

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'	poping 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:

ይቅርታ 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 ' 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)



language difficulties

Do you speak English? እንግሊዘኛ ትችላለህ? እንግሊዘኛ ትችያለሽ?	'in-glee-zuh-nya ti-chi-la-luh-hi m 'in-glee-zuh-nya ti-chia-luhsh f
Do you understand? ገባህ/ገባሽ?	guh-bah/guh-bash m/f
I (don't) understand. (አል)ገባኝ(ም)	('al-)guh-bany(-mi)
Could you please ...? እባክህ/እባክሽ ...? repeat that ድገመው/ ድገሚው	'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ... m/f di-guh-muhw/ di-guh-meew m/f
speak more slowly በዝግታ አውራ	buh-zi-gi-ta 'ow-ra m
write it down በዝግታ አውራ	buh-zi-gi-ta 'ow-ree f
write it down ጻፈው/ጻፈው	s'a-fuhw/s'a-feew m/f

time, dates & numbers

What time is it? It's (two) o'clock. Quarter past (one). Half past (one). Quarter to (eight). At what time ...? At ... It's (15 December).	ስንት ሰአት ነው? (ስምንት) ሰአት ነው. (ሰባት) ከሩብ ነው. (ሰባት) ተኩል ነው. ለ(ሁለት) ሩብ ጉዳይ ነው. በስንት ሰአት...? በ ... (ታህሳስ አስራ-አምስት) ነው	sint suh-'at nuhw (si-mint) suh-'at nuhw (suh-bat) kuh-rub nuhw (suh-bat) tuh-kul nuhw luh-(hu-luht) rub gu-dai nuhw buh-sint suh-'at ... buh ... (ta-hi-sas 'a-si-ra 'am-mist) nuhw
yesterday today tomorrow	ትላንትና ዛሬ ነገ	ti-lan-ti-na za-re nuh-guh
Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday	ሰኞ ማክሰኞ ሮብ ሀሙስ አርብ ቅዳሜ እሁድ	suh-nyo mak-suh-nyo rob ha-mus 'a-rib k'i-da-me 'i-hud

numbers

0 ዜሮ	ze-ro	16 አስራ ስድስት	a-si-ra si-dist
1 አንድ	and	17 አስራ ሰባት	a-si-ra suh-bat
2 ሁለት	hu-luht	18 አስራ ስምንት	a-si-ra si-mint
3 ሶስት	sost	19 አስራ ዘጠኝ	a-si-ra zuh-t'uhny
4 አራት	'ar-at	20 ሃያ	ha-ya
5 አምስት	'am-mist	21 ሃያ አንድ	ha-ya and
6 ስድስት	si-dist	22 ሃያ ሁለት	ha-ya hu-luht
7 ሰባት	suh-bat	30 ሰላሳ	suh-la-sa
8 ስምንት	si-mint	40 አርባ	'ar-ba
9 ዘጠኝ	zuh-t'uhny	50 ሃምሳ	ham-sa
10 አስር	a-sir	60 ስልሳ	sil-sa
11 አስራ አንድ	a-si-ra and	70 ሰባ	suh-ba
12 አስራ ሁለት	a-si-ra hu-luht	80 ሰማንያ	suh-ma-nia
13 አስራ ሶስት	a-si-ra sost	90 ዘጠና	zuh-t'uh-na
14 አስራ አራት	a-si-ra 'ar-at	100 መቶ	muh-to
15 አስራ አምስት	a-si-ra am-mist	1000 ሺ	shee



border crossing

I'm here ... in transit on business on holiday	እዚህ ... ነኝ በትራንዚት ላይ በስራ ጉዳይ ላይ በእረፍት ላይ	'i-zeeh ... nuhny buh-tran-zeet lai buh-si-ra gu-dai lai buh-'i-ruhft lai
I'm here for ... (10) days (three) weeks (two) months	እዚህ ያለሁት ለ ... ነው (አስር) ቀን (ሶስት) ሳምንት (ሁለት) ወር	'i-zeeh ya-luh-hut luh ... nuhw (a-sir) k'uhn (sost) sa-mint (hu-luht) wuhr
I'm going to (Meta Abo). (ሜታ አቦ) እሄዳለሁ		(me-ta 'a-bo) 'i-he-da-luh-hu
I'm staying at the (Hilton Hotel). (ሂልተን ሆቴል) እቆያለሁ		(heel-tuhn ho-tel) 'i-k'o-ya-luh-hu

tickets

A ... ticket (to Bahir Dar), please.	አንድ ... ትኬት (ወደባህር ዳር)	and ... ti-ket (wuh-duh ba-hir dar)
one-way (going)	አባክህ/አባክሽ? የአንድ ጉዞ (መሄጃ) ብቻ	'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish m/f yuh-and gu-zo (muh-he-ja) bi-cha
one-way (returning) return	የአንድ ጉዞ (መመለሻ) ብቻ ደርሶ መልስ	yuh-and gu-zo (muh-muh-luh-sha) bi-cha duhr-so muh-lis
I'd like to ... my ticket, please.	... እፈልግ ነበር አባክህ ትኬቱን ስጠኝ ... እፈልግ ነበር አባክሽ ትኬቱን ስጧኝ	... 'i-fuh-lig nuh-buhr 'i-ba-kih ti-ke-ten si-t'uhny m ... 'i-fuh-lig nuh-buhr 'i-ba-kish ti-ke-ten si-ch'eeny f
cancel	መሰረዝ	muh-suh-ruh
change	መቀየር	muh-k'uh-yuhr
collect	መውሰድ	muhw-suhd

