

Language

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Spanish is the official language of Honduras and the main language the traveler will need. Every visitor to the country should attempt to learn some Spanish, the basic elements of which are easily acquired.

WHO SPEAKS WHAT WHERE?

Spanish is spoken throughout mainland Honduras, though it is a second language for some indigenous communities in La Moskitia and in Garífuna areas on the north coast. Miskito (see p333), Garífuna (see p333) and English (in the Bay Islands and along the Caribbean Coast) are also used. While Bay Islanders traditionally speak English, an influx of mainlanders in search of construction jobs has begun to tip the balance toward Spanish, especially on Roatán.

SPANISH

A month-long language course taken before departure can go a long way toward facilitating communication and comfort on the road. Alternatively, language courses (see p305) are also available in Honduras. Even if classes are impractical, you should

make the effort to learn a few basic words and phrases. Don't hesitate to practice your new skills – in general, Hondurans meet attempts to communicate in their languages, however halting, with enthusiasm and appreciation.

For a more comprehensive guide to the Spanish of the region, get a copy of Lonely Planet's *Latin American Spanish Phrasebook*.

PRONUNCIATION

Spanish spelling is phonetically consistent, meaning that there's a clear and consistent relationship between what you see in writing and how it's pronounced. In addition, most Spanish sounds have English equivalents, so English speakers shouldn't have too much trouble being understood.

Vowels

- a** as in 'father'
- e** as in 'met'
- i** as in 'marine'
- o** as in 'or' (without the 'r' sound)
- u** as in 'rule'; the 'u' is not pronounced after **q** and in the letter combinations **gue** and **gui**, unless it's marked with a diaeresis (eg *argüür*), in which case it's pronounced as English 'w'
- y** at the end of a word or when it stands alone, it's pronounced as the Spanish **i** (eg *ley*); between vowels within a word it's as the 'y' in 'yonder'

Consonants

As a rule, Spanish consonants resemble their English counterparts; the exceptions are listed below.

While the consonants **ch**, **ll** and **ñ** are generally considered distinct letters, **ch** and **ll** are now often listed alphabetically under **c** and **l** respectively. The letter **ñ** is still treated as a separate letter and comes after **n** in alphabetical listings.

- b** similar to English 'b'; referred to as 'b larga'
- c** as in 'celery' before **e** and **i**; otherwise as English 'k'
- ch** as in 'church'

d	as in 'dog,' but between vowels and after l or n , the sound is closer to the 'th' in 'this'
g	as the 'ch' in the Scottish <i>loch</i> before e and i ('kh' in our guides to pronunciation); elsewhere, as in 'go'
h	invariably silent. If your name begins with this letter, listen carefully if you're waiting for public officials to call you.
j	as the 'ch' in the Scottish <i>loch</i> (written as 'kh' in our guides to pronunciation)
ll	as the 'y' in 'yellow'
ñ	as the 'ni' in 'onion'
r	as in 'run', but strongly rolled, especially in words with rr
rr	very strongly rolled
v	similar to English 'b,' but softer; referred to as 'b corta'
x	usually pronounced as j above; as in 'taxi' in other instances. Note that in Mayan words x is pronounced like English 'sh'
z	as the 's' in 'sun'

Word Stress

In general, words ending in vowels or the letters **n** or **s** have stress on the next-to-last syllable, while those with other endings have stress on the last syllable. Thus *vaca* (cow) and *caballos* (horses) both carry stress on the next-to-last syllable, while *ciudad* (city) and *infeliz* (unhappy) are both stressed on the last syllable.

Written accents will almost always appear in words that don't follow the rules above, eg *sótano* (basement), *América* and *porción* (portion).

GENDER & PLURALS

In Spanish, nouns are either masculine or feminine, and there are rules to help determine gender (there are of course some exceptions). Feminine nouns generally end with **-a** or with the groups **-ción**, **-sión** or **-dad**. Other endings typically signify a masculine noun. Endings for adjectives also change to agree with the gender of the noun they modify (masculine/feminine **-o/-a**). Where both masculine and feminine forms are included in this language guide, they are separated by a slash, with the masculine form first, eg *perdido/a*.

If a noun or adjective ends in a vowel, the plural is formed by adding **s** to the end. If it ends in a consonant, the plural is formed by adding **es** to the end.

