjò

fún iṣé

fún iṣimi

Mo wà níbí fún ...

ojó (mewàá)

òsè (méta)

osù (mèjì)

moh wa ni·bi ...

le-nu i-ring-a-joh

fung i-she

fung i-si-mi

moh wa ni·bi fung ...

o-jo (me-wa-a)

o-se (me-ta)

oh-shu (may-ji)

moh n lo si (o-yo)

moh n gbay ni (i-lay i-tu-ra kpi-re-mi-a)

## tickets

A ... ticket (to Ibàdàn), please.	<i>Iwé iwolé ...</i> <i>lo (sí Ibàdàn).</i>	i-way i-wo-lay ... lo (si i-ba-dang)
one-way return	<i>àlò nikan</i> <i>àtalo-àtóbò</i>	a-lo ni-kang a-ta-lo-a-ta-bo
I'd like to ... my ticket, please.	<i>Jòwó mà á fé láti ...</i> <i>ìwé iwolé mi.</i>	jo-wo ma a fe la-ti ... i-way i-wo-le mi
cancel	<i>fagilé</i>	fa-gi-lay
change	<i>pààrò</i>	kpa-a-ro
collect	<i>gba</i>	gba
Is there a ...?	<i>Sé ... wa?</i>	shay ... wa
air conditioning	<i>èrò amúlétutù</i>	e-ro a-mu-lay-tu-tu
toilet	<i>ilé igbóngsè</i>	i-le i-gbong-se
I'd like a smoking/nonsmoking seat, please.	<i>Jòwó, mà á fé ijókòò amusígá/mámusígá.</i>	jo-wo ma a fe i-joh-koh-oh a-mu-si-ga/ma-mu-si-ga
How long does the trip take?	<i>Báwo ni ìrinàjò yí se jínnà sí?</i>	ba-woh ni i-ring-a-joh yi-i shay jing-na si
Is it a direct route?	<i>Sé tàràràtà ni?</i>	shay ta-a-ra-ta ni

## transport

Where does the (Virgin Nigeria) flight arrive/depart?	<i>Ibo ni báálù (fajímí ti Nàíjíríà) yòò ti gbéra/kúrò?</i>	i-boh ni ba-a-lu (fa-ji-ni ti na-i-ji-ri-a) yoh-oh ti gbay-ra/ku-roh
How long will it be delayed?	<i>Fún àkókò wo ni ìdádúró báálù?</i>	fung a-koh-koh woh ni i-da-du-roh ba-a-lu
Is this the ... to (Ekó)?	<i>Sé èyí ni ... sí (Ekó)?</i>	shay ay-yi ni ... si (ay-ko)
boat	<i>okò ojú-omi</i>	o-ko oh-ju-oh-mi
bus	<i>bóòsì</i>	bo-o-si
plane	<i>báálù</i>	ba-a-lu
train	<i>okò ojú-irin</i>	o-ko oh-ju-i-ring

## How much is it to ...?

*Èló ni dé ...?* ay-loh ni day ...

## Please take me to (this address).

*Jòwó gbé mi lo sí (àdíréṣí yí).* jo-wo gbay mi lo si (a-di-re-si yi-i)

## I'd like to hire a car (with air conditioning).

*Mà á fé gba okò tí ó  
(ni èrò amúlétutù).* ma a fe gba o-ko ti oh  
(ni e-ro a-mu-lay-tu-tu)

## How much is it for (three) days/weeks?

*Èló ni fún òjó/òṣé (méta)?* ay-loh ni fung o-jo/o-se (me-ta)

## directions

Where's the (nearest) ...?	<i>Ibo ni ... (tí ó súnmó wà)?</i>	i-boh ni ... (ti oh sung-mo wa)
internet café	<i>búkà ìtákùn àgbáyé</i>	bu-ka i-ta-kung a-gba-yay
market	<i>ojà</i>	o-ja

## Is this the road to (Óyó)?

*Se ònà (Óyó) niyi?* shay o-na (o-yo) ni-yi

## Can you show me (on the map)?

*Sé o lè fi hàn mí (lórí àwòrán)?* shay oh lay fi hang mi (loh-ri a-woh-rang)

## What's the address?

*Kí ni àdíréṣí?* ki ni a-di-re-si

## How far is it?

*Báwo ni ó se jínnà sí?* ba-woh ni oh shay jing-na si

## How do I get there?

*Báwo ni mà á se dé ibè?* ba-woh ni ma a shay day i-be

## Turn left/right.

*Yà sósi/sótùn-ún.* ya soh-si/so-tung-ung

It's ...	<i>Ó wà ...</i>	oh wa ...
behind ...	<i>lé-yín ...</i>	le-ying ...
in front of ...	<i>níwájú ...</i>	ni-wa-ju ...
near (to ...)	<i>légbéé ...</i>	le-gbe-e ...
next to ...	<i>légbéé ...</i>	le-gbe-e ...
on the corner	<i>légbéé ...</i>	le-gbe-e ...
opposite ...	<i>níwájú ...</i>	ni-wa-ju ...
straight ahead	<i>lòkánkán</i>	lo-kang-kang
there	<i>níbè</i>	ni-be

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	<i>Níbo ni ... wá?</i>	ni-boh ni ... wa
camping ground	<i>ilè ipàgój</i>	i-le i-kpa-go
guesthouse	<i>ilé ìtura</i>	i-lay i-tu-ra
hotel	<i>ilé ìtura</i>	i-lay i-tu-ra
youth hostel	<i>ilé itura ọdó</i>	i-lay i-tu-ra o-do

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

<i>Se o lè júwe ibi tí ó ti dínwo/dára?</i>	shay oh lay ju-way i-bi ti oh ti ding-woh/da-ra
---	---

I'd like to book a room, please.

<i>Jówó mà á fé gba yárá kan.</i>	jo-wo ma a fe gba ya-ra kang
-----------------------------------	------------------------------

I have a reservation.

<i>Mo ti gba yárá sílè télè.</i>	moh ti gba ya-ra si-le te-le
----------------------------------	------------------------------



Do you have a ... room?	<i>Şe e ní yárá ...?</i>	shay e ni ya-ra ...
single	<i>elénikan</i>	e-le-ni-kang
double	<i>eléniméjì</i>	e-le-ni-may-ji
twin	<i>oníbejì</i>	oh-ni-bay-ji

How much is it per ...?	<i>Èló ni fún ...?</i>	ay-loh ni fung ...
night	<i>alé ojó kan</i>	a-le o-jo kang
person	<i>enì kan</i>	e-ni kang

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.

<i>Mà á fé sun ibí fún ojó (méjì).</i>	ma a fe sung i-bi fung o-jo (may-ji)
--	--------------------------------------

What time is check-out?

<i>Ìgbà wo ni kiké rú jáde nínú ilé ìtura?</i>	i-gba woh ni ki-ke ru ja-de ni-nu i-lay i-tu-ra
--	---

Am I allowed to camp here?

<i>Şe àyè wà láti pàgój sibí?</i>	shay a-yay wa la-ti kpa-go si-bi
-----------------------------------	----------------------------------

## banking & communications

I'd like to ...	<i>Mà á fé ...</i>	ma a fe ...
arrange a transfer	<i>fi ówó ránṣé</i>	fi oh-woh rang-she
cash a cheque	<i>fi sòwédowó</i>	fi so-way-doh-woh
change a travellers cheque	<i>gba owó</i>	gba oh-woh
change money	<i>pààrò sòwédowó</i>	kpa-a-ro so-way-doh-woh
withdraw money	<i>arínrínàjò</i>	a-ring-ring-a-jo
	<i>pààrò owó</i>	kpa-a-ro oh-woh
	<i>gba owó ní báñki</i>	gba oh-woh ni bang-ki

I want to ...	<i>Mo fé ...</i>	mo fe ...
buy a phonecard	<i>ra kádà ìfòónù</i>	ra ka-a-di i-foh-oh-nu
call (Singapore)	<i>pe (Singapore)</i>	kpay (sing-a-po)
reverse the charges	<i>yí owó padà</i>	yi oh-woh kpa-da
use a printer	<i>lo ìtèwé</i>	loh i-te-way
use the internet	<i>lo itákùn àgbáyé</i>	loh i-ta-kung a-gba-yay

How much is it per hour?

<i>Èló ni fún wákáti kan?</i>	ay-loh ni fung wa-ka-ti kang
-------------------------------	------------------------------

How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

<i>Èló ni pípè fún (ìṣejú méta) jé?</i>	ay-loh ni kpi-kpay fung (i-she-ju me-ta) je
---	---

(100 naira) per minute/hour.

<i>(Ogórún-ún náírà) fún ìṣejú/wákáti kan.</i>	(o-go-rung-ung na-i-ra) fung i-she-ju/wa-ka-ti kan
--	--

## tours

When's the next ...?	<i>Ìgbà wo ni ...?</i>	i-gba woh ni ...
day trip	<i>ìrín-ojó kan</i>	i-ring-o-jo kang
tour	<i>ìrín-àjò afé</i>	i-ring-a-joh a-fe
Is ... included?	<i>Şé e fi ... si?</i>	shay e fi ... si
accommodation	<i>ibùgbé</i>	i-bu-gbay
the admission charge	<i>owó igbàwolé</i>	oh-woh i-gba-wo-lay
food	<i>oúnje</i>	oh-ung-je
transport	<i>ìrín-àjò</i>	i-ring-a-joh

**How long is the tour?**

Báwó ni ìrìn-àjò náá se jínnà sí?

ba·woh ni i·ring·a·joh naa shay jing·na si

**What time should we be back?**

Ìgbà wo ni ó ye kí á padà?

i·gba woh ni oh ye ki a kpa·da



## shopping

**I'm looking for ...**

Mò h wá ...

moh n wa ...

**I need film for this camera.**

Mo fé fílmù fún èrø ayàwòrán yíi.

moh fe fi·i·mu fung e·ro a·ya·woh·rang yi·i

**Can I listen to this?**

Se mo lè gbó èyí?

shay moh lay gbo ay·yi

**Can I have my ... repaired?**

Sé mo lè tún ... mi se?

shay moh lay tung ... mi shay

**When will it be ready?**

Ìgbà wo ni yóó se tán?

i·gba woh ni yoh·oh shay tang

**How much is it?**

Èló ni?

ay·loh ni

**Can you write down the price?**

Sé o lè kó iye owó rè sìlè?

shay oh lay ko i·yay oh·woh re si·le

**What's your lowest price?**

Èló ni jálè?

ay·loh ni ja·le

**I'll give you (800) naira.**

Mà á fún o ní (egbérin) náírà.

ma a fung o ni (e·gbe·ring) na·i·ra

**There's a mistake in the bill.**

Àṣíse wá nínú ìwé owó yíi.

a·shi·she wa ni·nu i·way oh·woh yi·i

**It's faulty.**

Ó ti bájé.

o ti ba·je

**I'd like a ..., please.**

Jòwò mà á fé gba ...

jo·wo ma a fe gba ...

receipt

rísítí

ri·si·i·ti

refund

owó padà

oh·woh kpa·da

**Do you accept ...?**

credit cards

debit cards

travellers

cheques

Sé e gba ...?

káàdì moyáwó

káàdì mojégbésé

ìwé sówédonó

arin·rín-àjò

shay e gba ...

ka·a·di moh·ya·woh

ka·a·di moh·je·gbay·say

i·way so·way·doh·woh

a·ring·ring·a·joh

**Could you ...?**

burn a CD from my

memory card

develop this film

Sé o lè ...?

da rékòdù yíi kó

láti inú fón rán

fó fílmù

shay oh lay ...

da re·ko·du yí·i ko

la·ti i·nu fong rang

fo fi·i·mu

## making conversation

**Hello.**

Péjé o.

kpe·le o

**Good night.**

Ó dàárò.

oh da·a·ro

**Goodbye.**

Ó dàbò.

oh da·bo

**Mr**

Ògbéni

o·gbe·ni

**Mrs**

Aya

a·ya

**Ms/Miss**

Omidan

oh·mi·dang

**How are you?**

Se dáadáa ni?

shay da·a·da·a ni

**Fine, and you?**

Béení, ìwó ní kó?

be·e·ni i·wo n kó

**What's your name?**

Kíni orúko ré?

ki ni oh·ru·ko re

**My name's ...**

Orúko mi ni ...

oh·ru·ko mi ni ...