I'd like a smoking/nonsmoking seat, please.
 መቀመጫ የሚጨስበት/ የማይጨስበት ቦታ ጋ እፈልጋለሁ
 muh-k'uh-muh-ch'a yuh-mee-ch'uhs-buht/ yuh-mai-ch'uhs-buht bo-ta ga 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu

Is there a toilet?
 ሽንት ቤት አለው?
 shint bet 'a-luhw

Is there air conditioning?
 ቩንትሌተር አለው?
 vent-le-tuhr 'a-luhw

How long does the trip take?
 ጉዞው ምን ያህል ይፈጃል?
 gu-zo-wi min ya-hil yi-fuh-jal

Is it a direct route?
 ይህ ዋናው መንገድ ነው?
 yi-he wa-now muhn-guhd nuhw

transport

Where does the flight (to Addis Ababa) arrive/depart?
 (የአዲስ አበባ) በረራ መቼ ይደርሳል/ይነሳል?
 (yuh-'a-dees 'a-buh-ba) buh-ruh-ra muh-che yi-duhr-sal/yi-nuh-sal

How long will it be delayed?
 ምን ያህል ይዘገይል?
 min ya-hil yi-zuh-guh-yal

Is this the ... to (Dire Dawa)?
 boat
 bus
 plane
 train
 ይህ ... ወደ (ድሬዳዋ) የሚሄደው ነው?
 ጀልባ
 አውቶቢስ
 አውሮፕላን
 ባቡር
 yih ... wuh-duh (di-re da-wa) yuh-mee-he-duhw nuhw juhl-ba 'ow-to-bees ow-rop-lan ba-bur

I'd like to hire a ... (with air conditioning).
 car
 4WD
 እባክህ/እባክሽ (ኤየር ኮንዲሽነር ያለው) ... መከራየት እፈልጋለሁ?
 መኪና
 ፎር ዊል ድራይቭ
 'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ('e-yuhr kon-dee-shi-nuhr ya-luhw) ... muh-kuh-ra-yuht 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu m/f muh-kee-na for weel di-ra-yiv

How much is it to ...?
 ወደ ... ለመሄድ ዋጋው ስንት ነው?
 wuh-duh ... luh-muh-hed wa-gow sint nuhw

Please take me to (the museum).
 እባክህ/እባክሽ ወደ (መ-ዚየም) ውሰደኝ/ውሰጁኝ
 'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish wuh-duh (mu-zee-yuhm) wi-suh-duhny/wi-suh-jeeny m/f

How much is it for (three) days/weeks?
 ለ(ሶስት) ቀን/ሳምንት ዋጋው ስንት ነው?
 luh-(sost) k'uhn/sa-mint wa-gow sint nuhw

directions

Where's the (nearest) ...?
 internet café
 market
 (ቅርብ) ያለ ... የት ነው?
 ኢንተርኔት ካፌ
 ገበያ
 (k'irb) ya-luh ... yuht nuhw 'een-tuhr-net ka-fe guh-buh-ya

Is this the road to the museum?
 ይህ መንገድ ወደ መ-ዚየም ይወስዳል?
 yih muhn-guhd wuh-duh mu-zee-yuhm yi-wuhs-dal

Can you show me (on the map)?
 (ካርታ ላይ) ልታሳዩኝ ትችላለህ/ትችላለሽ?
 (kar-ta lai) li-ta-sa-yuhny ti-chi-la-luh/ti-chi-ya-luhsh m/f

What's the address?
 አድራሻው የት ነው?
 'ad-ra-show yuht nuhw

How far is it? ምን ያህል ይርቃል?	min yahl yir-k'al
How do I get there? እዚያ እንዴት መሄድ ይቻላል?	'i-zee-ya 'in-det muh-hed yi-cha-lal
Turn left/right. ወደ ግራ/ቀኝ ታጠፍ	wuh-duh gi-ra/k'uhny ta-t'uhf
It's ...	... ነው ... nuhw
behind ...	... ከጀርባ ... kuh-juhr-ba
in front of ...	... ፊት ለፊት ... feet luh-feet
near ...	... አጠገብ ... 'a-t'uh-guhb
next to ...	... ቀጥሎ ... k'uh-t'i-lo
on the corner	መታጠፊያው ላይ muh-ta-t'uh-fee-yow lai
opposite ...	... ትይዩ ... ti-yi-yu
straight ahead	ቀጥታ k'uh-t'i-ta
there	እዚያ 'i-zee-ya

accommodation

Where's a ...?	... የት ነው?	... yuht nuhw
camping ground	የድንኳን ቦታ	yuh-din-ku-wa-nu bo-ta
guesthouse	የእንግዳ ማረፊያ	yuh-'in-gi-da ma-ruh-fee-ya
hotel	ሆቴሉ	ho-te-lu
youth hostel	ሆስቴሉ	hos-te-lu