ACCOMMODATIONS

I'm looking for ...	<i>Estoy buscando ...</i>	e-stoy boos-kan-do ...
Where is ...?	<i>¿Dónde hay ...?</i>	don-de ai ...
a hotel	<i>un hotel</i>	oon o-tel
a guesthouse	<i>un hospedaje</i>	oon os-pe-da-khe
a youth hostel	<i>hostal</i>	os-tal

MAKING A RESERVATION

(for phone or written requests)

To ...	<i>A ...</i>
From ...	<i>De ...</i>
Date	<i>Fecha</i>
I'd like to book ...	<i>Quisiera reservar ...</i> (see the list under 'Accommodations' for bed and room options)
in the name of ...	<i>en nombre de ...</i>
for the nights of ...	<i>para las noches del ...</i>
credit card ...	<i>tarjeta de crédito ...</i>
number	<i>número</i>
expiry date	<i>fecha de vencimiento</i>
Please confirm ...	<i>Puede confirmar ...</i>
availability	<i>la disponibilidad</i>
price	<i>el precio</i>

I'd like a ... room.	<i>Quisiera una habitación ...</i>	kee-sye-ra oo-na a-bee-ta-syon ...
double	<i>doble</i>	do-ble
single	<i>individual</i>	een-dee-vee-dwal
twin	<i>con dos camas</i>	kon dos ka-mas

How much is it per ...?	<i>¿Cuánto cuesta por ...?</i>	kwan-to kwes-ta por ...
night	<i>noche</i>	no-che
person	<i>persona</i>	per-so-na
week	<i>semana</i>	se-ma-na

private/shared bathroom	<i>baño privado/compartido</i>	ba-nyo pree-va-do/kom-par-tee-do
full board	<i>pensión completa</i>	pen-syon kom-ple-ta
too expensive	<i>demasiado caro</i>	de-ma-sya-do ka-ro
cheaper	<i>más económico</i>	mas e-ko-no-mee-ko
discount	<i>descuento</i>	des-kwen-to

Are there any rooms available?

<i>¿Hay habitaciones libres?</i>	<i>ay a-bee-ta-syon-es lee-bres</i>
----------------------------------	-------------------------------------

Does it include breakfast?

¿Incluye el desayuno? een-kloo-ye el de-sa-yoo-no

May I see the room?

¿Puedo ver la habitación? pwe-do ver la a-bee-ta-syon

I don't like it.

No me gusta. no me goos-ta

It's fine. I'll take it.

Está bien. Lo tomo. es-ta byen lo to-mo

I'm leaving now.

Me voy ahora. me voy a-o-ra

CONVERSATION & ESSENTIALS

In their public behavior, Hondurans, like most Central Americans, are very conscious of civilities, sometimes to the point of ceremoniousness. Never approach a stranger for information without extending a greeting, and use only the polite form of address, especially with the police and public officials. Young people may be less likely to expect this, but it's best to stick to the polite form unless you're quite sure you won't offend by using the informal mode. The polite form is used in all cases in this guide; where options are given, the form is indicated by the abbreviations 'pol' and 'inf.'

Saying *por favor* (please) and *gracias* (thank you) are second nature to most Central Americans and a recommended tool in your travel kit. The three most common Spanish greetings are often shortened to simply *buenos* (for *buenos días*) and *buenas* (for *buenas tardes* and *buenas noches*).

Hello.	<i>Hola.</i>	o-la
Good morning.	<i>Buenos días.</i>	bwe-nos dee-as
Good afternoon.	<i>Buenas tardes.</i>	bwe-nas tar-des
Good evening/ night.	<i>Buenas noches.</i>	bwe-nas no-ches
Goodbye.	<i>Adiós.</i>	a-dyos (rarely used)
Bye/See you soon.	<i>Hasta luego.</i>	as-ta lwe-go
Yes.	<i>Sí.</i>	see
No.	<i>No.</i>	no
Please.	<i>Por favor.</i>	por fa-vor
Thank you.	<i>Gracias.</i>	gra-syas
Many thanks.	<i>Muchas gracias.</i>	moo-chas gra-syas
You're welcome.	<i>De nada.</i>	de na-da
Pardon me.	<i>Perdón.</i>	per-don
Excuse me.	<i>Permiso.</i>	per-mee-so
		(used when asking permission)
Forgive me.	<i>Disculpe.</i>	dees-kool-pe
		(used when apologizing)

How are things?

¿Qué tal? ke tal

What's your name?

¿Cómo se llama? ko-mo se ya-ma (pol)
¿Cómo te llamas? ko-mo te ya-mas (inf)

My name is ...

Me llamo ... me ya-mo ...

It's a pleasure to meet you.

