

# 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
		s	sun
		sh	shot
		t	top
		ts'	as in 'lets', but spat out
		w	win
		y	yes
		y'	spat out y
		z	zero

In this chapter, the Hausa pronunciation is given in purple after each phrase. Each syllable is separated by a dot. For example:

*Na gode.*    naa gaw-dey

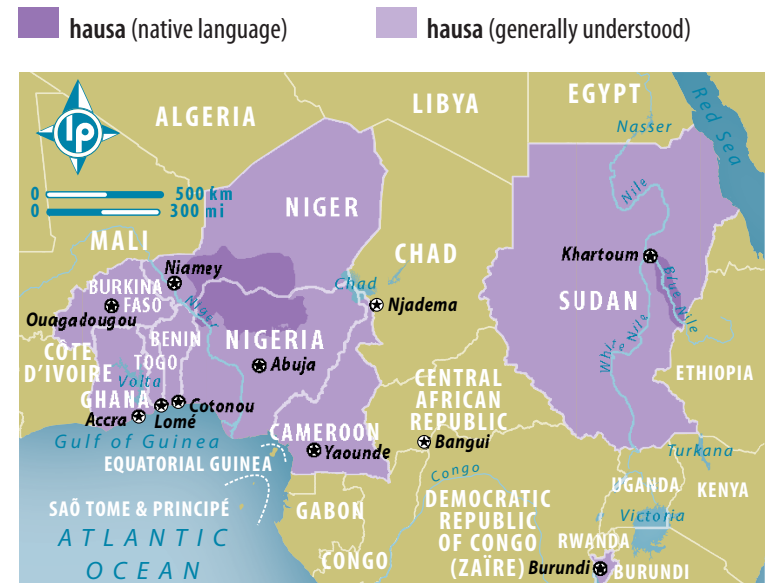
Hausa's glottalised consonants, simplified here as b', d', k', ts' and y', are made by tightening and releasing the space between the vocal cords when you pronounce the sound. The b' and d' sounds have an extra twist – instead of breathing out, you breathe in.

# 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.



## language difficulties

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

## time, dates & numbers

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

## numbers

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

## border crossing

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

## tickets

<b>One ... ticket (to Zinder), please.</b>	<i>Tikitin ... guda d'aya (zuwa Zandar), don Allah.</i>	ti-ki-tin ... gu-daa d'a-ya (zu-waa zan-dar) don al-laa
<b>one-way</b>	<i>zuwa</i>	zu-waa
<b>return</b>	<i>zuwa da dawowa</i>	zu-waa da daa-waw-waa

<b>I'd like to ... my ticket, please.</b>	<i>Ina son in ... tikitina, don Allah.</i>	i-naa son in ... ti-ki-ti-naa don al-laa
<b>cancel</b>	<i>soke</i>	saw-kye
<b>change</b>	<i>canja</i>	chan-ja
<b>collect</b>	<i>karb'i</i>	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?* a-kwai ban d'aa-kee

### Is there air conditioning?

*Akwai na'urar sanyaya d'aki?* a-kwai naa-'oo-rar san-ya-ya d'aa-kee

### How long does the trip take?

*Tafiyar za ta dad'e?* ta-fi-yar zaa ta da-d'ee

### Is it a direct route?

*Wannan ce hanya kai tsaye?* wan-nan chey han-ya kai ts'a-ye

## transport

### Where does flight (BA527) arrive/depart?

*A ina jirgin sama (BA 527) zai sauka/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)?

<b>boat</b>	<i>jirgin ruwa m</i>	wan-nan ... (zu-waa mai-du-gu-ri) ney/chey
<b>bus</b>	<i>mota f</i>	jir-gin ru-waa maw-taa
<b>plane</b>	<i>jirgin sama m</i>	jir-gin sa-ma
<b>train</b>	<i>jirgin k'asa m</i>	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).

<i>Ina son in yi hayar ... (tare da AC).</i>	i-naa son in yi ha-yar ... (taa-re da ai-si)
<b>car</b>	<i>mota</i> maw-taa
<b>4WD</b>	<i>mota mai juyawa da k'afa hud'u</i> maw-taa mai joo-yaa-waa da k'a-faa hu-d'u

### 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) ...?

<i>internet café market</i>	<i>Ina ... (mafi kusa)? internet cafe kasuwa</i>	i-naa ... (ma-fee ku-sa) in-tey-net ka-fey kaa-su-waa
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### 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 iya nuna mini (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'yey 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 tanti-tanti</i>	wu-rin da a-ka ka-fa 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 aka had'a su</i>	bi-yu wa-d'an-da a-ka ha-d'a su

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>	kwaa-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 zuwa kud'i</i>	chan-ja chek na ban-kee zu-waa ku-d'ee
change a travellers cheque	<i>canja cek zuwa kud'i</i>	chan-ja chek zu-waa ku-d'ee
change money	<i>canja kud'i</i>	chan-ja ku-d'ee
withdraw money	<i>karb'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 buga masa waya ya biya kud'in waya</i>	mu-tu-min da zan bu-ga ma-sa wa-yaa ya bi-ya ku-d'in wa-yaa
use a printer	<i>yin amfani da printer</i>	yin am-faa-nee da prin-ter
use the internet	<i>yin amfani da internet</i>	yin am-faa-nee da in-tey-nee