Can you recommend somewhere (cheap/good)?
(ርካሽ/ጥሩ) ቦታ ልትጠቁመኝ ትችላለህ/ትችያለሽ?
(ri-kash/'i-ru) bo-ta li-ti-t'uh-k'u-muhny ti-chi-la-luh-hi/ti-chi-ya-luhsh m/f

I'd like to book a room, please.
እባክህ/እባክሽ ክፍል ቡክ ማድረግ ፈልጌ ነበር?
'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ki-fil buk mad-ruhgh fuh-li-ge nuh-buhr m/f

I have a reservation.
ክፍል ቡክ አድርጌ ነበር
ki-fil buk 'ad-ri-ge nuh-buhr

Do you have a ... room?	... ክፍል አላችሁ?	... ki-fil 'a-la-chi-hu
single	አንድ	and
double	ሁለት	hu-luht
twin	ሁለት አልጋ ያለው	hu-luht 'al-ga ya-luhw

How much is it per night/person?
በቀን/በሰው ዋጋው ስንት ነው?
buh-k'uhn/buh-suhw wa-gow sint nuhw

I'd like to stay for (two) nights.
(ሁለት) ቀን መቆየት እፈልጋለሁ
(hu-luht) k'uhn muh-k'o-yuht 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu

What time is check-out?
ክፍል መልቀቂያው ስንት ሰአት ነው?
ki-fil muhl-k'uh-k'ee-yow sint suh-'at nuhw

Am I allowed to camp here?
እዚህ ግቢ ድንኳን መትከል እችላለሁ?
'i-zeeh gi-bee din-ku-wan muht-kuhl 'i-chi-la-luh-hu

banking & communications

I'd like to ...	እባክህ/እባክሽ ... እፈልጋለሁ	i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ... 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu m/f
arrange a transfer	ገንዘብ ማላወር	guhn-zuhb ma-za-wuhr
cash a cheque	ቼክ መመንዘር	chek muh-muhn-zuhr
change a travellers cheque	ትራቭለርስ ቼክ መመንዘር	ti-rav-luhrs chek muh-muhn-zuhr
change money	ገንዘብ መመንዘር	guhn-zuhb muh-muhn-zuhr
withdraw money	ገንዘብ ማውጣት	guhn-zuhb muh-muhn-zuhr guhn-zuhb mow-t'at
I want to ...	... እፈልጋለሁ	... 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu
buy a phonecard	የስልክ ካርድ መግዛት	yuh-silk kard muhg-zat
call (Australia)	(አውስትራሊያ) መደወል	('owst-ra-lee-ya) muh-duh-wuhl
reverse the charges	ቡተዘዋዋሪ መደወል	buh-tuh-zuh-wa-wa-ree muh-duh-wuhl
use a printer	ፕሪንተር መጠቀም	pi-reen-tuhr muh-t'uh-k'uhm
use the internet	ኢንተርኔት መጠቀም	'een-tuhr-net muh-t'uh-k'uhm

How much is it per hour?
በሰአት ስንት ነው?
buh-suh-'at sint nuhw

How much does a (three-minute) call cost?
የ(ሶስት ደቂቃ) ጥሪ ዋጋው ስንት ነው?
yuh-(sost duh-k'ee-k'a) t'i-ree wa-gow sint nuhw

(One birr) per minute/hour.
(አንድ ብር) በደቂቃ/በሰአት
(and bir) buh-duh-k'ee-k'a/buh-suh-'at

tours

When's the next ...?	የሚቀጥለው ... መቼ ነው?	yuh-mee-k'uh-t'i-luhw ... muh-che nuhw
day trip	ውሎ ገባ ጉዞ	wi-lo guh-ba gu-zo
tour	ሽርሽር	shi-ri-shir
Is ... included?	... ይጨምራል?	... yi-ch'uh-mi-ral
accommodation	መኝታን	muh-nyi-tan
the admission charge	የአገልግሎት ቁጋን	yuh-'a-guhl-gi-lot wa-gan
food	ምግብን	mi-gib-n
transport	ትራንስፖርትን	ti-rans-por-tin
How long is the tour?	ሽርሽሩ ምን ያህል ጊዜ ይፈጃል?	shi-ri-shi-ru min ya-hil gee-ze yi-fuh-jal
What time should we be back?	በስንት ሰአት እንመለሳለን?	buh-sint suh-'at 'in-muh-luh-sa-luhn