Mucho gusto. moo-cho goos-to

The pleasure is mine.

El gusto es mío. el goos-to es mee-o

Where are you from?

¿De dónde es/eres? de don-de es/er-es (pol/inf)

I'm from ...

Soy de ... soy de ...

Where are you staying?

¿Dónde está alojado? don-de es-ta a-lo-kha-do (pol)
¿Dónde estás alojado? don-de es-tas a-lo-kha-do (inf)

May I take a photo?

¿Puedo sacar una foto? pwe-do sa-kar oo-na fo-to

SIGNS

Entrada	Entrance
Salida	Exit
Información	Information
Abierto	Open
Cerrado	Closed
Prohibido	Prohibited
Policía/Policía Turística	Police Station
Servicios/Baños	Toilets
Hombres/Caballeros	Men
Mujeres/Damas	Women

DIRECTIONS**How do I get to ...?**

¿Cómo puedo llegar a ...? ko-mo pwe-do ye-gar a ...

Is it far?

¿Está lejos? es-ta le-khos

Go straight ahead.

Siga/Vaya derecho. see-ga/va-ya de-re-cho

Turn left.

Voltée a la izquierda. vol-te-e a la ees-kyer-da

Turn right.

Voltée a la derecha. vol-te-e a la de-re-cha

I'm lost.

Estoy perdido/a. es-toy per-dee-do/a

Can you show me (on the map)?

¿Me lo podría indicar (en el mapa)? me lo po-dree-a een-dee-kar (en el ma-pa)

north	norte	nor-te
south	sur	soor

EMERGENCIES

Help!	<i>¡Socorro!</i>	so-ko-ro
Fire!	<i>¡Incendio!</i>	een-sen-dyo
I've been robbed.	<i>Me robaron.</i>	me ro-ba-ron
Go away!	<i>¡Déjeme!</i>	de-khe-me
Get lost!	<i>¡Váyase!</i>	va-ya-se
Call ...!	<i>¡Llame a ...!</i>	ya-me a
an ambulance	<i>una ambulancia</i>	oo-na am-boo-lan-sya
a doctor	<i>un médico</i>	oon me-dee-ko
the police	<i>la policía</i>	la po-lee-see-a

It's an emergency.

Es una emergencia. es oo-na e-mer-khen-sya

Could you help me, please?

¿Me puede ayudar, por favor? me pwe-de a-yoo-dar por fa-vor

I'm lost.

Estoy perdido/a. es-toy per-dee-do/a

Where are the toilets?

¿Dónde están los baños? don-de es-tan los ba-nyos

east	<i>este/oriente</i>	es-te/o-ryen-te
west	<i>oeste/occidente</i>	o-es-te/ok-see-den-te
here	<i>aquí</i>	a-kee
there	<i>allí</i>	a-yee
avenue	<i>avenida</i>	a-ve-nee-da
block	<i>cuadra</i>	kwa-dra
street	<i>calle/paseo</i>	ka-lye/pa-se-o

HEALTH**I'm sick.**

Estoy enfermo/a. es-toy en-fer-mo/a

I need a doctor.

Necesito un médico. ne-se-see-to oon me-dee-ko

Where's the hospital?

¿Dónde está el hospital? don-de es-ta el os-pee-tal

I'm pregnant.

Estoy embarazada. es-toy em-ba-ra-sa-da

I've been vaccinated.

Estoy vacunado/a. es-toy va-koo-na-do/a

I'm allergic ...	<i>Soy alérgico/a ...</i>	soy a-ler-khee-ko/a
to ...	<i>a/al ...</i>	a ...
to antibiotics	<i>a los antibióticos</i>	a los an-tee-byo-tee-kos
to nuts	<i>a las nueces</i>	a las-nwe-ses
to peanuts	<i>a los maníes</i>	a los-ma-nee-es
to penicillin	<i>a la penicilina</i>	a la pe-nee-see-lee-na

I'm ...	<i>Soy ...</i>	soy ...
asthmatic	<i>asmático/a</i>	as-ma-tee-ko/a
diabetic	<i>diabético/a</i>	dya-be-tee-ko/a
epileptic	<i>epiléptico/a</i>	e-pee-lep-tee-ko/a

I have ...	<i>Tengo ...</i>	ten-go ...
a cough	<i>tos</i>	tos
diarrhea	<i>diarrea</i>	dya-re-a
a headache	<i>un dolor de cabeza</i>	oon do-lor de ka-be-sa
nausea	<i>náusea</i>	now-se-a

LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES**Do you speak (English)?**

¿Habla/Hablas (inglés)? a-bla/a-blas (een-gles) (pol/inf)

Does anyone here speak English?