### 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?

*Nawa 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.*      (nai-ra ta-laa-tin) don ts'aa-won min-tee/a-waa d'a-ya

## tours

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

## shopping

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

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

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

**burn a CD from**

*sa abubuwa daga*

sa a-boo-bu-waa da-ga

**my memory card**

*katin nan zuwa faifai*

kaa-tin nan zu-waa fai-fai

**develop this**

*wanke wannan*

wan-kye wa-nan

**film**

*fim*

fim

## making conversation

**Hello.**

*Sannu.*

san-nu

**Good night.**

*Sai da safe.*

say da saa-fe

**Goodbye.**

*Sai wani lokaci.*

say wa-ni law-ka-chee

**Mr**

*Malam*

maa-lam

**Mrs/Ms/Miss**

*Malama*

maa-la-maa

**How are you?**

*Kana/Kina lafiya? m/f*

ka-naa/ki-naa laa-fi-yaa

**Fine, and you?**

*Lafiya lau, kai/ke fa? m/f*

laa-fi-yaa low kai/kye fa

**What's your name?**

*Ina sunanka/sunanki? m/f*

i-naa soo-nan-ka/soo-nan-ki

**My name's ...**

*Sunana ...*

soo-naa-naa ...

**I'm pleased to meet you.**

*Na ji murnar saduwa da kai/ke. m/f*

na ji mur-nar saa-du-waa da kai/kye

This is my ...	<i>Wannan ... nawa/tawa. m/f</i>	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 m</i>	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. m/f</i>	gaa ... naa-wa/taa-wa
What's your ...?	<i>Mene ne ...</i>	mey-ney ney ...
address	<i>adireshi(-nka/-nki m/f) m</i>	a-di-rey-shi(-nka/-nki)
email address	<i>adireshi(-nka/-nki m/f)</i>	a-di-rey-shi(-nka/-nki)
	<i>na i-mel m</i>	na i-mel
phone number	<i>lambar waya(-rka/-rki m/f) m</i>	lam-bar wa-ya(-rka/-rki)

Where are you from? *Daga ina ka/kika fito? 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>	kya-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. m/f</i>	i-naa da mi-jee/maa-taa
I'm not married.	<i>Ba ni da miji/mata. m/f</i>	baa ni da mi-jee/maa-taa
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Zan iya d'aukar hoto(-nka/-nki)? m/f</i>	zan i-ya d'ow-kar haw-to(-nka/-nki)

## eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Za ka/ki iya gaya mini ... mai kyau? m/f</i>	zaa ka/ki i-ya ga-yaa mi-ni ... mai kyaw
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 abinci</i>	ta-kar-dar bay-ya-nin a-bin-chi
a table for (two)	<i>tebur ga mutane (biyu)</i>	tey-bur ga mu-taa-ney (bi-yu)
that dish	<i>wannan abinci</i>	wan-nan a-bin-chi
Do you have vegetarian food?	<i>Kana/Kina da abinci maras nama? m/f</i>	ka-naa/ki-naa da a-bin-chi maa-ras naa-maa
Could you prepare a meal without ...?	<i>Kana/Kina iya yin abinci ba tare da ... ba? m/f</i>	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 ...!	<i>Kirawo ...!</i>	ki-raa-waw ...
an ambulance	<i>motar d'aukar maras lafiya</i>	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. m</i> <i>Kina iya ki taimake ni, don Alla. f</i>	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-ya
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 ...	<i>An yi mini ...</i>	an yi mi-ni ...
assaulted	<i>farmaki</i>	far-ma-kee
raped	<i>fyad'e</i>	fyaa-d'ey
robbed	<i>sata</i>	saa-taa
My ... was/were stolen.	<i>An sace mini ...</i>	an saa-hey mi-ni ...
bags	<i>kaya</i>	kaa-yaa
credit card	<i>katin adashin banki</i>	kaa-tin a-daa-shin ban-kee
jewellery	<i>kayan ado</i>	kaa-yan a-daw
money	<i>kud'i</i>	ku-d'ee
passport	<i>fasfo</i>	fas-faw
travellers cheques	<i>cek</i>	chek
wallet	<i>alabe</i>	a-la-bey

## medical needs

Where's the nearest ...?	<i>Ina ne/ce ...</i>	i-naa ney/chey ...
dentist	<i>mafi kusa? m/f</i>	ma-fee ku-sa
doctor	<i>likitan hak'ori m</i>	li-ki-tan ha-k'aw-ree
hospital	<i>likita m</i>	li-ki-ta
pharmacist	<i>asibiti f</i>	a-si-bi-ti
	<i>kantin magani m</i>	kan-tin maa-ga-nee

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

*Ina bukarar 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 amfani 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 *ciwon 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/manyar* ♂/♀ 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 *mashako* ♂ maa-shaa-k'aw