shopping

I'm looking for ...	... እፈልጋለሁ	... 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu
I need film for this camera.	ለዚህ ካሜራ የሚሆን ፊልም እፈልጋለሁ	luh-zeeh ka-me-ra yuh-mee-hon feelm 'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu
Can I listen to this?	ይህንን ማዳመጥ እችላለሁ?	yi-hi-nin ma-da-muht' 'i-chi-la-luh-hu
Can I have my ... repaired?	... ማስጠገን እችላለሁ?	... mas-t'uh-guhn 'i-chi-la-luh-hu
When will it be ready?	መቼ ይደርሳል?	muh-che yi-duhr-sal
How much is it?	ቁጋው ስንት ነው?	wa-gow sint nuhw
Can you write down the price?	ቁጋውን ልትጥፍልኝ ትችላለህ?	wa-gown li-ti-s'if-liny ti-chi-la-luh
What's your lowest price?	መጨረሻውን ስንት ትለዋለህ?	muh-ch'uh-ruh-sha-win sint ti-luh-wa-luh-hi

I'll give you (five) birr.	(አምስት) ብር እክፍላለሁ	('am-mist) bir 'i-kuhf-la-luh-hu
There's a mistake in the bill.	ቢሉ ላይ ስህተት አለ	bee-lu lai sih-tuht 'a-luh
It's faulty.	የተበላሸ ነው	yuh-tuh-buh-la-shuh nuhw
I'd like a receipt/refund, please.	እባክህ/እባክሽ ደረሰኝ/ገንዘቤ እንዲመለስልኝ እፈልጋለሁ	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 ...?	... ትቀበላላችሁ?	... ti-k'uh-buh-la-la-chi-hu
credit cards	ክሬዲት ካርድ	ki-re-deet kard
debit cards	ዴቢት ካርድ	de-beet kard
travellers cheques	ትራቫለርስ ቼክ	ti-rav-luhrs chek
Could you ...?	... ትችላለህ?	... ti-chi-la-luh
burn a CD from my memory card	ሲዲ ከዩኤስ በ ኮፒ	see-dee kuh yu 'es bee ko-pee
develop this film	ይህንን ፊልም ልታጥብልኝ	yi-hi-nin feelm li-ta-t'ib-liny

making conversation

Hello.	ሰላም	suh-lam
Good night.	ደህና እደር/እደሪ	duh-na 'i-duhr/'i-duh-ree m/f
Goodbye.	ደህና ሁን/ ሁኝ	duh-na hun/hun-yee m/f
Mr	አቶ	'a-to
Mrs	ወይዘሮ	wuhy-zuh-ro
Ms/Miss	ወይዘሪት	wuhy-zuh-reet
How are you?	እንዴት ነህ/ነሽ?	'in-det nuh-hi/nuhsh m/f
Fine, and you?	ይመስገነው አንተስ/አንቺስ?	yi-muhs-guh-nuhw 'an-tuhs/'an-chees m/f
What's your name?	ማን ትባላለህ?/ትባይለሽ?	man ti-ba-la-luh/ti-ba-ya-luhsh m/f
My name's ...	... ነኝ	... nuhny

I'm pleased to meet you.

በሙተዋውቃችን ደስ ብሎኛል buh-muh-tuh-wa-wuh-k'a-chin duhs bi-lon-yal

This is my ...

boyfriend	እሱ ...-ዬ ነው	'i-su ...-ye nuhw
brother	የወንድ ጉዋደኛ	yuh-wuhnd gu-wa-duhn-ya
daughter	ወንድም	wuhn-dim
father	ሴት ልጅ	set lij
friend	አባት	'a-bat
girlfriend	ጉዋደኛ	gu-wa-duh-nya
husband	የሴት ጉዋደኛ	yuh-set gu-wa-duh-nya
mother	ባል	bal
partner	እናት	'i-nat
sister	ባልንጀራ/ሽርካ	bal-ni-juh-ra/shi-ri-ka m/f
son	እህት	'i-hit
wife	ልጅ	lij
	ሚስት	mist

Here's my ...

What's your ...?

address	... ይኸው	... yi-huh-wi
email address	... ልትሰጠኝ ትችላለህ?	... li-ti-suh-t'uhny ti-chi-la-luh
phone number	አድራሻህን	'ad-ra-sha-hin
	ኢሜልህን	'ee-me-li-hin
	ስልክ ቁጥርህን	silk k'u-t'ir-hin

Where are you from?

ከየት ነህ? kuh-yuht nuh-hi

I'm from ...

Australia	እኔ ከ- ... ነኝ	'i-ne kuh-... nuhny
New Zealand	አውስትራሊያ	'owst-ra-lee-ya
the UK	ኒው ዝላንድ	neew zi-land
the USA	እንግሊዝ	'in-gleez
	አሜሪካ	'a-me-ree-ka

I'm married.

I'm not married.

Can I take a photo (of you)?