¿Hay alguien que hable inglés? ai al-gyen ke a-ble een-gles

I (don't) understand.

Yo (no) entiendo. yo (no) en-tyen-do

How do you say ...?

¿Cómo se dice ...? ko-mo se dee-se ...

What does ... mean?

¿Qué quiere decir ...? ke kye-re de-seer ...

Could you please ...?	<i>¿Puede ..., por favor?</i>	pwe-de ... por fa-vor
repeat that	<i>repetirlo</i>	re-pe-teer-lo
speak more	<i>hablar más</i>	a-blar mas
slowly	<i>despacio</i>	des-pa-syo
write it down	<i>escribirlo</i>	es-kree-beer-lo

NUMBERS

1	<i>uno</i>	oo-no
2	<i>dos</i>	dos
3	<i>tres</i>	tres
4	<i>cuatro</i>	kwa-tro
5	<i>cinco</i>	seen-ko
6	<i>seis</i>	says
7	<i>siete</i>	sye-te
8	<i>ocho</i>	o-cho
9	<i>nueve</i>	nwe-ve
10	<i>diez</i>	dyes
11	<i>once</i>	on-se
12	<i>doce</i>	do-se
13	<i>trece</i>	tre-se
14	<i>catorce</i>	ka-tor-se
15	<i>quince</i>	keen-se
16	<i>dieciséis</i>	dye-see-says
17	<i>diecisiete</i>	dye-see-sye-te
18	<i>dieciocho</i>	dye-see-o-cho
19	<i>diecinueve</i>	dye-see-nwe-ve
20	<i>veinte</i>	vayn-te
21	<i>veintiuno</i>	vayn-tee-oo-no

30	treinta	trayn-ta
31	treinta y uno	trayn-ta ee oo-no
40	cuarenta	kwa-ren-ta
50	cincuenta	seen-kwen-ta
60	sesenta	se-sen-ta
70	setenta	se-ten-ta
80	ochenta	o-chen-ta
90	noventa	no-ven-ta
100	cien	syen
101	ciento uno	syen-to oo-no
200	doscientos	do-syen-tos
1000	mil	meel
5000	cinco mil	seen-ko meel
10,000	diez mil	dyes meel
50,000	cincuenta mil	seen-kwen-ta meel

SHOPPING & SERVICES

I'd like to buy ...

Quisiera comprar ... kee-sye-ra kom-prar ...

I'm just looking.

Sólo estoy mirando. so-lo es-toy mee-ran-do

May I look at it?

¿Puedo mirarlo/la? pwe-do mee-rar-lo/la

How much is it?

¿Cuánto cuesta? kwan-to kwes-ta

That's too expensive for me.

Es demasiado caro para mí. es de-ma-sya-do ka-ro pa-ra mee

Could you lower the price?

¿Podría bajar un poco el precio? po-dree-a ba-khar oon po-ko el pre-syo

I don't like it.

No me gusta. no me goos-ta

I'll take it.

Lo llevo. lo ye-vo

Do you accept ...? *¿Aceptan ...?* a-sep-tan ...

American dollars	<i>dólares</i>	<i>do-la-res</i>
credit cards	<i>americanos</i>	<i>a-me-ree-ka-nos</i>
traveler's checks	<i>tarjetas de crédito</i>	<i>tar-khe-tas de kre-dee-to</i>
	<i>cheques de viajero</i>	<i>che-kes de vya-khe-ro</i>

less	<i>menos</i>	<i>me-nos</i>
more	<i>más</i>	<i>mas</i>
large	<i>grande</i>	<i>gran-de</i>
small	<i>pequeño/a</i>	<i>pe-ke-nyo/a</i>

I'm looking for (the) ...	<i>Estoy buscando ...</i>	<i>es-toy boos-kan-do</i>
ATM	<i>el cajero automático</i>	<i>el ka-khe-ro ow-to-ma-tee-ko</i>
bank	<i>el banco</i>	<i>el ban-ko</i>

bookstore	<i>la librería</i>	<i>la lee-bre-ree-a</i>
embassy	<i>la embajada</i>	<i>la em-ba-kha-da</i>
exchange house	<i>la casa de cambio</i>	<i>la ka-sa de kam-byo</i>
general store	<i>la tienda</i>	<i>la tyen-da</i>
laundry	<i>la lavandería</i>	<i>la la-van-de-ree-a</i>
market	<i>el mercado</i>	<i>el mer-ka-do</i>
pharmacy/chemist	<i>la farmacia/la droguería</i>	<i>la far-ma-sya/la dro-ge-ree-a</i>
post office	<i>el correo</i>	<i>el ko-re-o</i>
supermarket	<i>el supermercado</i>	<i>el soo-per-mer-ka-do</i>
tourist office	<i>la oficina de turismo</i>	<i>la o-fee-see-na de too-rees-mo</i>

What time does it open/close?