**I'm pleased to**

Inú mi dùn láti

i·nu mi dung la·ti

**meet you.**

pàde ré.

kpa·day re

**This is my ...**

Èyí ni ... mi.

ay·yi ni ... mi

**boyfriend**

òrékùnrin

o·re-kung·ring

**brother**

arakunrin

a·ra·kung·ring

**daughter**

omó mi obínrin

o·mo mi oh·bing·ring

**father**

bábá

ba·ba

**friend**

òré

o·re

**girlfriend**

òrébìnrin

o·re·bing·ring

**husband**

oko

o·ko

**mother**

iyá/màmá

i·ya/ma·ma

**sister**

arábìnrin

a·ra·bing·ring

**son**

omó mi okùnrin

o·mo mi o·kung·ring

**wife**

ìyáwó

i·ya·woh

Here's my ...	<i>Eyi ni ...</i>	a·yi ni ...
What's your ...?	<i>Kí ni ... re?</i>	ki ni ... re
address	àdíréṣì	a-di-re-si
email address	àdíréṣì itákùn	a-di-re-si i-ta-kung
phone number	àgbayé nó·mába fó·ónù	a-gba-yay no-m-ba foh-oh-nu
Where are you from?	<i>Ibo ni ilú re?</i>	i-boh ni i-lu re
I'm from ...	<i>Ilú mi ni ...</i>	i-lu mi ni ...
Australia	Osirélià	o-si-ray-li-a
Canada	Kánádà	ka-na-da
New Zealand	Níù silandí	ni-u si-la-n-di
the UK	Ilú òyìnbó	i-lu oh-ying-boh
the USA	Améríkà	a-me-ri-ka
I'm (not) married. m	<i>Mi (ò) tí láya.</i>	mi (oh) ti i la-ya
I'm (not) married. f	<i>Mi (ò) tí ní ọkó.</i>	mi (oh) ti i ni o-ko
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Sé mo lè yà (ò) ní fótò?</i>	shay moh lay ya (o) ni fo-toh

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Ñjé o le júwe ...?</i>	n je oh lay u-way ...
bar	iléotí	i-lay-o-ti
dish	oúnje	oh-un-je
place to eat	iléoúnje	i-lay-oh-ung-je
I'd like ..., please.	<i>Jòwó, mà á fé ...</i>	jo-wo ma a fe ...
the bill	íwe owó	i-we oh-woh
the menu	àwọn oúnje tí ó wà	a-wong oh-ung-je ti oh wa
a table for (two)	ijokòó fún (ení méjí)	i-joh-koh-oh fung (e-ni me-jí)
that dish	oúnje yen	o-ung-je yeng
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Ñjé e ní oúnje aláíjeran?</i>	n je e ni oh-ung-je a-la-i-je-rang
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	<i>Jòwó ba mi se oúnje lai fi ... si?</i>	jo-wo ba mi shay oh-ung-je lai fi ... si
eggs	eyin	e-ying
meat stock	eran	e-rang

(cup of) coffee ...	<i>(ife) kofí ...</i>	(i-fay) ko-fi ...
(cup of) tea ...	<i>(ife) tî ...</i>	(i-fay) ti-i ...
with milk	pèlú miliíki	kpe-lu mi-li-i-ki
without sugar	lái sí súgà	la-i si su-ga
(boiled) water	<i>omi (gbígbóná)</i>	oh·mi (gbí·gboh·na)



## emergencies

Help!	<i>È ràn mí lówó o!</i>	e rang mi lo-wo o
Call ...!	<i>È pe ...!</i>	e kpay ...
an ambulance	okò gbókùúgbókùú	o-ko gboh-ku-u·gboh-ku-u
a doctor	dókítá	doх-ki-ta
the police	olópàá	o-lo-kpa-a
Could you help me, please?	<i>Jòwóše o lè ràn mí lówó?</i>	jo-wo-shay oh lay rang mi lo-wo
I'm lost.	<i>Mo ti sónù.</i>	moh ti so-nu
Where are the toilets?	<i>Ibo ni ilé ìgbónsé wà?</i>	i-boh ni i-lay i-gbong-se wa
I want to report an offence.	<i>Mo fé fi ejó kan sùn.</i>	moh fe fi e-jo kang sung
I have insurance.	<i>Mo ní íwé adójútòfò.</i>	moh ni i-way a-do-ju-to-fo
I want to contact my consulate/embassy.	<i>Mo fe ba a·shoh-ju i·le</i> <i>òkèrè ilú mi sòrò.</i>	mo fe ba a-shoh-ju i-le o·kay-ay-ray i-lu mi so-ro
I've been ...	<i>Won ti ...</i>	wong ti ...
assaulted	fyà je mí	fi-ya je mi
raped	fipá bá mi lò pò	fi-kpa ba mi loh kpo
robbed	jà mí lólè	ja mi loh-lay

I've lost my ...	<i>Mo ju ... nù.</i>	moh ju ... nu
bags	<i>àpò</i>	a-kpoh
credit card	<i>káàdì moyáwó</i>	ka-a-di moh-ya-woh
handbag	<i>àpamówó</i>	a-kpa-mo-wo
jewellery	<i>ohun-oso</i>	oh-hung-o-sho
money	<i>owó</i>	oh-woh
passport	<i>ìwé ìrinnà</i>	i-way i-ring-na
travellers	<i>ìwé sówédowó</i>	i-way so-way-doh-woh
cheques	<i>arin-rín-àjò</i>	a-ring-ring-a-joh
wallet	<i>póòsì</i>	kpo-o-si

My (money) was stolen. (*Owó*) *mi ti sonu.* (oh-woh) mi ti so-nu



## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>lbo ni ... tí ó</i>	i-boh ni ... ti oh
	<i>súnmó ibí?</i>	sung-mo i-bi
dentist	<i>dókítà eléyin</i>	doh-ki-ta ay-lay-ying
doctor	<i>dókítà</i>	doh-ki-ta
hospital	<i>ilé-iwòsàn</i>	i-lay-i-woh-sang
pharmacist	<i>apògùn</i>	a-kpoh-gung

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Mo fé dókítà (tí ó  
lè sò èdè òyìnbo).*

Could I see a female doctor?

*Se mo lè rí dókítà obìnrin?*

It hurts here.

*O nì dún mí nibí.*

I'm allergic to (penicillin).

*(Ògùn) yíi se owó òdi sí mi.*

*moh fe doh-ki-ta (ti oh  
lay so ay-day oh-ying-boh)*

*shay moh lay ri doh-ki-ta oh-bing-ring*

*oh n dung mi ni-bi*

*(oh-gung) yi-i shay o-wo oh-di si mi*

## english–yoruba dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as **n** (noun), **a** (adjective), **v** (verb), **sg** (singular) and **pl** (plural) where necessary.

### A

accommodation *ibùgbé i-bu-gbay*  
adaptor *ibádógbà i-ba-do-gba*  
after *léyín le-ying*  
airport *ibùdókò òfuru-fu i-bu-doh-ko oh-fu-ru-fu*  
alcohol *òtí o-ti*  
all *gbogbó gboh-gboh*  
allergy *èhun e-hung*  
and *àtí a-ti*  
ankle *grùn-esé o-rung-e-se*  
antibiotics *ògùn-éyá wúru oh-gung-e-ya wú-u-ru*  
anti-inflammatories *ògùn-ara wíwú oh-gung-a-ra wi-wu*  
arm *apá a-kpa*  
aspirin *aspirínní a-si-kpi-ring-ing-ni*  
asthma *ikó-fée i-ko-fay-ay*  
ATM *èro káàdì agbówójáde*  
e-ro ka-a-di a-gboh-woh-ja-de

### B

baby *omo-owó o-mo-o-wo*  
back (body) *eyín e-ying*  
backpack *apo ibé-rúsléyín a-kpoh i-gbe-ru-si-le-ying*  
bad *burú bu-ru*  
baggage claim *ibùgbérù i-bi-i-gbe-ru*  
bank *ilé-ifowápamósí i-lay-i-foh-woh-kpa-mo-si*  
bathroom *ilé-iwé i-lay-i-we*  
battery *bátiń ba-ti-ri*  
beautiful *dára da-ra*  
bed *ibùsún i-bu-sung*  
beer *bíà bí-a*  
bees *oyín oh-ying*  
before *téletéle te-le-te-le*  
bicycle *kéké ke-ke*  
big *tóbí toh-bi*  
blanket *aso-ibora òtútù asho-i-boh-ra oh-tu-tu*  
blood group *orísí-éjé oh-ri-shi-e-je*  
bottle *igò i-go*  
bottle opener *lsítí i-shi-tí*  
boy *omokùnrin o-mo-kung-ring*  
brakes (car) *biréékí-òkò bi-ray-ay-ki-o-ko*  
breakfast *óúnje-àárò oh-hung-je-a-a-ro*  
bronchitis *àsán inú èdòfóró a-i-sang i-n-e-do-foh-woh*

### C

café *búkà bu-ka*  
cancel *fagílè fa-gi-le*  
can opener *ísl-agolò i-shi-a-goh-loh*  
cash **n** *owó oh-woh*  
cell phone *telifónù alágbéká*  
te-li-foh-oh-nu a-la-a-gbay-ka  
centre **n** *àdárin a-a-ring*  
cheap *pò kpo*  
check (bill) *ìwé sówédowó i-way so-way-doh-wo*  
check-in *kérúsókò ke-ru-so-ko*  
chest *àyà a-ya*  
child *òdómódé o-do-mo-day*  
cigarette *sigá si-ga*  
city *ilú i-lu*  
clean **a** *mó mo*  
closed *padé kpa-day*  
codeine *kodíini koh-di-i-ni*  
cold **a** *tútú tu-tu*  
condom *kóngdómù ko-n-do-o-mo-mu*  
constipation *inúkíkún i-nu-ki-kung*  
contact lenses *igò-ójú i-go-hoh-ju*  
cough **n** *ikó i-ko*  
currency exchange *íswé ilé òkèrè*  
i-shé-woh i-le oh-kay-ay-ray  
customs (immigration) *asóbodé a-sho-boh-day*

### D

dairy products *èràjà wàrà ay-roh-ja wa-ra*  
dangerous *léwu lay-wu*  
date (time) *ákókò a-koh-koh*  
day *ojó o-jo*  
diaper *aso-iléédí a-sho-i-lay-ay-di*  
diarrhoea *igbé-gbúru i-gbe-gbu-u-ru*  
dinner *óúnje-alé oh-hung-je-a-le*  
dirty *dòtí do-ti*  
disabled *abírún a-bi-rung*  
double bed *ibùsún alágbéká i-bu-sung a-la-a-gbay-ka*  
drink **n** *ohun mímu oh-hung-mi-mu*  
drivers licence *ìwé èrì awakò i-way e-ri a-wa-ko*  
drug (illicit) *ògùn olóró o-gung oh-loh-woh*