አግብቻለሁ	'ag-bi-cha-luh-hu
አላግባሁም	'a-la-guh-ba-hum
ፎቶ ላኑሳ(ህ)/ላኑሳ(ሽ)	fo-to la-nuh-sa(h)/la-nuh-sa(sh)
እችላለሁ?	'i-chi-la-luh-hu m/f

eating out

Can you recommend a ...?

bar	ጥሩ ... ልትጠቁመኝ ትችላለህ?	t'i-ru ... li-ti-t'uh-k'u-muhny
dish	ቡና ቤት	ti-chi-la-luh
place to eat	ምግብ	bu-na bet
	ምግብ ቤት	mi-gib
		mi-gib bet

I'd like ..., please.

the bill
the menu
a table for (two)
that dish

እባክህ/እባክሽ ...
እፈልጋለሁ
ቢል
ሜኑ
ጠረጴዛ
(ለሁለት) ሰው
ያንን ምግብ

'i-ba-kih/'i-ba-kish ...
'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu m/f
beel
me-nu
t'uh-ruh-p'e-za
(luh-hu-luht) suhw
ya-nin mi-gib

Do you have vegetarian food?

የጾም ምግብ አላችሁ?

yuh-s'om mi-gib 'a-la-chi-hu

Could you prepare a meal without ...?

ምግብ ያለ ... ልታዘጋጁልን ትችያለሽ?
ምግብ ያለ ... ልታዘጋጅልን ትችላለህ?mi-gib ya-luh ...
li-ta-zuh-ga-jee-lin ti-chi-ya-luhsh f
mi-gib ya-luh ...
li-ta-zuh-gaj-lin ti-chi-la-luh-hi meggs
meat stockእንቁላል
ስጋ'in-k'u-lal
si-ga

(cup of) coffee ...

(cup of) tea ...

with milk
without sugar(አንድ ስኒ) ቡና ...
(አንድ ስኒ) ሻይ ...
በውተት
ያለ ስኩዋር(and si-nee) bu-na ...
(and si-nee) shai ...
buh-wuh-tuht
ya-luh si-ku-war

(boiled) water

(የፈላ) ውሃ

(yuh-fuh-la) wi-ha

emergencies

Help!

I'm lost.

እርዳታ እርዳታ!
ጠፋብኝ'ir-da-ta 'ir-da-ta
t'uh-fa-biny

Call ...!

an ambulance
a doctor
the police... ጥራልኝ/ጥራልኝ
አምቡላንስ
ዶክተር
ፖሊስ... t'i-ra-liny/t'i-ree-liny m/f
'am-bu-lans
dok-tuhr
po-lees

Could you help me, please?

ልትረዳኝ ትችላለህ?
ልትረጃኝ ትችያለሽ?lit-ruh-dany ti-chi-la-luh m
lit-ruh-jeeny ti-chi-ya-luhsh f

Where are the toilets?

ሽንት ቤት የት ነው?

shint bet yuht nuhw

I want to report an offence.

ጥቃቱን ሪፖርት ማድረግ
እፈልጋለሁt'i-k'a-tun ree-port mad-ruhg
'i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu

I have insurance.

ኢንሹራንስ አለኝ

‘in-shu-rans ‘a-luhny

I want to contact my consulate/embassy.

ከቆንስላዩ/ከኤምባሲዬ ጋር መገናኘት እፈልጋለሁ

kuh-k’ons-la-ye/kuh-‘em-ba-see-ye gar muh-guh-na-nyuht ‘i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu

I’ve been ...

እኔ ...

‘i-ne ...

assaulted
raped
robbed

ተጠቃሁ
ተደፈርኩ
ተዘረፍኩ

tuh-t’uh-k’a-hu
tuh-duh-fuhr-ku
tuh-zuh-ruhf-ku

I’ve lost my ...

... ጠፋብኝ

... t’uh-fa-biny

My ... was/were stolen.

የኔ ... ተሰረቀ

yuh-ne ... tuh-suh-ruh-k’uh

bags
credit card
handbag
jewellery
money
passport
travellers cheques
wallet

ሻንጣ
ክሬዲት ካርድ
የጅ ቦርሳ
ጌጣጌጥ
ገንዘብ
ፖስፖርት
ትራቭለርስ ጅክ
የኪስ ቦርሳ

shan-t’a
ki-re-deet kard
yuhj bor-sa
ge-t’a-get’
guh-n-zuhb
pas-port
ti-rav-luhrs chek
yuh-kees bor-sa

medical needs

Where’s the nearest ...?

በቅርብ ያለ ... የት ነው?

buh-k’irb ya-luh ... yuht nuhw

dentist
doctor
hospital
pharmacist

የጥርስ ሃኪም
ዶክተር
ሆስፒታል
ፋርማሲስት

yuh-t’irs ha-keem
dok-tuhr
hos-pee-tal
far-ma-seest

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

(እንግሊዘኛ የሚናገር) ሀኪም እፈልጋለሁ

(‘in-gee-zuhn-ya yuh-mee-na-guhr) ha-keem ‘i-fuh-li-ga-luh-hu

Could I see a female doctor?

ሴት ዶክተር ልታየኝ ትችላለች?

set dok-tuhr li-ta-yuhny ti-chi-la-luhch

It hurts here.