¿A qué hora abre/cierra? a ke o-ra a-bre/ sye-ra

I want to change some money/traveler's checks.

Quiero cambiar dinero/cheques de viajero. kye-ro kam-byar dee-ne-ro/ che-kes de vya-khe-ro

What is the exchange rate?

¿Cuál es el tipo de cambio? kwal es el tee-po de kam-byo

How many quetzals per dollar?

¿Cuántos lempiras por dólar? kwan-tos lem-pee-ras por do-lar

I want to call ...

Quiero llamar a ... kye-ro lya-mar a ...

airmail	<i>correo aéreo</i>	<i>ko-re-o a-e-re-o</i>
letter	<i>carta</i>	<i>kar-ta</i>
registered mail	<i>certificado</i>	<i>ser-tee-fee-ka-do</i>
stamps	<i>estampillas</i>	<i>es-tam-pee-lyas</i>

TIME & DATES

What time is it?	<i>¿Qué hora es?</i>	<i>ke o-ra es</i>
It's one o'clock.	<i>Es la una.</i>	<i>es la oo-na</i>
It's four o'clock.	<i>Son las cuatro.</i>	<i>son las kwa-tro</i>
midnight	<i>medianoche</i>	<i>me-dya-no-che</i>
noon	<i>mediodía</i>	<i>me-dyo-dee-a</i>
half past two	<i>dos y media</i>	<i>dos ee me-dya</i>

now	<i>ahora</i>	<i>a-o-ra</i>
today	<i>hoy</i>	<i>oy</i>
tonight	<i>esta noche</i>	<i>es-ta no-che</i>
tomorrow	<i>mañana</i>	<i>ma-nya-na</i>
yesterday	<i>ayer</i>	<i>a-yer</i>

Monday	<i>lunes</i>	<i>loo-nes</i>
Tuesday	<i>martes</i>	<i>mar-tes</i>
Wednesday	<i>miércoles</i>	<i>myer-ko-les</i>
Thursday	<i>jueves</i>	<i>khwe-ves</i>
Friday	<i>viernes</i>	<i>vyer-nes</i>

Saturday	<i>sábado</i>	sa-ba-do
Sunday	<i>domingo</i>	do-meen-go

January	<i>enero</i>	e-ne-ro
February	<i>febrero</i>	fe-bre-ro
March	<i>marzo</i>	mar-so
April	<i>abril</i>	a-breel
May	<i>mayo</i>	ma-yo
June	<i>junio</i>	khoo-nyo
July	<i>julio</i>	khoo-lyo
August	<i>agosto</i>	a-gos-to
September	<i>septiembre</i>	sep-tyem-bre
October	<i>octubre</i>	ok-too-bre
November	<i>noviembre</i>	no-vyem-bre
December	<i>diciembre</i>	dee-syem-bre

TRANSPORT

Public Transport

What time does ... leave/arrive?	<i>¿A qué hora ... sale/llega?</i>	a ke o-ra ... sa-le/ye-ga
the bus	<i>el autobus</i>	el ow-to-boos
the plane	<i>el avión</i>	el a-vyon
the ship	<i>el barco/buque</i>	el bar-ko/boo-ke

airport	<i>el aeropuerto</i>	el a-e-ro-pwer-to
bus station	<i>la estación de autobuses</i>	la es-ta-syon de ow-to-boo-ses
bus stop	<i>la parada de autobuses</i>	la pa-ra-da de ow-to-boo-ses
luggage check room	<i>guardería/equipaje</i>	gwar-de-ree-a/ e-kee-pa-khe
ticket office	<i>la boletería</i>	la bo-le-te-ree-a

I'd like a ticket to ...

Quiero un boleto a ... kye-ro oon bo-le-to a ...

What's the fare to ...?