**E**  
 ear *etí* ay-ti  
 east *ilà oòrùn* i-la oh-oh-rung  
 economy class *ijòkóó alábóodé*  
     i-joh-koh-oh a-la-bo-o-day  
 elevator *èrò-ákàbà* e-ro-a-ka-ba  
 email *n léta orí itákùn àgbayé*  
     le-ta oh-ri i-ta-kung a-gba-yay  
 English (language) *èdè gésí* ay-day ge-e-si  
 exchange rate *pásipààò* ówó ilè òkèèrè  
     kpa-shi-kpa-a-ro oh-woh i-e oh-kay-ay-ray  
 exit *n ònà ábójáde* o-na a-ba-ja-deh  
 expensive *òwón* o-wong  
 eye *ojú* oh-ju

**F**  
 fast *yá*  
 fever *ibà* i-ba  
 finger *ika* owo i-ka o-wo  
 first-aid kit *àpò lègùn wàràwérè*  
     a-kpoh i-she-gung wa-ra-way-ray  
 first class *ipò kíini* i-kpoh ki-i-ni  
 fish *n ejá* e-ja  
 food *óúnjé* oh-ung-je  
 foot *esé* e-se  
 fork *èmúga* e-mu-ga  
 free (of charge) *òfè* o-fe  
 fruit *èso* ay-soh  
 funny *panílérin* kpa-ni-le-ring-ing

**G**  
 game park *ogba-erankò* o-gba-e-rang-koh  
 gift *èbùn* e-bung  
 girl *omobinrin* o-mo-bing-ring  
 glass (drinking) *ife-imumi* i-fay-i-mu-mi  
 glasses *digí-ójú* di-gi-oh-ju  
 gluten *gulutíni* gu-lu-ti-i-ni  
 good *dára* da-ra  
 gram *gíráàmù* gi-ra-a-mu  
 guide *n amònà* a-mo-na

**H**  
 hand *owá* o-wo  
 happy *ídunnú* i-dung-nu  
 have *ní* ni

**E**  
 he *òun* oh-ung  
 head *orí* oh-ri  
 headache *éfórí* e-fo-ri  
 heart *okàn* o-kang  
 heart condition *ipò okàn* i-kpoh o-kang  
 heat *n ooru* oh-oh-ru  
 here *ibi* i-bi  
 high *gíga* gi-ga  
 highway *òpòpónà* oh-kpoh-kpoh-na  
 homosexual *n&a okùnrin asebiabo*  
     o-kung-ring a-shay-bi-a-boh  
 hot *gbóná* gboh-na  
 hungry *ebí* ay-bi

**I**  
 I èmi ay-mi  
 identification (card) *kààdi idánímò* ka-a-di i-da-ni-mo  
 ill *àísán* a-i-sang  
 important *pàtákì* kpa-ta-ki  
 internet *itákùn àgbayé* i-ta-kung a-gba-yay  
 interpreter *ògbufò* oh-gbu-fo

**J**  
 job *isé* i-she

**K**  
 key *kókóró* ko-ko-ro  
 kilogram *kílò* ki-loh  
 kitchen *ilé idáná* i-lay i-da-na  
 knife *òbè* o-be

**L**  
 laundry (place) *ibi ifoso* i-bi i-fo-sho  
 lawyer *agbejòrò* a-gbe-jo-roh  
 left-luggage office *ófisi ikérúsí* o-fi-i-si i-ke-ru-si  
 leg *esé* e-se  
 lesbian *n&a obìnrin asebiako*  
     oh-bing-ring a-shay-bi-a-ko  
 less *dín* ding  
 letter (mail) *léta* le-ta  
 like *v féràn* fe-rang  
 lost-property office *ófisi ikérútónù-sí*  
     o-fi-i-si i-ke-ru-toh-nu-sí  
 love *v fé* fe  
 lunch *óúnjé* ósán oh-ung-je o-sang

**M**  
 man *okùnrin* o-kung-ring  
 matches *íṣáná* i-sha-na  
 meat *eran* e-rang  
 medicine *ògùn* oh-gung  
 message *isé* i-she  
 mobile phone *telifónùn-alààgbékà*  
     te-li-foh-oh-nu-a-la-a-gbay-ka  
 month *osù* o-shu  
 morning *àárò* a-a-ro  
 motorcycle *alùkùpíkù* a-lu-kpu-kpu  
 mouth *enu* e-nu  
 movie *sinimà* si-ni-ma  
 MSG *amòbèdùn* a-mo-be-dung  
 museum *ilé-isémíbáyé* i-lay-i-she-m-ba-yay  
 music *orin* oh-ring

**N**

name *n orúko* oh-ru-ko  
 napkin *aso inuwó* a-sho i-nu-wo  
 nappy *aso iléedí* omodé a-sho i-lay-ay-di o-mo-day  
 national park *gbàgede* igbàfè gba-gay-day i-gba-fe  
 nausea *éébi* ay-ay-bi  
 neck *orin* o-rung  
 new *tuntun* tung-tung  
 news *íròyìn* i-roh-ying  
 newspaper *íwé-íròyìn* i-way i-roh-ying  
 night *alé* a-le  
 nightclub *ilé igbafé* alé i-lay i-gba-fe a-le  
 noisy *pariwo* kpa-ri-woh  
 nonsmoking *mámusigá* ma-mu-si-ga  
 north *àaréwá* a-ray-wa  
 nose *imú* i-mu  
 now *nisinsinyí* ni-sing-sing-yi  
 number *nóhbà* no-n-ba  
 nuts *nójtí* no-o-ti

**O**

oil (engine) *epo* ay-kpoh  
 OK *ódara* oh-da-ra  
 old *gbó* gboh  
 open *a síshi*  
 outside *ítá* i-ta

**P**

package *erù* e-ru  
 pain *irora* i-roh-ra

palace *ààfin* óba a-a-fing o-ba  
 paper *íwé* i-way  
 park (car) *v yàrà* ígbókósi ya-ra i-gbo-ko-si  
 passport *íwé irinnà* i-we i-ring-na  
 pay *san sang*  
 pen *kálàmù* ka-la-mu  
 petrol *epo betiròòlù* ay-kpoh be-ti-roh-oh-lu  
 pharmacy *ílè ipògùn* i-lay kpoh-oh-gung  
 plate *áwò/abó* a-woh/a-bo  
 postcard *pááfí ikíni* kpa-a-li i-ki-ni  
 post office *ílè ifowápamoúsi* i-lay i-foh-woh-kpa-mo-si  
 pregnant *oyún* oh-yung

**Q**

quiet *dáké* da-ke

**R**

rain *n òjò* oh-joh  
 razor *abefélé* a-be-fe-le  
 registered mail *íwé ifiránshé* i-way i-fi-rang-she  
 rent *v yá* lo loh  
 repair *v tún* se tung shay  
 reservation *gbá sílè* gba si-le  
 restaurant *ílè itura* i-lay i-tu-ra  
 return *v padà* kpa-da  
 road *ònà* o-na  
 room *yàrà* ya-ra

**S**

sad *banújé* ba-nu-je  
 safe *a fi pamò* fi-kpa-mo  
 sanitary napkin *aso níkan-óṣù* a-sho n-n-kang-oh-shu  
 seafood *awon-óhun-jíje-inú-ókun*  
     a-wong-oh-hung-jí-je-i-nu-oh-kun

seat *ijokòò* i-joh-koh-oh  
 send *fi ránshé* fi rang-she  
 sex *bá sun* ba sung  
 shampoo *ósefíorùn* o-she-i-fo-rung  
 share (a dorm, etc) *bá pín* ba-kping  
 shaving cream *ósefíarun* o-she-i-fa-rung  
 she *òun* oh-ung  
 sheet (bed) *aso ibora* a-sho i-boh-ra  
 shirt *séeti* she-e-ti  
 shoes *bátá* ba-ta  
 shop *n sóòbù* sho-o-bu  
 shower *n sáwá* sha-wa  
 skin *awo* a-wo  
 skirt *aso àwòsódò* obinrin  
     a-sho a-wo-soh-doh oh-bing-ring  
 sleep *v sun* sung

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small *kéré* kay-ray  
smoke (cigarettes) **v** *mu mu*  
soap *ose o-she*  
some *dìè di-e*  
soon *láipé* la-i-kpe  
sore throat *egbò òfun* ay-gboh-o-fung  
south *gúsù gu-su*  
souvenir shop *sóòbù ìtajà* sho-o-bu i-ta-ja  
speak *sórò so-ro*

spoon *síbi shi-bí*  
stamp *òòtè oh-oh-te*

stand-by ticket *tikéèti sí-dúródítè*  
ti-ke-e-ti si-du-roh-di-e

station (train) *ibudoko rélùwéé*  
i-bu-doh-ko ray-lu-way-ay

stomach *Ikún i-kung*

stop **v** *dúró du-roh*

stop (bus) **n** *ibùdókò* i-bu-doh-ko

street *òpòpò oh-kpoh-kpoh*

student *akékòo* a-ke-ko-o

sunscreen *ípara-agbòòrùn* i-kpa-ra-a-gboh-oh-rung

swim **v** *lúwèè lu-we-e*

## T

tampons *aso nnkan-osù* a-sho n-n-kang-oh-shu  
teeth *eyín* ay-ying

telephone **n** *telifónù* te-li-foh-oh-nu

television *amóhùnmáwòrán*  
a-moh-hung-ma-woh-rang

temperature (weather) *ojú ojó* oh-ju o-jo

tent *ágó a-go*

that (one) *íyen* i-yeng

they *áwon* a-wong

thirsty *òùngbe* oh-ung-gbe

this (one) *èyí* ay-yi

throat *òfun* o-fung

ticket *íwé iwolé* i-way i-wo-le

time *igbà* i-gba

tired *rè* re

tissues *íṣù ara* i-shu a-ra

today *ònì* oh-ni

toilet *ilé igbònsè* i-lay i-gbong-se

tonight *alé òní* a-le oh-ni

toothache *akokoro* a-koh-koh-roh

toothbrush *búróṣí ifoyín* bu-ro-o-shi i-fo-ying

toothpaste *ose ifoyín* o-she i-fo-ying

torch (flashlight) *tóòṣí to-o-shi*

tourist office *ofisi arin-rin-àjò* o-fi-i-si a-ring-ring-a-joh

towel *táwèlì* ta-we-li

translate *túmò tu-mo*  
travel agency *asètò arin-rin-àjò*  
a-she-toh a-ring-ring-a-joh  
travellers cheque *íwé sòwédowo arin-rin-àjò*  
i-we so-way-doh-woh a-ring-ring-a-joh  
trousers *sókótò* shoh-koh-toh  
twin beds *béèdì onibeji* be-e-di oh-ni-bay-ji  
tyre *táyà* ta-ya

## U

underwear *àwòtéélè* a-wo-te-le  
urgent *kiákia* ki-a-ki-a

## V

vacant *sí sílè* shi si-le  
vegetable **n** *èfó e-fó*  
vegetarian **a** *alájéran* a-la-i-je-rang  
visa *íwé òṣé írinnà* i-we a-she i-ring-na

## W

waiter *agbótí* a-gbo-ti  
walk **v** *rín* ring  
wallet *òpò ówó* a-kpoh oh-woh  
warm **a** *ooru* oh-oh-ru  
wash (something) *fó* fo  
watch **n** *íṣó i-sho*  
water *omí* oh-mi  
we *àwá* a-wa  
weekend *ópin-òṣé* oh-ping-o-se  
west *íwò oòrùn* i-wo oh-oh-rung  
wheelchair *kéké abirún* ke-ke a-bi-rung  
when *nígbáwó* ni-gba-woh  
where *níbó* ni-ni  
who *ta ni* ta ni  
why *nítóří kí ni* ni-toh-ri ki ni  
window *ferésé* fay-ray-say  
wine *òtí líle* o-ti li-lay  
with *pélu* kpe-lu  
without *láisí* la-i-si  
woman *obìnrin* oh-bing-ring  
write *kó* ko