እዚህ ጋ ያመኛል

‘i-zeeh ga ya-muhn-yal

I’m allergic to (penicillin).

ለ(ፔኒሲሊን) አለርጂ ነኝ

luh-(pe-nee-see-leen) ‘a-luhr-jee nuhny

english–amharic dictionary

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

A

accommodation ማደሪያ ma-duh-ree-ya
adaptor አዳፕተር a-dap-tuhr
after በሁዋላ buh-hu-wa-la
airport አይሮፕላን ማረፊያ
ai-rop-lan ma-ruh-fee-ya
alcohol አልኮል al-kol
all ሁሉ hu-lu
allergy አለርጂ ‘a-luhr-jee
and እና i-na
ankle ቁርጭም ጫት K’ur-ch’im-ch’im-it
antibiotics አንቲባዮቲክ an-tee-ba-yo-teek
arm ክንድ kind
aspirin አስፕሪን asp-ree-in
asthma አስም as-m
ATM ኤቲኤም ey-tee-em

B

baby ህጻን hi-s’an
back (body) ጀርባ juh-ri-ba
backpack ባክ ፓክ bak pak
bad መጥፎ muht’fo
baggage claim ሻንጣ መጠየቂያ
shan-t’a muh-t’uh-yuh-k’ee-ya
bathroom መታጠቢያ ቤት muh-ta-t’uh-bi-ya bet
battery ባትሪ ድንጋይ ba-tree din-gai
beautiful ቆንጆ K’on-jo
bed አልጋ al-ga
beer ቤራ bee-ra
bees ንብ nib
before በፊት buh-feet
bicycle ብስክሊት bisk-let
big ትልቅ ti-liik’
blanket ብርድ ልብስ bird libs
blood group የደም አይነት yuh-duhm ‘ai-nuht
bottle ጠርመስ t’uhr-mus
bottle opener ጠርመስ መክፈቻ
t’uhr-mus muhk-fuh-cha
boy ልጅ lij
brakes (car) ፍራን fi-ren

breakfast ቁርስ K’urs
bronchitis ብሮንካይትስ bi-ron-kaits

C

cancel መሰረዝ muh-suh-ruhz
can opener ጣሳ መክፈቻ t’a-sa muhk-fuh-cha
cash ገንዘብ guhn-zuhb
cell phone ሞባይል mo-bail
centre ጠማክላ ma-‘i-kuhl
cheap ርካሽ ri-kash
check (bill) ጅክ chek
check-in ጅክ ኢን chek een
chest ደረት duh-ruht
child ልጅ lij
cigarette ሲጋራ see-ga-ra
city ከተማ kuh-tuh-ma
clean ልጽግ ni-s’uh
closed ዝግ zig
codeine ኩዲን ko-din
cold ጉንፋን gun-fan
collect call በተዘዋዋሪ buh-tuh-zuh-wa-wa-ree
condom ኮንደም kon-duhm
constipation ድርቀት dir-k’uht
contact lenses የአይን መነጻር
yuh-ain muh-nuh-s’ir
currency exchange የውጭ ምንጫ
yuh-wich’ mi-ni-za-ree
customs (immigration) ጉምሩክ gum-ruk

D

dairy products የውተት ተዋጽኦ
yuh-wuh-tuht tuh-wa-s’i-o
dangerous አደገኛ ‘a-duh-guhn-ya
date (time) ቀን K’uhn
day ቀን K’uhn
diaper ዳይፕር dai-puhr
diarrhoea ተቅማጥ tuh-k’i-mat’
dinner እራት i-rat
dirty ቆሻሻ K’o-sha-sha
disabled አካለ ስንኩል ‘a-ka-luh sin-kul

double bed ሁለት አልጋ በአንድ ክፍል
hu-luht al-ga buh-an-id ki-fil
drink ጠ መጠጥ muh-t'uh't
drivers licence መንጃ ፈቃድ muhn-ja fuh-k'ad
drug (illicit) አደንዛዥ ዕጽ 'a-duhn-zazh 'is

E
ear ጆሮ jo-ro
east ምስራቅ mis-rak'
email ኢ.ሜይል 'ee-me-yil
English (language) እንግሊዘኛ 'ing-lee-zuhn-ya
exchange rate የውጭ ምንዛሪ ዋጋ
yuh-wich' min-za-ree wa-ga
exit ጠ መውጫ muh-wi-ch'a
expensive ውድ wid
eye አይን 'ain

F
fast ፈጣን fuh-t'an
fever ትኩሳት ti-ku-sat
finger ጣት t'at
first class አንደኛ ማእረግ
'an-duh-nya ma-'i-ruhg
fish ጠ አሳ 'a-sa
food ምግብ mi-gib
foot እግር 'i-gir
fork ሽካ shu-ka
free (of charge) ነጻ nuh-s'a
fruit ፍራፍሬ fi-ra-fi-re
funny አስቂኝ 'as-k'eeny