¿Cuánto cuesta hasta ...? kwan-to kwes-ta a-sta ...

student's	<i>de estudiante</i>	de es-too-dyan-te
1st class	<i>primera clase</i>	pree-me-ra kla-se
2nd class	<i>segunda clase</i>	se-goan-da kla-se
single/one-way	<i>ida</i>	ee-da
return/round trip	<i>ida y vuelta</i>	ee-da ee vwel-ta
taxi	<i>taxi</i>	tak-see

Private Transport

I'd like to hire a/an ...	<i>Quisiera alquilar ...</i>	kee-sye-ra al-kee-lar ...
bicycle	<i>una bicicleta</i>	oo-na bee-see-kle-ta
car	<i>un auto/ un coche</i>	oon ow-to/ oon ko-che
4WD	<i>un cuatro por cuatro</i>	oon kwa-tro por kwa-tro
motorbike	<i>una moto</i>	oo-na mo-to

ROAD SIGNS

Acceso	Entrance
Estacionamiento	Parking
Ceda el Paso	Give way
Despacio	Slow
Dirección Única	One-way
Mantenga Su Derecha	Keep to the Right
No Adelantar/ No Rebase	No Passing
Peaje	Toll
Peligro	Danger
No Estacionar	No Parking
Prohibido el Paso	No Entry
Pare/Stop	Stop
Salida de Autopista	Exit Freeway

pickup (truck)	<i>pickup</i>	pee-kop
truck	<i>camión</i>	ka-myon
to hitchhike	<i>pedir jalón</i>	pe-deer ja-lon

Is this the road to ...?

¿Se va a ... por esta carretera? se va a ... por es-ta ka-re-te-ra

Where's a petrol station?

¿Dónde hay una gasolinera? don-de ai oo-na ga-so-lee-ne-ra

Please fill it up.

Lleno, por favor. ye-no por fa-vor

I'd like (10) gallons'

Quiero (diez) galones. kye-ro (dyes) ga-lo-nes

diesel	<i>diesel</i>	dee-sel
petrol (gas)	<i>gasolina</i>	ga-so-lee-na

(How long) Can I park here?

¿(Por cuánto tiempo) Puedo estacionar aquí? (por kwan-to tyem-po) pwe-do es-ta-syo-nar a-kee

Where do I pay?

¿Dónde se paga? don-de se pa-ga

I need a mechanic.

Necesito un mecánico. ne-se-see-to oon me-ka-nee-ko

The car has broken down (in ...).

El carro se ha averiado (en ...). el ka-ro se a a-ve-rya-do (en ...)

The motorbike won't start.

No arranca la moto. no a-ran-ka la mo-to

I have a flat tyre.

Tengo un pinchazo. ten-go oon peen-cha-so

I've run out of petrol.

Me quedé sin gasolina. me ke-de seen ga-so-lee-na

I've had an accident.

Tuve un accidente. too-ve oon ak-see-den-te

HANDY MISKITO PHRASES

With more than 150,000 native speakers scattered along one of the Caribbean's most beautiful and untouched stretches of coastline, Miskito isn't a bad language to know for the visitor to Honduras. Here are a few phrases to get you started.

Hello/Goodbye.	<i>Naksa/Aisabi.</i>
Yes/No.	<i>Ow/Apia.</i>
Please/Thank you.	<i>Plees/Dingki pali.</i>
How are you?	<i>Nakisma?</i>
good/fine	<i>pain</i>
bad/lousy	<i>saura</i>
friend	<i>pana</i>
Does anyone here speak Spanish?	<i>Nu apo ya lspel aisee sapa?</i>
How much is it?	<i>Naki preis?</i>
My name is (Jane).	<i>Yan nini (Jane).</i>
What's your name?	<i>An maninam dia?</i>
Could you tell me where a hotel is?	<i>Man ailwis hotel ansara barsa?</i>
Excuse me, but could you help me?	<i>Escyus, man sipsma ilpeimonaya?</i>
I'm a vegetarian.	<i>Yan wal wina kalila pias.</i>
I feel sick.	<i>Yan siknes.</i>
I'm allergic to mangos/peanuts	<i>Yan siknes brisna mango/mani.</i>
Where is the bus station?	<i>Ansarasa buskaba takaskisa?</i>
What time does the bus/boat leave?	<i>Man nu apo dia teim bustaki/duritaki sapa?</i>
How do I get to Bonanza?	<i>Napkei sipsna gwaiya Bonanza?</i>
Is it far/near?	<i>Nawina lihurasa/lamarasa?</i>
May I cross your property?	<i>Sipsna man prizcamku nueewaiya?</i>
Are there landmines?	<i>Danomite barsakei?</i>
Where can I change dollars?	<i>Ansara dalas sisonaya sipsna?</i>
Can I smoke here?	<i>Yan cigaret diaya sipsna?</i>
Do you have a bathroom?	<i>Baño brisma?</i>