## Y

you **sg** *íwo* i-wo  
you **pl** *éyin* e-ying

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# Zulu



# pronunciation

Vowels		Consonants	
Symbol	English sound	Symbol	English sound
aa	father	b	rib-punch
aw	law	b'	strong b with air sucked in
e	bet	ch'	as in 'let-show' but spat out
ee	see	d	as in 'hard-times'
u	put	dl	like a voiced hl
In this chapter, the Zulu pronunciation is given in pink after each phrase.		f	fun
Each syllable is separated by a dot, and the syllable stressed in each word is italicised.		g	as in 'big-kick'
For example:		h	hat
<i>Uxolo.</i> u-k <u>law</u> -law		hl	as in the Welsh 'llewellyn'
Note also that Zulu has no word stress in questions.		j	jar
The term 'voiced' applied to consonant and clicks in this chapter means 'said with the vocal cords vibrating'.		k	kit
Zulu's glottalised consonants, simplified as b', ch', k', p', t' and ts' in our pronunciation guide, are made by tightening and releasing the space between the vocal cords when you pronounce the sound, a bit like combining it with the sound in the middle of the word 'uh-oh'. The sound b' has an extra twist – instead of breathing out to make the sound, you breathe in.		k'	k, but spat out
For information on Zulu's distinctive click sounds, see the box on page 220.		l	lot
		m	man
		n	not
		ng	finger
		ny	canyon
		p	pet
		p'	popping p
		r	run (rolled)
		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		t'	spitting t
		ts'	as in 'lets', but spat out
		v	very
		w	win
		y	yes
		z	zero

## introduction

The name of the Zulu language (*isiZulu* ee-see-zu-lu) comes from the word *izulu* ee-zu-lu – literally 'heaven', or, more poetically, 'the people of heaven'. About 10 million Africans speak Zulu as a first language, with the vast majority (more than 95 per cent) in South Africa. Other speakers are in Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique and Swaziland. Zulu, an Nguni language belonging to the Southern Bantu group, is closely related to other Bantu languages in southern Africa, particularly Xhosa. Zulu-speaking people are descendants of the Nguni people who inhabited coastal regions of southeastern Africa from the 16th century. Some linguists believe that during the 16th and 17th centuries, the Nguni dialects acquired their distinctive 'click' sounds, which still feature in Zulu. Another theory claims that Zulu and Xhosa women borrowed the clicks from neighbouring Khoisan languages to disguise taboo words in their own languages. The Zulu Empire was established in the second quarter of the 19th century, a time in which foreign missionaries were recording and documenting the language and culture of the Zulu people. Several spelling systems were in use by 1860, and a standardised writing system was implemented in 1921.

  zulu (native language)

  zulu (generally understood)



# language difficulties

Do you speak English?	<i>Uyasikhuluma isiNgisi?</i>	u·yaa·see·ku·lu·maa ee·see·nghee·see
Do you understand?	<i>Uyezwa?</i>	u·ye·zwaa
I understand.	<i>Ngiyewza.</i>	ngee·ye·zwaa
I don't understand.	<i>Angizwa.</i>	aa·nghee·zwaa
Could you please ...? repeat that speak more slowly write it down	<i>Ake ...? uphinde ukhulume kancane kakhulu uyibhale phansi</i>	aa·ge ... u·pee·nde u·ku·lu·me gaa·nk!aa·ne gaa·ku·lu u·yee·baa·le paa·nts'ee

## click sounds

Zulu has a series of click sounds: some clicks are against the front teeth (like a 'tsk' sound), some are against the roof of the mouth at the front (like a 'tock' sound) and some are against the side teeth (like the chirrup you make to get a horse to start walking).

front teeth	roof of the mouth	side teeth	description
k!	k <sub>j</sub>	k <sub>i</sub>	voiceless
kh!	kh <sub>j</sub>	kh <sub>i</sub>	aspirated (with a puff of air)
g!	g <sub>j</sub>	g <sub>i</sub>	voiced
n!	n <sub>j</sub>	n <sub>i</sub>	nasalized voiceless
gn!	gn <sub>j</sub>	gn <sub>i</sub>	nasalised voiced

# time, dates & numbers

What time is it?	<i>Ngubani isikhathi?</i>	ngu·b'aa·nee ee·see·kaa·tee
It's one o'clock.	<i>Nguwani.</i>	ngu·waa·nee
It's (two) o'clock.	<i>Ngu(thu).</i>	ngu·(thu)
It's quarter past (one).	<i>Yingokhatha-phasi (wani).</i>	yee·ngaw·kaw·taa·paa·see (waa·nee)
Half past (one).	<i>Ngophashi-(wani).</i>	ngaw·paa·see·(waa·nee)
Quarter to (eight).	<i>Ngokhatha-thu (eyithi).</i>	ngaw·kaw·taa·tu (e·yee·tee)
At what time ...?	<i>Ngasikhathi bani ...?</i>	ngaa·see·kaa·tee b'aa·nee ...
At ...	<i>Ngo ...</i>	ngaw ...
It's (17 December).	<i>Ngumhla ka-(seventini Disemba).</i>	ngu·m·hlaa gaa·(se·ve·nt'ee·nee dee·se·mbaa)

yesterday	<i>izolo</i>	ee·zaw·law
today	<i>namhlanje</i>	naa·m·hlaa·nje
tomorrow	<i>kusasa</i>	gu·saa·saa
Monday	<i>uMsombuloko</i>	u·m·saw·mbu·lu·gaw
Tuesday	<i>uLwesibili</i>	u·lwe·see·b'ee·lee
Wednesday	<i>uLwesithathu</i>	u·lwe·see·taa·tu
Thursday	<i>uLwesine</i>	u·lwe·see·ne
Friday	<i>uLwesihlanu</i>	u·lwe·see·hlaa·nu
Saturday	<i>uMgqibelo</i>	u·m·gjee·b'e·law
Sunday	<i>iSonto</i>	ee·saw·nt'aw

## numbers

In Zulu, numbers borrowed from English are commonly used and will be understood. They're also given in this chapter, rather than the more complex Zulu forms. See below for numbers one to 10.

1	<i>uwani</i>	u·waa·nee	6	<i>usiksi</i>	u·seek·see
2	<i>uthu</i>	u·tu	7	<i>usevene</i>	u·se·ve·nee
3	<i>uthri</i>	u·three	8	<i>u·eyithi</i>	u·e·yet
4	<i>ufo</i>	u·faw	9	<i>unayini</i>	u·naa·yee·nee
5	<i>ufayifi</i>	u·faa·yee·fee	10	<i>utheni</i>	u·the·nee

# border crossing

I'm here ... in transit on business on holiday	<i>Ngilapha ... ngidlula nje ngebhizinisi ngeholide</i>	ngee·laa·paa ... ngee·dlu·laa nje nge·bee·zee·nee·see nge·haw·lee·de
I'm here for ... (10) days	<i>Ngizoba lapha ... amalanga (ayishumi)</i>	ngee·zaw·b'aa laa·paa ... aa·maa·laa·ngaa (a·yee·shu·mee)
	<i>amasonto (amathathu)</i>	aa·maa·saw·nt'aw (aa·maa·taa·tu)
(three) weeks	<i>izinyanga (ezimbili)</i>	ee·zee·nyaa·nga (e·zee·mbee·lee)
(two) months		
I'm going to (the Drakensberg). <i>Ngiya (okKhahlamba).</i>		ngee·yaa (aw·kaa·hlaa·mbaa)
I'm staying at the (Durban Sun). <i>Ngihlala (e-Durban Sun).</i>		ngee·hlaa·laa (e·de·ben saa·nee)

## tickets

**A one-way ticket to (Eshowe), please.**

*Ngicela ithikithi elilodwa ukuya (eShowe).* ngee-kle·laa ee·tee·gee·tee e·lee·law·dwaa u·gu·yaa (e·shaw·we)

**A return ticket to (Ulundi), please.**

*Ngicela ithikithi elilodwa ukuya nokubuya (oLundi).* ngee-kle·laa ee·tee·gee·tee e·lee·law·dwaa u·gu·yaa naw·gu·b'u·yaa (aw-lu·ndee)

**I'd like to ... my ticket, please.**

cancel	<i>Ngicela uku-... ithikithi lami.</i>	ngee-kle·laa u·gu·... ee·tee·gee·tee laa·mee
change	<i>khansela</i>	kaa·nts'e·laa
collect	<i>shintsha</i>	shee·nch'aa
	<i>landa</i>	laa·ndaa

**Is there a toilet?**

*Kukhona ithoyilethi?* gu·kaw·naa ee·taw·yee·le·tee

**Is there air conditioning?**

*Kukhona umoya opholisiwe?* gu·kaw·naa u·maw·yaa aw·paw·lee·see·we

**How long does the trip take?**

*Uhambo luthatha isikhathi esingakanani?* u·haa·mbaw lu·taa·taa ee·see·kaa·tee e·see·ngaa·gaa·naa·nee

**Is it a direct route?**

*Yindlela eqondile?* yee·ndlē·laa e·k'jāw·ndee·le

## transport

**Where does flight (BA325) arrive/depart?**

*Lifikela/Lisukekela kuphi ibhanoyi u-(BA325)?* lee·fee·ge·laa /lee·su·ge·ge·laa gu·pee ee·ba·naw·yee u·(bee ey three tu faiv)

**How long will it be delayed?**

*Lizomiswa isikhathi esingakanani?* lee·zaw·mee·swaa ee·see·kaa·tee e·see·ngaa·gaa·naa·nee

**Is this the boat/train to (Cape Town)?**

*Yiso isikebhe/isitimela esiya (eKipi)?* yee·saw ee·see·k'e·be/ee·see·t'ee·me·laa e·see·yaa (e·k'ee·p'ee)

**Is this the bus/plane to (Johannesburg)?**

*Yilo ibhasi/ibhanoyi eliya (eGoli)?* yee·law ee·baa·see/ee·baa·naw·yee e·lee·yaa (e·gaw·lee)

**I'd like to hire a ... (with air conditioning).**

4WD	<i>i-fo-bhayi-fo</i>
car	<i>imoto</i>

**How much is it for (three) days/weeks?**

<i>Malini amalanga/amasona (amathathu)?</i>	maa·lee·nee aa·maa·laa·ngaa/aa·maa·saw·nt'aw (aa·maa·taa·tu)
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**How much is it to (Umvoti)?**

<i>Malini ukuya (emVoti)?</i>	maa·lee·nee u·gu·yaa (em·vaw·tee)
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**Please take me to (this address).**

<i>Ake ungise ku-(lelikheli).</i>	aa·ge u·ngee·se gu·(le·lee·ke·lee)
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## directions

**Where's the (nearest) ...?**

internet café	<i>Ingakuphi ... (eseduzana)?</i>
market	<i>i-Internet café</i>
	<i>imakethe</i>

**Is this the road to (Hluhluwe)?**

<i>Yijo indlela eya (eHluhluwe)?</i>	yee·yaw ee·ndlē·laa e·yaa (e·hlu·hlu·we)
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**Can you show me (on the map)?**

<i>Ungangibonisa (kumephu)?</i>	u·ngaa·ngaa·b'aw·nee·saa (gu·me·pu)
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**What's the address?**

<i>Lithini ikheli?</i>	lee·tee·nee ee·ke·lee
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**How far is it?**

<i>Kukude kangakanani?</i>	gu·gu·de gaa·ngaa·gaa·naa·nee
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**How do I get there?**

<i>Ngifikasi kanjani lapho?</i>	ngee·fee·gaa gaa·njaa·nee laa·paw
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**Turn left/right.**

<i>Jikela kwesokunxele/ kwesokunene.</i>	jee·ge·laa gwe·saw·gu·n'e·le/ gwe·saw·gu·ne·ne
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It's ...	Ku...	gu...
behind ...	<i>semva kwa-</i> ...	<i>se-mbvaaw gwa-</i> ...
in front of ...	<i>phambi kwa-</i> ...	<i>paa-mbee gwa-</i> ...
near (to ...)	<i>seduze (na-)</i> ...	<i>se-du-ze (naa-)</i> ...
next to ...	<i>secaleni kwa-</i> ...	<i>se-klaa-le-nee gwa-</i> ...
on the corner	<i>sekhoneni</i>	<i>se-kaw-ne-nee</i>
opposite ...	<i>bhekene na-</i> ...	<i>be-ge-nee naa-</i> ...
straight ahead	<i>ngaphambili</i>	<i>ngaa-paa-mbee-lee</i>
there	<i>laphaya</i>	<i>laa-paa-yaa</i>

## accommodation

Where's a ...?	<i>Ingakuphi</i> ...?	ee·ngaa·gu·pee ...
camping ground	<i>indawo yokukhempa</i>	<i>ee-ndaa-waw yaw-gu-ke-mpa</i>
guesthouse	<i>indlu yezivakashi</i>	<i>ee-ndluy e-ze-vaa-gaa-shee</i>
hotel	<i>ihotelu</i>	<i>ee-haw-t'e-laa</i>
youth hostel	<i>ihostela labasha</i>	<i>ee-haw-st'e-laa laa-b'aa-shaa</i>

Can you recommend somewhere cheap/good?