G
game park ፓርክ park
gift ስጦታ si-t'o-ta
girl ልጃገረድ li-ja-guh-ruhd
glass (drinking) ብርጭቆ bir-ch'i-k'o
glasses መነጽር muh-nuh-s'ir
gluten አንጻባራቂ 'an-s'uh-ba-ra-k'ee
good ጥሩ t'i-ru
guide ጠ መሪ muh-ree

H
hand እጅ 'ij
happy ደስታ duh-si-ta
have አለው/አላት (M/F) 'a-luhw/'a-lat

he እሱ 'i-su
head ራስ ras
headache ራስ ምታት ras mi-tat
heart ልብ lib
heart condition የልብ ሁኖቴ yuh-lib hu-na-te
heat ጠ ሙቀት mul-k'uh't
here እዚህ 'i-zeeh
high ከፍ ያለ kuhf ya-luh
highway የቀለበት መንገድ
yuh-k'uh-luh-buht muhn-guhd
homosexual ጠ&ላ ሆሞ ho-mo
hot ሙቅ muk'
hungry ረሀብ ruh-hab

I
I እኔ 'i-ne
identification (card) መታወቂያ muh-ta-wuh-k'ee-ya
ill ታመመ ta-muh-muh
important አስፈላጊ 'as-fuh-la-gee
internet ኢንተርኔት 'een-tuhr-net
interpreter አስተርጉሞሚ 'as-tuhr-gu-wa-mee

J
job ስራ si-ra

K
key ቁልፍ K'u-lif
kilogram ኪሎ ግራም kee-lo gi-ram
kitchen ማድ ቤት mad bet
knife ቤላዋ bee-la-wa

L
laundry (place) ላውንደሪ la-win-duh-ree
lawyer ጠበቃ t'uh-buh-k'a
left-luggage office እያ መረከቢያ መጋዘን
'i-k'a muh-ruh-kuh-bee-ya muh-ga-zuhh
leg እግር 'i-gir
lesbian ጠ&ላ ሌዝቢያን lez-bee-yan
less ያነሰ ya-nuh-suh
letter (mail) ደብዳቤ duhb-da-be
like ህደደ wuh-duh-duh
lost-property office ፖሊስ ጣቢያ
po-lees t'a-bee-ya

love ህ አፈቀረ 'a-fuh-k'uh-ruh
lunch ምሳ mi-sa

M
man ሰው suhw
matches ክብራት kib-reet
meat ስጋ si-ga
medicine መድሀኒት muhd-ha-neet
message መልእክት muhl-'ikt
month ወር wuhr
morning ጠዋት t'uh-wat
mouth አፍ 'af
movie ሲኒማ see-nee-ma
MSG ሜሴንጆር me-sen-juhr
museum ሙዚየም mu-zee-yuhm
music ሙዚቃ mu-zee-k'a

N
name ጠ ስም sim
napkin ናፕኪን nap-keen
nappy ዳይፐር dai-puhr
national park ብሄራዊ ፓርክ bi-he-ra-wee park
nausea ማጥወልወል mat'wuhl-wuhl
neck አንገት 'an-guht
new አዲስ 'a-dees
news ዜና ze-na
newspaper ጋዜጣ ga-ze-t'a
night ምሽት mi-shit
nightclub የምሽት ክብብ yuh-mi-shit ki-buhb
noisy የሚረብሽ yuh-mee-ruh-bish
nonsmoking የማይጨሰበት yuh-mai-ch'uh-s-buht
north ሰሜን suh-men
nose አፍንጫ 'a-fin-ch'a
now አሁን 'a-hun
number ቁጥር K'u-t'ir
nuts አቾሎኒ 'o-cho-lo-nee

O
oil (engine) የሞተር ዘይት yuh-mo-tuhr-zuh-yit
OK አሻሽ 'i-shee
old አርጌ 'a-ro-ge
open ለክፍት kift
outside ውጪ wi-ch'ee

P
package ፓኬጅ pa-kej
pain ህመም hi-muhm

paper ወረቀት wuh-ruh-k'uh't
park (car) ማቆም ma-k'om
passport ፖስፖርት pas-port
pay ህፊል ki-fuhl
pen ብእር bi-'ir
petrol ቤንዚን ben-zeen
pharmacy ፍርማሲ far-ma-see
plate ሳህን sa-hin
postcard ፖስት ካርድ post kard
post office ፖስታ ቤት pos-ta bet
pregnant እርጉዝ 'ir-guz

Q
quiet ጸጥ ያለ s'uh't' ya-luh

R
rain ጠ ዝናብ zi-nab
razor ምላጭ mi-lach'
registered mail ሪከማንዴ ree-ko-man-de
rent ህተከራ-የ (M/F) tuh-kuh-ra-yuh
repair ህጠን (M/F) t'uh-guh-nuh
reservation መያዝ muh-yaz
restaurant ሬስቶራንት res-to-rant
return ህመለሰ/መለሰት (M/F) (M/F)
muh-luh-suh/muh-luh-suhch
road መንገድ muhn-guhd
room ክፍል ki-fil