TRAVEL WITH CHILDREN

I need ...	<i>Necesito ...</i>	ne-se-see-to ...
Do you have ...?	<i>¿Hay ...?</i>	ai ...
a car baby seat	<i>un asiento de seguridad para bebés</i>	oon a-syen-to de se-goo-ree-da pa-ra be-bes

a child-minding service	<i>un servicio de cuidado de niños</i>	oon ser-vee-syo de kwee-da-do de nee-nyos
a children's menu	<i>una carta infantil</i>	oona kar-ta een-fan-teel
a creche	<i>una guardería</i>	oo-na gwar-de-ree-a
(disposable) diapers/nappies	<i>pañales (de usar y tirar)</i>	pa-nya-les de oo-sar ee tee-rar
an (English-speaking) babysitter	<i>una niñera (de habla inglesa)</i>	oo-na nee-nye-ra (de a-bla een-gle-sa)
formula (milk)	<i>leche en polvo</i>	le-che en pol-vo
a highchair	<i>una trona</i>	oo-na tro-na
a potty	<i>una pelela</i>	oo-na pe-le-la
a stroller	<i>un cochecito</i>	oon ko-che-see-to

Do you mind if I breast-feed here?

¿Le molesta que dé de pecho aquí? le mo-les-ta ke de de pe-cho a-kee

Are children allowed?

¿Se admiten niños? se ad-mee-ten nee-nyos

GARÍFUNA

Until 1993 the Garífuna language had no standardized written form. The publication of the *People's Garífuna Dictionary* (National Garífuna Council of Belize, 1993) was a part of an ongoing effort to preserve a language that has been slowly dying, as it is not generally taught in schools, and most Garinagu use Kriol (the local creole) or English as their first language.

It's not necessary to learn Garífuna – every Garífuna speaker will almost certainly have a better command of English than non-Garífuna will ever have of Garífuna – but we've included some handy phrases to use as ice-breakers or just to make a big impression on the locals.

The language itself is a mixture of Arawak, Yoruba, Swahili, Bantu, Spanish, English and French. For more information, look for the books *Garífuna History, Language and Culture of Belize, Central America and the Caribbean* (Cayetano, 1993) and the bilingual (English/Garífuna) *Marcella Our Legacy* (Lewis, 1994).

Pronunciation

Consonants are pronounced as they are in English (**g** is always as in 'go'), and vowels are similar to those in Spanish (see Pronunciation on p327). Stress is usually placed on

the first syllable of two-syllable words and the second syllable in longer words.

Greetings & Conversation

Hello.	<i>Mabuiga.</i>
Good morning.	<i>Buiti binafi.</i>
Good afternoon.	<i>Buiti amidi.</i>
Good evening.	<i>Buiti raba weyu.</i>
Good night.	<i>Buiti gunyon.</i>
How are you?	<i>Ida biangi?</i>
I'm well.	<i>Magadietina.</i>
How about you?	<i>Angi buguya?</i>
Have a good day.	<i>Buidi lamuga buweyuri.</i>
Thank you.	<i>Seremein, nian bun.</i>
Thank you very much.	<i>Owembu seremein na bun.</i>
What's your name?	<i>Ka biri?</i>
My name is ...	<i>... niribei.</i>
Where do you come from?	<i>Halia giendibu sa?</i>
I come from ...	<i>... giendina.</i>

I was born in America.	<i>Meriga naguruwa.</i>
Where are you going?	<i>Halion badibu?</i>
I'm going to ...	<i>Neibuga ...</i>
I want to learn Garífuna.	<i>Buseintina nafureinderu Garífuna.</i>
Teach me a little Garífuna.	<i>Arufudahaba murusu Garífuna nu.</i>
What's this called in Garífuna?	<i>Ka liri le lidan Garífuna.</i>
This is ... in Garífuna.	<i>... le lidan Garífuna.</i>
I don't understand.	<i>Uwati gufaranda nanibu.</i>
Tell me again.	<i>Arienga ya bei nu.</i>
Do you like it?	<i>Hiseinti bun?</i>
I like it.	<i>Hisienti nun.</i>
I don't like it.	<i>Misienti.</i>
It's nice.	<i>Semeti.</i>
It's not nice.	<i>Mesemeti.</i>
It's good.	<i>Buiti.</i>
It's bad.	<i>Wuribati.</i>