<i>Ikhona indawo eshibile/</i>	ee·kaw·naa ee·ndaa·waw e·shee·bee·le/
<i>enhle oyaziyo?</i>	e·ntl'e aw·yaa·zee·yaw

I'd like to book a room, please.

<i>Ngingathanda ukubekisa</i>	ngee·ngaa·taa·ndaa u·gu·b'e·gee·saa
<i>ikamelo.</i>	ee·k'aa·me-law

I have a reservation.

<i>Ngibekelwe indawo.</i>	ngee·b'e·ge-lwe ee·ndaa·waw
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Do you have a ... room?	<i>Ninekamelo</i> ...?	nee·ne·k'aa·me-law ...
single	<i>lomuntu oyedwa</i>	law·mu·nt'u aw·ye-dwaa
double	<i>labantu ababili</i>	laa·b'aa·nt'u aa·b'aa·b'ee-lee
twin	<i>elinemibhede</i>	e·lee·ne·mee·be-de

How much is it per ...?	<i>Malini</i> ...?	maa·lee·nee ...
night	<i>ubusuku obubodwa</i>	u·b'u-su-gu aw·b'u·b'aw-dwaa

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.	<i>Ngingathanda ukulala</i>	ngee·ngaa·taa·ndaa u·gu·laa·laa
<i>izinsuku (ezimbili).</i>	ee·zee·nts'u·gu (e-zee-mbee-lee)	

What time is check-out?

<i>Kufanele kuphunywe</i>	gu·faa·ne·le gu·pu·nywe
<i>ngasikhathi bani?</i>	ngaa·see·kaa·tee b'aa·nee

Am I allowed to camp here?

<i>Kuvunyelwa ukumisa</i>	gu·vu·nye·lwa u·gu·mee·saa
<i>ikamu lapha?</i>	ee·k'aa·mu laa·paa



## banking & communications

I'd like to ...	<i>Ngicela uku-</i> ...	ngee·kle·laa u·gu...
arrange a transfer	<i>shintshwa</i>	shee·nch'waa
cash a cheque	<i>phendula isheke</i>	pe·ndu·laa i·she·ge
change a travellers cheque	<i>phendula isheke</i>	phe·ndu·laa ee·she·ge
change money	<i>lesihambi</i>	le·see·haa·mbee
withdraw money	<i>shintsha imali</i>	shee·nch'aa ee·maa·lee
I want to ...	<i>kiphipa imali</i>	kee·paa ee·maa·lee
buy a phonecard	<i>Ngifuna uku-</i> ...	ngee·fu·naa u·gu...
call (London)	<i>thenga ikhadi</i>	te·ngaa ee·kaa·dee
reverse the charges	<i>locingo</i>	law·klee·ngaw
use a printer	<i>fowunela</i>	faw·wu·ne·laa
use the internet	<i>ku(Landani)</i>	gu·(laa·ndaa·nee)
	<i>buysela izindleko</i>	b'u·yee·sel·laa ee·zee·ndle·gaw
	<i>emuva</i>	e·mu·vaa
	<i>sebenzisa iphrinta</i>	se·b'e·ndzee·saa ee·phree·nt'aa
	<i>sebenzisa</i>	se·b'e·ndzee·saa
	<i>i-intanethi</i>	ee·ee·nt'aa·ne·tee

How much is it per hour?

<i>Malini nge-awa?</i>	maa·lee·nee nge·aa·waa
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How much does a (three-minute) call cost?

<i>Malini ucingo (lwemizulu</i>	maa·lee·nee u·klee·ngaw (lwe·mee·zu·zu
<i>emithathu)?</i>	e·mee·taa·tu)

(One rand) per minute/hour.

<i>(Irandi) ngomzuzu/nge-awa.</i>	(ee·raa·ndee) ngaw·m·zu·zu/nge·aa·waa
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## tours

When's the next ...?	<i>Luzokuba nini ...?</i>	lu-zaw-gu-baa nee-nee ...
day trip	<i>uhambo lwemini</i>	u-haa-mbaw lwe-mee-nee
	<i>yonke</i>	yaw-nk'e
tour	<i>uhambo</i>	u-haa-mbaw
Is ... included?	<i>Sekuhlangene imali ...?</i>	se-gu-hlaa-nge-ne ee-maa-lee ...
accommodation	<i>yokuhlala</i>	yaw-gu-hlaa-laa
the admission charge	<i>yokungena</i>	yaw-gu-nge-naa
food	<i>yokudla</i>	yaw-gu-dlaa
transport	<i>yokuthuthwa</i>	yaw-gu-tu-twaa
How long is the tour?	<i>Uhambo luthatha isikhathi esingakanani?</i>	u-haa-mbaw lu-taa-taa ee-see-kaa-tee e-see-ngaa-gaa-naa-nee
What time should we be back?	<i>Kufanele sibuye ngasikhathi bani?</i>	gu-faa-ne-le see-b'u-ye ngaa-see-kaa-tee b'aa-nee

## shopping

I'm looking for ...	<i>Ngifuna ...</i>	ngee-fu-naa ...
I need film for this camera.	<i>Ngidinga ifilimi lale khamera.</i>	ngee-dee-ngaa ee-fee-lee-mu laa-le kaa-me-raa
Can I listen to this?	<i>Ngingalalela le na?</i>	ngee-ngaa-laa-le-laa le naa
Can I have my ... repaired?	<i>Ngingalungiselwa ... na?</i>	ngee-ngaa-lu-ngee-se-lwaa ... naa
When will it be ready?	<i>Izobe ilungile nini?</i>	ee-zaw-b'e ee-lu-ngee-le nee-nee
How much is it?	<i>Yimalini?</i>	yee-maa-lee-nee
Can you write down the price?	<i>Ungangibhalela inani?</i>	u.ngaa-ngee-baa-le-la ee-naa-nee

## What's your lowest price?

<i>Yini intengo ephansi?</i>	yee-nee ee-nt'e-ngaw e-paa-nts'ee
<i>I'll give you (five) rands.</i>	ngee-zaw-gu-nee-gaa aa-maa-raa-ndee (aa-ma-hlaa-nu)
<i>Ngizokunika amarandi (amahlanu).</i>	
<i>There's a mistake in the bill.</i>	gu-ne-see-paw-see-saw e-see-kwe-ne-twee-nee
<i>Kunesiphosiso esikwenetwini.</i>	
<i>It's faulty.</i>	a-yee-se-b'e-ndzee gaa-hle
<i>Ayisebenzi kahle.</i>	
<i>I'd like a receipt, please.</i>	ngee-k!e-laa ee-ree-see-dee
<i>Ngicela irisidi.</i>	
<i>I'd like a refund, please.</i>	ngee-k!e-laa u-gu-b'u-yee-se-lwaa ee-maa-lee
<i>Ngicela ukubuyiselwa imali.</i>	

<i>Do you accept ...?</i>	<i>Nithatha ... na?</i>	nee-taa-taa ... naa
credit cards	<i>amakhadi ekhrediti</i>	aa-maa-kaa-dee e-khre-dee-tee
debit cards	<i>amakhadi edebithi</i>	aa-maa-kaa-dee e-de-b'ee-tee
travellers cheques	<i>amasheke esihambi</i>	aa-maa-she-ge e-see-haa-mbee
Could you ...?	<i>Unga-... na?</i>	u-ngaa-... naa
burn a CD from my memory card	<i>wathatha amafayili ekhadini lami le-memory uwabhale ku-CD khulisa leli filimu</i>	waa-taa-taa aa-maa-faa-yee-lee e-kaa-dee-nee laa-mee le-me-maw-ree u-waa-baa-le gu-see-dee ku-lee-saa le-lee fee-lee-mu

## making conversation

Hello.	<i>Sawubona. sg</i>	saa-wu-b'aw-naa
Hello.	<i>Sanibonani. pl</i>	saa-nee-b'aw-naa-nee
Good night.	<i>Lala/Lalani kahle. sg/pl</i>	laa-laa/laa-laa-nee gaa-hle
Goodbye (stay well).	<i>Sala/Salani kahle. sg/pl</i>	saa-laa/saa-laa-nee gaa-hle
Goodbye (go well).	<i>Hamba/Hambani kahle. sg/pl</i>	haa-mbaa/haa-mbaa-nee gaa-hle
Mr	<i>(u)Mnumzane</i>	(u)-m-nu-m-zaa-ne
Mrs	<i>(u)Nkosikazi</i>	(u)-nk'aw-see-gaa-zee
Ms/Miss	<i>(u)Nkosazana</i>	(u)-nk'aw-saa-zaa-naa

(the *u* in the Zulu title is omitted when you actually address someone)

How are you?	<i>Unjani?/Ninjani?</i> sg/pl	u·njaa·nee/nee·njaa·nee
Fine. And you?	<i>Sikhona. Nawe/Nani?</i> sg/pl	see·kaw·naa naa·we/naa·nee
What's your name?	<i>Ngubani igama lakho?</i>	ngu·b'aa·nee ee·gaa·maa laa·kaw
My name's ...	<i>Igama lami ngu-...</i>	ee·gaa·maa laa·mee ngu·...
I'm pleased to meet you.	<i>Ngiyajabula ukukwazi/ukunazi.</i> sg/pl	ngee·yaa·ja·b'u·laa u·gu·gwaa·zee/u·gu·naa·zee
This is my ... brother	<i>Lo ... wami. ngumfowethu</i>	law ... waa·mee ngu·m·faw·we·tu
father	<i>ngubaba</i>	ngu·b'aa·b'aa
friend	<i>ngumngane</i>	ngu·m·ngaa·ne
husband	<i>ngumyeni</i>	ngu·m·ye·nee
mother	<i>ngumama</i>	ngu·maa·maa
sister	<i>udadewethu</i>	u·daa·de·we·tu
wife	<i>ngunkosikazi</i>	ngu·nk'aw·see·gaa·zee
Here's my ... address	<i>Nayi ... Lithini ... lakho?</i>	naa·yee ... lee·tee·nee ... laa·kaw
email address	<i>ikheli</i>	ee·ke·lee
	<i>ikheli le-email</i>	ee·ke·lee le·e·me·yee·lee
Where are you from?	<i>Uvelaphi?</i>	u·ve·laa·pee
I'm from (Australia).	<i>Ngivelə (e-Ostrelia).</i>	ngee·ve·laa (e·aw·stre·ee·yaa)
I'm married.	<i>Ngishadile.</i>	ngee·shaa·dee·le
I'm not married.	<i>Angishadanga.</i>	aa·ngee·shaa·daa·ngaa
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Ngcicela uku(ku)-thatha isithombe.</i>	ngee·k'le·laa u·gu·(gu)-taa·taa ee·see·taw·mbe