### C

cancel *soké* 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) *lissafi* ♂ 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 jinjiri* ♂ ban-ten jin-ji-ree  
 diarrhoea *gudawa* ♀ gu-daa-waa  
 dinner *abin cin dare* ♂ a-bin-chin da-re  
 dirty *mai daud'a* mai dow-d'aa  
 disabled *nak'asasshe* 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'waa-yaa



## E

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

## F

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

## G

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

## H

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

high *dogo/doguwa* ㊦/㊦ daw-gaw/daw-gu-waa  
 highway *babbar hanya* ㊦ bab-bar han-yaa  
 homosexual ㊦ *d'an daudu* ㊦ 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* ㊦ kaa-tin shai-daa  
 ill *maras lafiya* ma-ras laa-fi-yaa  
 important *muhimmi/muhimmiya* ㊦/㊦ mu-him-mee/mu-him-mi-yaa  
 interpreter *mai fassara* ㊦ mai fas-sa-raa

## K

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

## L

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

## M

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

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

## N

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

## O

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

## P

package *k'unshi* ㊦ K'un-shee  
 pain *ciwo* ㊦ chee-waw  
 palace *fad'a* ㊦ faa-d'a  
 paper *takarda* ㊦ ta-kar-daa  
 park (car) ㊦ *ajije* a-ji-ye  
 passport *fasfo* ㊦ fas-fo  
 pay ㊦ *biya* bi-yaa  
 pen *biro* ㊦ bee-row  
 petrol *man fetur* ㊦ man fey-tur

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

## Q

quiet *mai shiru* ㊦ mai shi-roo

## R

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

## S

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

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**small** *k'arami/k'arama* (m)/(f) k'a-ra-mee/k'a-ra-maa  
**soap** *sabulu* (m) saa-bu-loo  
**some** *kad'an* ka-d'an  
**soon** *an jima* an ji-maa  
**sore throat** *miki* (m) mee-kee  
**south** *kudu* (m) ku-du  
**speak** *yi magana* yi ma-ga-naa  
**spoon** *cokali* (m) chaw-ka-lee  
**stamp** *kan sarki* (m) kan sar-kee  
**station (train)** *tasha(-r jirgin k'asa)* (f)  
 ta-sha(-r jir-gin k'a-saa)  
**stomach** *ciki* (m) chi-kee  
**stop** v *tsaya* ts'a-yaa  
**stop (bus)** *tasha(-r mota)* (f) ta-sha(-r mo-taa)  
**street (in general)** *hanya* (f) han-yaa  
**street (paved only)** *titi* (m) tee-tee  
**student** *d'alibi/d'aliba* (m)/(f) 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* (f) wa-yaa  
**television** *talabijin* (f) ta-la-bi-jin  
**temperature (weather)** *yanayi* (m) ya-na-yee  
**tent** *tanti* (m) tan-tee  
**that (one)** *waccan/waccan* (m)/(f)  
 wan-chan/wach-chan  
**they** *su* soo  
**thirsty** *mai jin k'ishirwa* mai jin k'i-shir-waa  
**this (one)** *wannan* (m)&(f) wan-nan  
**throat** *mak'ogwaro* (m) ma-k'aw-gwa-raw  
**ticket** *tikiti* (m) ti-ki-ti  
**time** *lokaci* (m) law-ka-chee  
**tired** *mai gajiya* mai ga-ji-yaa  
**tissues** *takardun share majina* pl ta-kar-dun shaa-re  
 maa-ji-naa  
**today** *yau* yow  
**toilet** *ban d'aki* (m) ban d'aa-kee  
**tonight** *yau da dare* yow da da-re  
**toothache** *ciwon hak'ora* (m) chi-won ha-k'aw-raa  
**toothbrush** *buroshin goge baki* (m)  
 bu-raw-shin gaw-gye baa-kee  
**toothpaste** *man goge hak'ora* (m)  
 man gaw-ge ha-k'aw-raa

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

## U

**underwear (underpants)** *kamfai* (m) kam-fai  
**urgent** *na/ta gaggawa* (m)/(f) 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* (m)&(f) saa-bis  
**walk** v *yi yawo* yi yaa-waw  
**wallet** *alabe* (m) a-la-bey  
**warm** a *mai d'umi* mai d'u-mee  
**wash (something)** *wanke* wan-kyey  
**watch** *kallo* (m) kal-law  
**water** *ruwa* (m) ru-waa  
**we** *mu* moo  
**west** *yamma* (f) yam-ma  
**wheelchair** *keken gurgu* (f) 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* (f) taa-gaa  
**wine** *giya* (f) gi-yaa  
**wine (palm)** *bammi* (m) bam-mee  
**with** *tare da* taa-re da  
**without** *ba tare da ... ba* baa taa-re da ... ba  
**woman** *mace* (f) ma-che  
**write** *rubuta* ru-boo-taa

## Y

**you** sg *kai/ke* (m)/(f) kai/kyey  
**you** pl *ku* koo

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