Also available from Lonely Planet:
Latin American Spanish Phrasebook

Glossary

Here are some useful words you may come across during your time in Honduras. For definitions of food and drink terms, see p66.

aguardiente – a clear, potent liquor made from sugar-cane; can also be referred to as *caña*

alcaldía – city hall

alfombras – colorful and intricate carpets made of sawdust and seeds

artesanías – handicrafts

Av – abbreviation for *avenida* (avenue)

bahía – bay

balneario – public swimming area

barrio – district, neighborhood

cabaña – cabin or bungalow (also called *cabina*)

calle – street

calzada – causeway

carretera – highway

catedral – cathedral

catracho – slang for Honduran

cayo – cay; small island of sand or coral fragments

cayuco – dugout canoe

centro de llamadas – public calling center

cerro – hill

cerveza – beer

ceviche – seafood marinated in lime juice, garlic and seasonings

Chac – Maya rain god, his likeness is on many ruins

chicha – liquor made from fermented pineapple peels

churrasco – Argentinean-style beef

cine – movie theater

ciudad – city

colectivo – taxi or minibus that picks up and drops off passengers along its route

comedor – a basic and cheap eatery, usually with a limited menu

completo – complete, fully booked

conquistador – any of the Spanish explorer-conquerors of Latin America

Contras – counter-revolutionary military groups fighting against the Sandinista government in Nicaragua throughout the 1980s

costa – coast

criollo – Creole; born in Latin America of Spanish parentage; on the Caribbean coast it refers to someone of mixed African and European descent (see also *mestizo* and *ladino*)

cuadra – city block

cueva – cave

edificio – building

entrada – entrance

expreso – express bus

feria – a fair or festival

finca – farm, plantation, ranch

fuerte – fort

Garífuna – descendants of West African slaves and Carib Indians, brought to the Caribbean coast of Central America in the late 18th century from the island of St Vincent; also referred to as Black Caribs

golfo – gulf

gringo/a – mildly pejorative term used in Latin America to describe male/female foreigners, particularly those from North America; often applied to any visitor of European heritage

guancasco – an annual ceremony that confirms peace and friendship between neighboring communities

hacienda – agricultural estate, plantation

hospedaje – guesthouse

iglesia – church

invierno – winter; the rainy season, which extends roughly from May through November

isla – island

junco – type of basket weaving

ladino – a person of mixed Indian and European parentage, often used to describe *mestizos* who speak Spanish; see also *mestizo* and *criollo*

lago – lake

laguna – lagoon or lake

lancha – boat, usually a small motorboat

lempira – Honduras' national currency

licuado – fresh fruit drink, blended with milk or water

lista de correos – poste restante (general delivery) mail

mar – sea

mercado – market

mestizo – person of mixed ancestry (usually Spanish and Indian; see also *criollo* and *ladino*)

metate – flat stone on which corn is ground

migración – immigration; office of an immigration department

336 GLOSSARY

mirador – lookout point

muelle – pier

museo – museum

Navidad – Christmas

NGO – nongovernmental organization

ordinario – slow bus

PADI – Professional Association of Diving Instructors

palapa – thatched, palm-leaf-roofed shelter with open sides

pan de coco – coconut bread

parque – park; also used to describe a plaza

parque central – the center of many cities and towns in Honduras

parque nacional – national park

pasteles – pastries stuffed with meat and veggies

pesca deportiva – sport fishing

pila – laundry station

pipante – flat-bottomed boat made from a single tree trunk

plato del día – plate (or meal) of the day

plato típico – a mixed plate of various foods typical for breakfast, lunch or dinner

platos fuertes – main dishes

playa – beach

puente – bridge

puerta – gate; door

puerto – port; harbor

pulpería – corner store, mini-mart

punta – point; traditional Garifuna dance involving much hip movement

pupusa – typical Honduran cornmeal mass stuffed with cheese or refried beans (or a mixture of both)

quetzal – Guatemala's national currency, named for the tropical bird

río – river

sacaguía – head guide

santos – saints

Semana Santa – Holy Week, the week preceding Easter

sendero – path or trail

sierra – mountain range; a saw

stela, stelae – standing stone monument(s) of the ancient Maya, usually carved

supermercado – supermarket, from a corner store to a large, US-style supermarket

típica – basic Honduran fare

verano – summer; Honduras' dry season, roughly from December to May

yaba ding ding – island term for pre-Colombian artifacts

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