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Ungasitshela ... na?</i>	u·ngaa·see·ch'e·laa ... naa
bar	<i>ngendawo yokuphuza oyithandayo</i>	nge·ndaa·waw yaw·gu·pu·zaa aw·yee·taa·ndaa·yaw
dish	<i>ngesidlo osithandayo</i>	nge·see·dlaw aw·see·taa·ndaa·yaw
place to eat	<i>ngendawo yokudla oyithandayo</i>	nge·ndaa·waw yaw·gu·dlaa aw·yee·taa·ndaa·yaw

I'd like ..., please.	<i>Ngcicela ... the bill</i>	ngee·k'le·laa ... ee·ree·see·dee law·gu·kaw·kaa
	<i>imenu</i>	ee·me·nyu
	<i>itafula (yabantu ababil)</i>	ee·t'aa·fu·laa (yaa·b'aa·nt'u aa·b'aa·b'ee·lee)
	<i>leso sidlo</i>	le·saw see·dlaw
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Ninokudla kwabangadli nyama?</i>	nee·naw·gu·dlaa gwaa·b'aa·ngaa·dlee nyaa·maa
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	<i>Ungakupheka ukudla ngaphandle kokusebenzisa ... na?</i>	u·ngaa·gu·pe·gaa u·gu·dlaa ngaa·paa·ndlle gaw·gu·se·b'e·ndzee·saa ... naa
eggs	<i>amaqanda</i>	aa·maa·kja·ndaa
meat stock	<i>isobho lenyama</i>	ee·saw·baw le·nyaa·maa
(cup of) coffee/tea ... with milk	<i>ikhofi/itiye ... elinobisi</i>	ee·kaw·fee/ee·t'ee·ye ... e·lee·naw·b'ee·see
without sugar	<i>elingenashukela</i>	e·lee·nge·naa·shu·ge·laa
(boiled) water	<i>amanzi (abilisiweyo)</i>	aa·maa·ndzee (aa·b'ee·lee·see·we·yaw)

## emergencies

Call ...!	<i>Biza ...!</i>	b'ee·zaa ...
an ambulance	<i>i-ambulense</i>	ee·aa·mbu·le·nts'e
a doctor	<i>udokotela</i>	u·daw·gaw·t'e·laa
the police	<i>amaphoyisa</i>	aa·maa·paw·yee·saa

Could you help me, please?  
*Ake ungisize/ningisize.* sg/pl      aa·ge u·ngee·see·ze/nee·ngee·see·ze

I'm lost.  
*Ngilahlekile.*      ngee·laa·hle·gee·le

Where are the toilets?  
*Ziphi izindlu zangasese?*      zee·pee ee·zee·ndlu zaa·ngaa·se·se

I want to report an offence.  
*Ngiufuna ukubika icala.*      ngee·fu·naa u·gu·b'ee·gaa ee·k'laa·laa

I have insurance.  
*Nginomshwayilense.*      ngee·naw·m·shwa·yee·le·nts'e

I've been assaulted.	<i>Ngilinyaziwe.</i>	ngee-lee-nyaa-zee-we
I've been raped.	<i>Ngidlwenguliwe.</i>	ngee-dlwe-ngu-lee-we
I've been robbed.	<i>Ngigetshengiwe.</i>	ngee-ge-ch'e-ngee-we
I've lost my ...		
	<i>Ngilahlekelwe yi-...</i>	ngee-laa-hle-ge-/we yee-...
My bags were stolen.	<i>Amapotimende ami ebiwe.</i>	aa-maa-p'aw-tee-me-nde aa-mee e-b'ee-we
My passport was stolen.	<i>Iphasiphothi lami lebiwe.</i>	ee-paa-see-paw-tee laa-mee le-b'ee-we
My wallet was stolen.		
	<i>Isikhwama sami semali sebiwe.</i>	ee-see-kwaa-maa saa-mee se-maa-lee se-b'ee-we
I want to contact my consulate/embassy.		
	<i>Ngifuna ukuthintana ne-consulate/ne-embassy.</i>	ngee-fu-naa u-gu-tee-nt'aa-naa ne-kaw-nsu-laa-tee/ne-e-mbaa-see

## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>Ikuphi indawo ... eseduzane?</i>	ee-gu-pee ee-ndaa-waw ... e-se-du-zaa-ne
dentist	<i>kadokotela</i>	gaa-daw-gaw-te-laa
doctor	<i>wamazinyo</i>	waa-maa-zee-nyaw
	<i>kadokotela</i>	gaa-daw-gaw-te-laa
Where's the nearest hospital?	<i>Sikuphi isibhedlela esiseduzane?</i>	see-gu-pee ee-see-be-dle-laa e-see-se-du-zaa-ne
Where's the nearest pharmacist?	<i>Likuphi ikhemisi eliseduzane?</i>	lee-gu-pee ee-ke-mee-see e-lee-se-du-zaa-ne
I need a doctor (who speaks English).		
	<i>Ngidinga udukotela (okwazi ukukhuluma isiNgisi).</i>	ngee-dee-ngaa u-daw-gaw-te-laa (aw-gwaa-zee u-gu-ku-lu-maa ee-see-ngee-see)
Could I see a female doctor?		
	<i>Ngingabona udukotela wesifazane na?</i>	ngee-ngaa-b'aw-naa u-daw-gaw-te-laa we-see-faa-zaa-ne naa
It hurts here.	<i>Kubuhlungu lapha.</i>	gu-b'u-hlu-ngu laa-paa
I'm allergic to (penicillin).	<i>Angizwani na-(nephensisilini).</i>	aa-ngee-zwaa-nee naa-(ne-pe-nee-see-lee-nee)

## english–zulu dictionary

In this dictionary, words are marked as **n** (noun), **a** (adjective), **v** (verb), **sg** (singular) and **pl** (plural) where necessary. Note that in Zulu the pronouns are prefixes attached to the beginning of a verb, as indicated with hyphens in this dictionary. Zulu adjectives usually come after the noun and the form of the adjective changes according to the class of the noun. Just use the form of the adjective given in this dictionary and remember to have it after the noun – it won't be completely correct grammatically, but you should be understood.

### A

accommodation	<i>indawo yokulala</i>
	ee-ndaa-waw yaw-gu-laa-laa
after	<i>emva kwa- e-mbvaagwaa</i>
airport	<i>isikhumulo samabhanoyi</i>
	ee-see-ku-mu-law saa-maa-baa-naw-yee
alcohol	<i>utschwala u-ch'waa-laa</i>
all	<i>-onke -aw-nk'e</i>
and (joins nouns)	<i>na- naa-</i>
and (joins sentences)	<i>futhi fu-tee</i>
ankle	<i>iqakala ee-kjaa-gaa-laa</i>
arm	<i>ingalo ee-ngaaglaw</i>
aspirin	<i>i-aspirin ee-es-peee-ree-nee</i>
asthma	<i>umbefu u-m-b'e-fu</i>
ATM	<i>i-ATM ee-e-yee-tee-em</i>

### B

baby	<i>usana u-saa-naa</i>
back (body)	<i>umhlane u-m-hlaa-ne</i>
backpack	<i>unxazisuka u-n'ja-zee-su-gaa</i>
bad	<i>-bi- b'ee</i>
baggage	<i>claim ithikithi yempahlha</i>
	ee-tee-gee-tee ye-mp'aa-hlaa
bank	<i>ibhangue ee-baa-nge</i>
bathroom	<i>ibhavulumu ee-baa-vu-lu-mu</i>
battery	<i>ibhetri ee-be-tree</i>
beautiful	<i>-hle -hle</i>
bed	<i>umbhede u-m-be-te</i>
beer	<i>ubhiya u-bee-ya</i>
bees	<i>izinyosi ee-zee-nyaw-see</i>
before	<i>phambi kwa- paa-mbee gwaa-</i>
bicycle	<i>ibhayisikili ee-baa-yee-see-gee-lee</i>
big	<i>-khulu -ku-lu</i>
blanket	<i>ingubo ee-ngu-b'aw</i>
blood group	<i>uhlobo lwegazi u-hlaw-b'aw lwe-gaa-zee</i>
bottle	<i>ibhodlela ee-baw-dle-laa</i>
bottle opener	<i>isivilo sebhodlela</i>
	ee-see-vu-law se-baw-dle-laa
boy	<i>umfanu u-m-faa-naa</i>
brakes (car)	<i>amabhuleki aa-maa-bu-le-gee</i>

breakfast *ibhulakufesi ee-bu-laa-gu-fe-see*  
bronchitis *ukucinana kwesifuba*  
u-gu-klee-naa-naa gwe-see-fu-b'aa

### C

café	<i>ikhefe ee-ke-fee</i>
cancel	<i>-khansela -kaa-nts'e-laa</i>
can opener	<i>isivilo sethini ee-see-vu-law se-tee-nee</i>
cash	<i>uukheshe u-ke-she</i>
cell phone	<i>isele ee-se-le</i>
centre	<i>iphakathi ee-paa-gaa-tee</i>
cheap	<i>-shibhile -shee-bee-le</i>
check (bill)	<i>irisidi lokukhokha</i>
	ee-ree-see-dee law-gu-kaw-kaa
check-in	<i>n ukubhalisa u-gu-baa-lee-saa</i>
chest	<i>isifuba ee-see-fu-b'aa</i>
child	<i>umntwana u-m-n't waa-naa</i>
cigarette	<i>usikilidi u-see-gee-lee-dee</i>
city	<i>idolobha ee-daw-law-baa</i>
clean	<i>a -hlanzekile -hlaa-ndze-gee-le</i>
closed	<i>-valiwe -vaa-lee-we</i>
codeine	<i>i-codeine ee-kaw-dee-nee</i>
cold	<i>a -bandayo -b'aa-ndaa-yaw</i>
collect call	<i>ucingo olukhokhelwa ngolutholayo</i>
	u-klee-ngaw aw-lu-kaw-ke-lwaa ngaw-lu-taw-laay
condom	<i>ikhondomu ee-kaw-ndaw-mu</i>
constipation	<i>ukuqunjelwa u-gu-kju-nje-lwaa</i>
contact lenses	<i>ama-contact lens aa-maa-kawn-tekt lens</i>
cough	<i>n umkhuhlane u-m-ku-hlaa-ne</i>
currency exchange	<i>ukushintshwa kwezimali</i>
	u-gu-shee-nch'wa gwe-zeemaa-lee

### D

dairy products	<i>imikhiqizo yobisi</i>
	ee-mee-kee-kjee-zaw yaw-b'ee-see
dangerous	<i>-nengozi -ne-ngaw-zee</i>
date (time)	<i>usuku u-su-gu</i>
day	<i>ilanga ee-laa-ngaag</i>
diaper	<i>inabukeni ee-naa-b'u-k'e-nee</i>
diarrhoea	<i>uhudo u-hu-daw</i>
dinner	<i>idina ee-dee-naa</i>

**d**irty -*ngcolile* -nglaw-lee-le  
**d**isabled -*nobulima* -naw-b'u-lee-maa  
**d**ouble bed *umbhede wedabulu* u-m-be-de we-daa-b'u-lee  
**d**rink **i**n *isiphuzo* ee-see-pu-zaw  
**d**rivers licence *ilayisense lokuhuba*  
 ee-laa-yee-se-nts'e yaw-gu-k'hu-b'aa  
**d**rugs (illicit) *izidakamizwa* ee-zee-daa-gaa-mee-zwaa