S
sad ሀዘን ha-zuhn
safe ሰላም suh-lam
sanitary napkin ሞዴስ mo-des
seafood የባህር ምግቦች yuh-ba-hir mi-gib-och
send መቀመጫ muh-k'uh-muh-ch'a
seat መላክ muh-lak
sex ጾታ s'o-ta
shampoo ሻምፑ sham-pu
share (a dorm, etc) ለሁለት መከራየት
luh-hu-luht muh-kuh-ra-yuht
shaving cream የጸም መላጫ ሳሙና
yuh-s'eeem muh-la-ch'a sa-mu-na
she እሱዋ 'i-su-wa
sheet (bed) አንሶላ 'an-so-la
shirt ሽሚዝ shuh-meez
shoes ጫማ ch'a-ma
shop ጠ ሱቅ suk'

shower ጥቅር sha-wuhr
 skin ቆዳ k'o-da
 skirt ቀሚስ k'uh-mis
 sleep ተኝ ጠ tuh-nya
 small ትንሽ ti-nish
 smoke (cigarettes) ማጨስ ma-ch'uh's
 soap ሳሙና sa-mu-na
 some ጥቂት t'i-k'eet
 soon በቅርብ buh-k'irb
 sore throat የቆሰሰ ጉሮሮ yuh-k'o-suh-luh gu-ro-ro
 south ደቡብ duh-bub
 speak ተናገር tuh-na-guhr
 spoon ማንኪያ man-kee-ya
 stamp ቴምብር tem-bir
 stand-by ticket የተጠባባቂ ትኬት
 yuh-tuh-t'uh-ba-ba-k'ee ti-ket
 station (train) ጣቢያ t'a-bee-ya
 stomach ሆድ hod
 stop ማቆም k'o-muh
 stop (bus) ጠፎር ማታ fer-ma-ta
 street መንገድ muhn-guhd
 student ተማሪ tuh-ma-ree
 sunscreen የጸሀይ መከላከያ
 yuh-s'uh-hai muh-kuh-la-kuh-ya
 swim ማጎን wa-nyuh

T
 tampons ጎዝ goz
 teeth ጥርስ t'irs
 telephone ጠስልክ silk
 television ቴቪ. tee-vee
 temperature (weather) ሙቀት mu-k'uh't
 tent ድንኳንን din-ku-wan
 that (one) ያ ya
 they እነሱ 'i-nuh-su
 thirsty መጠማት muh-t'uh-mat
 this (one) ይህ yih
 throat ጉሮሮ gu-ro-ro
 ticket ትኬት ti-ket
 time ጊዜ gee-ze
 tired ደከመ duh-kuh-muh
 tissues ሶፍት soft
 today ዛሬ za-re
 toilet ሽንት ቤት shint bet
 tonight ዛሬ ማታ za-re ma-ta
 toothache የጥርስ ህመም yuh-t'irs hi-muhm
 toothbrush የጥርስ ብሩሽ yuh-t'irs bi-rush
 toothpaste የጥርስ ሳሙና yuh-t'irs sa-mu-na
 torch (flashlight) ባትሪ bat-ree

towel ፎጣ fo-t'a
 translate መተርጎም muh-tuhr-gom
 travel agency የጉዞ ወኪል yuh-gu-zo wuh-keel
 trousers ሱሪ su-ree
 twin beds ሁለት አልጋ hu-luht al-ga
 tyre ጎማ go-ma

U
 underwear ቡታንታ bu-tan-ta
 urgent አስቸኳይ as-chuh-ku-wai

V
 vacant ክፍት ቦታ kift bo-ta
 vegetable ጠአትክልት 'at-kilt
 vegetarian ልአትክልት ተመጋቢ
 'at-kilt tuh-muh-ga-bee
 visa ቪዛ vee-za

W
 waiter አስተናጋጅ as-tuh-na-gaj
 walk ማሰገር መጉዋዝ buh-'i-gir muh-gu-waz
 wallet የኪስ ቦርሳ yuh-kees bor-sa
 warm ል ሙቅ muk'
 wash (something) ማጠብ ma-t'uhb
 watch ጠ ማየት ma-yuht
 water ውሀ wi-ha
 we እኛ 'i-nya
 weekend የሳምንቱ መጨረሻ
 yuh-sa-min-tu muh-ch'uh-ruh-sha
 west ምእራብ mi-'i-rab
 wheelchair ዊል ቸር weel chuhr
 when መጣጥ muh-che
 where የት yuht
 who ማን man
 why ለምን luh-min
 window መስኮት muhs-kot
 wine ወይን wuh-yin
 with ጋር gar
 without ያለ ya-luh
 woman ሴት set
 write መጻፍ muh-s'af

Y
 you sg inf አንተ/አንቺ ጠ/ጥ an-tuh/an-chee
 you sg pol እርስዎ 'irs-iwo
 you pl inf&pol እናንተ 'in-an-tuh

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