**e**ar *indlebe* ee-ndle-b'e  
**e**ast *impumalanga* ee-mp'u-maa-laa-ngaa  
**e**conomy class *iklasi elishibhile*  
 ee-klaa-see e-lee-shee-bee-le  
**e**levator (lift) *ikheshi* ee-ke-shhee  
**e**mail **i**n *i-e-mail* ee-ee-me-yee-lee  
**e**nglish (language) *isiNgisi* ee-see-ngee-see  
**e**xchange rate *izinga loshintsho lwezimali*  
 ee-zee-nga law-shee-nch'aw lwe-zee-maa-lee  
**e**xit **i**n *umnyango wokuphuma*  
 u-m-nyaar-ngaaw waw-gu-pu-maa  
**e**xpensive -*dulile* -du-lee-le  
**e**ye *iso* ee-saw

**f**ast *ngokusheshisa* ngaw-gu-she-shee-saa  
**f**ever *imfiva* ee-mp'ee-vaa  
**f**inger *umunwe* u-mu-nwe  
**f**irst-aid kit *ibhokisi losizo lokuqala*  
 ee-baw-gee-see law-see-zaw law-gu-k'aa-laa  
**f**irst class *ufesi* u-f-e-see  
**f**ish **i**n *ihlanzi ee-nt'aa-ndzee*  
**f**ood *ukudla* u-gu-dlaa  
**f**oot *unyawo* u-nyaaw-waw  
**f**ork *imfolo* ee-mp'faw-law-gaw  
**f**ree (of charge) *mahlala* maa-haa-laa  
**f**ruit *isithelo* ee-see-te-law  
**f**unny -*hlekisayo*-hle-gee-saa-yaw

**g**ame park *indawo yezilwane zasendle*  
 ee-ndaa-waw ye-zee-lwaa-ne zaa-se-ndle  
**g**ift *isipho* ee-see-paw  
**g**irl (older) *intombi* ee-nt'aw-mbee  
**g**irl (young) *intombazana* ee-nt'aw-mbaa-zaa-naa  
**g**lass (drinking) *ingilazi* ee-ngee-laa-zee  
**g**lasses *izibuko* ee-zee-b'u-gaw  
**g**ood -*hle*-hle  
**g**ram *igramu* ee-graa-mu  
**g**uide **i**n *umphelezeli* u-m-pe-le-ze-lee

**h**and *isandla* ee-saa-ndlaa  
**h**appy -*jabule*-jaa-b'u-le  
**h**ave -*na-*-naa-  
**h**e u-u-  
**h**ead *ikhanda* ee-kaa-ndaa  
**h**eadache *ikhanda* ee-kaa-ndaa  
**h**eat *inhliziyo* ee-ntlee-zee-yaw  
**h**eat condition *isifo senhliziyo*  
 ee-see-faw se-nt'l'ee-zee-yaw  
**h**eat **i**n *ukushisa* u-gu-shee-saa  
**h**ere *lapha* laa-paa  
**h**igh -*phakamileyo*-paa-gaa-mee-le-yaw  
**h**ighway *umgwagomkulu* u-m-gwaa-kjaw-m-ku-lu  
**h**omosexual **i**n *konkonki* ee-nk'aw-nk'aw-nee  
**h**ot -*shisa*-shee-saa  
**h**ungry -*lambile*-laa-mbee-le

**i**ngi- ngee-  
**i**dentification (card) *i-ID* ee-aa-yee-dee  
**i**(be) ill -*gula*-gu-laa  
**i**mportant -*balulekile* -b'aa-lu-le-gee-le  
**i**nternet *i-intanethi* ee-ee-nt'aa-ne-tee  
**i**nterpreter *ihumusha* ee-hu-mu-shaa

**j**ob *umsebenzi* u-m-se-b'e-ndzee

**k**ey *isikhiye* ee-see-kee-ye  
**k**ilogram *ikhilogramu* ee-kee-law-graa-mu  
**k**itchen *ikhishi* ee-kee-shee  
**k**knife *umese* u-m-e-se

**l**aundry (place) *ilondolo* ee-law-ndaw-law  
**l**awyer *ummeli* u-m-me-lee  
**l**eg *umlenze* u-m-le-ndze  
**l**esbian **i**n *konkonki yesifazane*  
 ee-nk'aw-nk'aw-nee ye-see-faa-zaa-ne  
**l**ess a -*ncane*-nklaa-ne  
**l**etter (mail) *incwadi* ee-nk!waa-dee  
**l**ike **v** -*thanda*-taa-ndaa  
**l**ove **v** -*thanda*-taa-ndaa  
**l**unch *ilantsi* ee-laa-nch'ee

**m**an *indoda* ee-ndaw-daa  
**m**atches *umentshisi* u-m-e-nch'ee-see  
**m**eat *inyama* ee-nyaar-maa  
**m**edicine *umuthi* u-mu-tee  
**m**essage *umlayezo* u-m-laa-ye-zaw  
**m**obile phone *isele* ee-se-le  
**m**onth *inyanga* ee-nyaar-ngaag  
**m**orning *intsasa* ee-nts'aa-saa  
**m**(in the) morning *ekuseni* e-gu-se-nee  
**m**otorcycle *isithuthu* ee-se-pe-tu-tu-tu  
**m**outh *umlomo* u-m-law-maw  
**m**ovie *ibhayisikobho* ee-baa-yee-see-k'aw-baw  
**m**SG i-MSG ee-em-es-jee  
**m**useum *imnyuziyamu* ee-m-nyu-zee-yaa-mu  
**m**usic *umculo* u-m-kyu-law

**n**ame *igama* ee-gaa-maa  
**n**apkin (serviette) *isevijethe* ee-se-vee-ye-te  
**n**appy *inabukeni* ee-naa-b'u-ge-nee  
**n**ational park *iphaki elivikelwe lezwe lonke*  
 ee-paa-gee e-lee-vee-ge-lwe le-zwe law-nk'e  
**n**ausea *isicasucasu* ee-see-klaa-su-klaa-su  
**n**eck *intamo* ee-nt'a-maw  
**n**ew -*sha*-shaa  
**n**ews *izindaba* ee-zee-ndaa-b'aa  
**n**ewspaper *iphephandaba* ee-pe-paa-ndaa-b'aa  
**n**ightbus *ibusuku* u-b'u-su-uu  
**n**ightclub *iklabhu yasebusuku*  
 ee-klaa-bu yaa-se-b'u-su-gu  
**n**oisy -*nomondo*-naw-m-see-ndaw  
**n**onsmoking *lapho kungebhenywe khona*  
 laa-paw gu-nge-be-nywe kaw-naa  
**n**orth *inyakatho* ee-nyaaw-gaa-taw  
**n**ose *impumulo* ee-mp'u-mu-law  
**n**ow *manje* maa-nje  
**n**umber (numeral) *inombolo* ee-naw-mbaw-law  
**n**umber (quantity) *inani* ee-naa-nee  
**n**uts *amantongomane* aa-maa-nt'aw-ngaw-maa-ne

**o**il (engine) *uwoyela* u-waw-ye-laa  
**o**K *kulungile* gu-lu-ngee-le  
**o**ld (objects) -*dala*-daa-laa  
**o**ld (people) -*khulile*-ku-lee-le  
**o**pen a -*vuliwe*-vu-lee-we  
**o**utside *ngaphandle* ngaa-paa-ndle

**p**ackage *iphasela* ee-paa-se-laa  
**p**ain *ubuhlungu* u-b'u-hlu-ngu  
**p**aper *iphepha* ee-pe-paa  
**p**ark (car) **v** -*paka*-paa-gaa  
**p**assport *iphasiphothi* ee-paa-see-paw-tee  
**p**ay -*khokha*-kaw-kaa  
**p**en *ipeni* ee-pe-nee  
**p**etrol *uphetilolo* u-pe-tee-law-law  
**p**harmacy *ikhemisi* ee-ke-mee-see  
**p**late *isitsha* ee-see-ch'aa  
**p**ostcard *iposikhadi* ee-p'aw-see-kaa-dee  
**p**ost office *iposi* ee-paw-see  
**p**regnant -*khulelw* -ku-le-lwe

**r**ain **i**n *invula* ee-mbvu-laa  
**r**azor *ireza* ee-re-zaa  
**r**egistered mail *iposi elirejistive*  
 ee-p'aw-see e-lee-re-jee-st'ee-we  
**r**ent **v** -*qashisa*-kja-a-shee-saa  
**r**epair **v** -*lungisa*-lu-ngee-saa  
**r**eservation (place) *indawo ebhukiwe*  
 ee-ndaa-waw e-bu-gee-we  
**r**eservation (table) *itafula elibhukiwe*  
 ee-t'aa-fu-laa e-lee-bu-gee-we  
**r**estaurant *ikhefi* ee-ke-fee  
**r**eturn (come back) -*buya* -b'u-yaa  
**r**eturn (give back) -*buyisa* -b'u-yee-saa  
**r**oad *indlela* ee-ndle-laa  
**r**oom *ikamelo* ee-k'aa-me-law

**s**ad -*dabukile*-daa-b'u-gee-le  
**s**afe a -*ngenanangozi*-nge-naa-ngaaw-zee  
**s**anitary napkins *amaphede* aa-maa-pe-te  
**s**eafood *ukudla okuvele olwandle*  
 u-gu-dlaa aw-gu-ve-laa aw-lwaa-ndle  
**s**eat *isihlalo* ee-see-hlaa-law  
**s**end (someone) -*thuma*-tu-maa  
**s**end (something) -*thumela*-tu-me-laa  
**s**ex *ukulalana* u-gu-laa-laa-naa  
**s**hampoo *ishampu* ee-shaa-mp'u  
**s**hare (a dorm, etc) *ukulala sibanningi ekamelenwi*  
 u-gu-laa-laa see-b'a-naa-nee-nee e-k'a-me-lwe-nee  
**s**having cream *umuthi wokushefa*  
 u-mu-tee waw-gu-she-faa  
**s**he u- u-  
**s**heet (bed) *ishidi* ee-shee-dee

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**shirt** *iyembe* ee-ye-mbe  
**shoes** *izicathulo* ee-zee-klaa-tu-law  
**shop** n *ivenkile* ee-ve-nk'ee-le  
**shower** n *ishawa* ee-shaa-waa  
**skin** *isikhumba* ee-see-ku-mbaa  
**skirt** *isiketi* ee-see-k'e-tee  
**sleep** v -*lala*-laa-laa  
**small** -*ncane*-nklaa-ne  
**smoke (cigarettes)** v -*bhemba*-be-maa  
**smoking** a *lapho kungabhenywa khona*  
*laa-paw* gu-ngaas-be-nywaa kaw-naa  
**soap** *insipho* ee-nts'ee-paw  
**some** -*nye*-nye  
**soon** *masinyane* maa-see-nyaa-ne  
**sore throat** *umphimbo obuhlungu*  
*u-m-peeb-mbaw* aw-b'u-hlu-ngu  
**south** *iningizimu* ee-nee-ngee-zee-mu  
**speak** -*khuluma*-ku-lu-maa  
**spoon** *ukhezo* u-ke-zaw  
**stamp** *isitembu* ee-see-t'e-mbu  
**station (train)** *isitishi* ee-see-t'e-shee  
**stomach** *isisu* ee-see-su  
**stop** v -*ma*-maa  
**stop (bus)** n *isitobhi* (*sebhasi*)  
*ee-see-t'aw-bee* (se-baa-see)  
**street** *umgwao* u-m-gwaa-kjaw  
**student** *umfundu* u-m-fu-ndee  
**sunscreen** *i-sunscreen* ee-saan-skree-nee  
**swim** v -*bhukuda*-bu-gu-daa

**tampons** *amathemponi* aa-maa-te-mp'aw-nee  
**teeth** *amazinyo* aa-maa-zee-nyaw  
**telephone** n *ucingo* u-klee-ngaw  
**television** *umabonakude* u-maa-b'aw-naa-gu-de  
**temperature (weather)** *izinga lokushisa*  
*ee-zeer-ngaas law-gu-shee-saa*  
**tent** *itende* ee-t'e-nde  
**that (one near you)** *leyo le-yaw*  
**that (one in the distance)** *leya le-yaa*  
**they (animals & objects)** zi- zee-  
**they (people)** ba- b'aa-  
 -omile- aw-mee-le  
**this (one)** le le  
**throat** *umphimbo* u-m-peeb-mbaw  
**ticket** *ithikithi* ee-tee-gee-tee  
**time** *isikhathi* ee-see-kaa-tee  
**tired** -*khathele*-kaa-te-le  
**today** *namhlanje* naa-m-hlaa-nje

**toilet** *indlu yangasese* ee-ndluyaa-ngaas-se-se  
**tonight** *namhlanje ebusuku* naa-m-hlaa-nje e-b'u-su-gu  
**toothbrush** *isixubho* ee-see-kju-baw  
**toothpaste** *umuthi wokugeza amazinyo*  
*u-mu-tee waw-gu-ge-zaa* aa-maa-zee-nyaw  
**torch (flashlight)** *ithoshi* ee-taw-shee  
**towel** *ithawula* ee-taa-wu-la  
**translate** -*humusha*-hu-mu-sha  
**travellers cheque** *isheke lezihambi*  
*ee-she-ge le-zee-haa-mbee*  
**trousers** *ibhulukwe* ee-bu-lu-gwe  
**tyre** *ithaya* ee-taa-yaa  
**vacant** -*ngenanamu*-nge-naa-mu-nt'u  
**vegetable** n *umfino* u-m-fee-naw  
**vegetarian** a *okungenanyama* aw-gu-nge-na-nyaa-maa  
**visa** *iviza* ee-vee-zaa

**waiter** *uweta* u-we-t'aa  
**walk** v -*hamba* ngezinyawo  
*-haa-mbaa* nge-zee-nyaa-waw  
**wallet** *isikhwama* ee-see-kwaa-maa  
**warm** a -*fudumele*-fu-du-me-le  
**wash (something)** -*geza*-ge-zaa  
**watch** n *iwashi* ee-waa-shee  
**water** *amanzi* aa-maa-ndzee  
**weekend** *impelasonto* ee-mp'e-laa-saw-nt'aw  
**west** *intshonalanga* ee-nch'aw-naa-laa-ngaas  
**wheelchair** *isitulo esinamasondo*  
*ee-see-t'u-law* e-see-naa-maa-saw-ndaw  
**when** *nini* nee-nee  
**where** *kuphi* gu-pee  
**who** sg *ubani* u-b'aa-nee  
**who** pl *obani* aw-b'aa-nee  
**why** *yini* yee-nee  
**window** *ifasitelaa* ee-faa-see-t'e-laa  
**wine** *iwiyini* ee-waa-yee-nee  
**with** na- naa-  
**without (someone)** *engekho* e-nge-kaw  
**without (something – eg milk, sugar)**  
*-ngena*-nge-naa-  
**woman** *inkosikazi* ee-nk'aw-see-gaa-zea  
**write** -*bhala*-baa-laa

**you** sg u-u-  
**you** pl ni-nee-

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	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swa	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
<b>A</b>													
accommodation	16	34	52	68	84	102	118	134	152	170	188	206	224
address	15, 20	33, 38	51, 56	67, 70	83, 88	101, 106	117, 120	133, 134, 138	151, 156	169, 174	187, 192	205, 210	223, 228
addressing people	19	37	55	69	87	105	119	137	155	173	191	209	227
finding accommodation	16	34	52		84	102		134	152	170	188	206	224
airport	14	32	50		82	100		133	150	168	186	204	222
alcoholic drinks											241		
allergies	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230
ambulance	21	39	57	71	89	107	121	139	157	175	193	211	229
animals											247		
art & architecture											236		
assault	22	40	58	71	90	108	121	140	158	176	194	211	230
<b>B</b>													
baggage	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230
banking	17	35	53	69	85	103	119	135	153	171	189	207	225
bar	20	38	57		88	106		139	157	174	192	210	228
bargaining	18	36	55		86	104		137	155	172	191	208	227
bill (shopping)	18	37	55		87	105		137	155	173	191	208	227
bill (restaurant)	20	39	57	71	89	107	121	139	157	175	193	210	229
boat	14	33	51	67	82	100	117		151	169	187	204	222
booking (accommodation)	16	34	52	68	84	102	118	134	152	170	188	206	224
border crossing	13	31	49	66	81	99	116	131	149	167	185	203	221
bus	14	33	51	67	82	100	117	133	151	169	187	204	222
business	13	31	49	66	81	99	116	131	149	167	185	203	221

**C**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swa	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
camping	16	34, 35	52, 53		84, 85	102, 103		134, 135	152, 153	170, 171	188, 189	206	224, 225
car	15	33	51	67	83	101	117	133	151	169	187	205	223
check-out	16	35	53		85	103		135	153	171	189	206	225
communications	17	35	53	69	85	103	119	135	153	171	189	207	225
contact details	20	38	56	70	88	106	120	138	156	174	192	210	228
cost (shopping)	18	36	55	69	86	104	119	136	154	172	190	208	226
cost (accommodation)	16	34	53	68	84	102	118	135	152	170	188	206	224
cost (internet)	17	35	54		85	103		135	153	171	189	207	225
cost (phone)	17	35	54		85	103		135	153	171	189	207	225
cost (transport)	15	33	51	67	83	101	117	133	151	169	187	205	223
countries	20	38	56	70	88	106	120	138	156	174	192	210	228
credit card	18, 22	37, 40	55	69, 72	89	105	119, 122	137	155	173	191, 194	209, 212	227
culture													235–50

**D**

dates	12	30	48	65	80	98	115	130	148	166	184	202	220
days of the week	12	30	48	65	80	98	115	130	148	166	185	202	221
dentist	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230
dictionary	23	41	59	73	91	109	123	141	159	177	195	213	231
directions	15	33	51	68	83	101	118	133	151	169	187	205	223
doctor	21, 22	39, 40	57, 58	72	89, 90	107, 108	122	139	157, 158	175, 176	193, 194	211, 212	229, 230

**E**

eating out	20	38	57	71	88	106	121	139	157	174	192	210	228
email	20	38	56	70	88	106	120	138	156	174	192	210	228
embassy	21	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	211	230
emergencies	21	39	57	71	89	107	121	139	157	175	193	211	229
entertainment													242

**F**

family	19	38	56	70	88	106	120	138	156	174	192	209	228
festivals													242
food & drink	20	38	57	71	88	106	121	139	157	174	192	210	228
food													240

**G**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swa	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
goodbyes	19	37	55	69	87	105	119	137	155	173	191	209	227
greetings	19	37	55	69	87	105	119	137	155	173	191	209	227

**H**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swa	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul	
health	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230	
hire (car)	15	33	51	67	83	101	117	133	151	169	187	205	223	
history														
holiday	13	31	49	66	81	99	116	131	149	167	185	203	221	
hospital	22	40	58	72	90	108	122			158	176	194	212	230
hotel	13, 16	31, 34	49, 52	66, 68	81, 84	99, 102	116, 118	132, 134	149, 152	167, 170	185, 188	203, 206	221, 224	

**I**

immigration	13	31	49	66	81	99	116	131	149	167	185	203	221	
insurance	21	40	58		90	107			140	158	175	193	211	229
internet	15, 17	33, 35	51, 53	68, 69	83, 85	101, 103	118, 119	133, 135	151, 153	169, 171	187, 189	205, 207	223, 225	
introductions	19	37	56	70	87	105	119	137	156	173	191	209	228	

**L**

language difficulties	12	30	48	65	80	98	115	130	148	166	184	202	220
luggage	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230

**M**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swa	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
making conversation	19	37	55	69	87	105	119	137	155	173	191	209	227
market	15	33	51	68	83	101	118	133	151	169	187	205	223
marriage	20	38	56	70	88	106	120	138	156	174	192	210	228
medical needs	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230
menu	20	39	57	71	89	107	121	139	157	175	193	210	229
money	17, 22	35, 40	53, 58	69, 72	85, 90	103, 108	119, 122	135, 138	153, 156	171, 176	189, 194	207, 212	225, 230

**N**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
nationalities	20	38	56	70	88	106	120	138	156	174	192	210	228
nonalcoholic drinks							241						
numbers	12	30	48	66	80	99	116	131	149	167	185	203	221

**O**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
ordering (restaurant)	20	39	57	71	89	107	121	139	157	175	193	210	229

**P**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
passport	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230
payment (methods of)	18	37	55	69		105	119	137	155	173	191	209	227
pharmacy	22	40	58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194	212	230
phonecard	17	35	53			103		135	153	171	189	207	225
photography	19	37	55			87	105		137	155	173	191	209
photos (taking)	20	38	56	70	88	106	120	138	156	174	192	210	228
plane	14	33	51			82	100		151	169	187	204	222
police	21	39	57	71	89	107	121	139	157	175	193	211	229
pronunciation	10	28	46	64	78	96	114	128	146	164	182, 184	200	218, 220

**R**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
receipt	18	37	55			87	105		137	155	173	191	208
refund	18	37	55			87		137	155	173	191	208	227
religion							236						
repairs	18	36	54			86	104		136	154	172	190	208
reservation (accommodation)	16	34	52	68	84	102	118	134	152	170	188	206	224
responsible travel							246						
restaurant	20	38	57			88	106		139	157	174	192	210
room (hotel)	16	34	52	68	84	102	118	134	152	170	188	206	224

**S**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
safari												247	
seating	14	32				50	67	82	100	117	132	150	168
shopping	18	36				54	69	86	104	119	136	154	172
sightseeing	17	36				54		86	103		136	154	172
sustainable travel												246	

**T**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
taxi	15	33				51	67	83	101	117	133	151	169
telephone	17,	35,	55	69	88	103	120,	135,	153,	171,	189,	207,	225
20,	38	56	71	88	106	121	138	156	174	192	210		
telling the time	12	30			48	65	80	98	115	130	148	166	184
theft	22	40			58	72	90	108	122	140	158	176	194
tickets	14	32			50	67	82	100	117	132	150	168	186
												204	222
timeline												236	
titles	19	37			55	69	87	105	119	137	155	173	191
toilet	14,	32,	50	67	82,	100	117,	132,	150,	168,	186,	204,	222,
21,	39	58	71	89	107	121	139	157	175	193	211		
tours	17	36			54		86	103		136	154	172	190
train	14	33			51	67	82	100	117	133	151	169	187
transport	14	32			50	67	82	100	117	133	150	168	186
travellers cheques	17,	35,	53	69	85	103,	119,	135,	153,	171,	189,	207,	225,
18,	37,	55	72	90	105,	122	137	155,	173,	191,	209,	212	227

**V**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
valuables	22	40				58	72	90	108		140	158	176
vegetarian food	20	39				57	71	89	107	121	139	157	175

**W**

	Afk	Amh	Arb	Fre	Hsa	Mgy	Por	Sho	Swā	Wol	Xho	Yor	Zul
water (drinkable)	21	39				57		89	107		139	157	175
women travellers	22	40				58		90	108		140	158	176