Spanish Phrases to Know When Traveling

While many countries are learning English, it is good to know their language too, especially if you are traveling to their country. Many locals will be excited and will give you respect if you try to speak their language to them instead of only using English. They will try to help you learn the proper pronunciation, if you cannot get it correctly. Below is a list of some Spanish words and phrases, which are good to know if you are traveling in a Spanish speaking country.

Greetings:

Good morning — **Buenos días** (*bway-nos dEE-ahs*)

Good afternoon — **Buenas tardes** (*bway-nahs tar-days*)

Good evening — **Buenas noches** (*bway-nahs noh-chayss*)

Hi — **Hola** (*oh-lah*) if you know someone.

How are you? — ¿Cómo está? cOH-moh es-tAH) if you don't know someone.

— ¿Cómo estás? (cOH-moh es-tAHs) if you do know them.

Good, thank you — "bien, gracias" (bee-ayn, grah-cee-ahs) to reply to if they ask you how you are.

Please — **Por favor** (*por fah-vohr*) These are VERY IMPORTANT words in Spanish.

Thank you — **Gracias** (grah cee ahs) This is a VERY IMPORTANT word in Spanish.

Nice to meet you — **Mucho gusto** (*moo-choh goos-toh*) when you are introduced to someone.

Do you speak English? — ¿Habla inglés? (ahblah een-glays)? It is not right to assume that someone speaks English, it is good to ask if they do and they will like you more for asking in Spanish.

Basic Sayings and Vocabulary:

I want, I don't want — Yo quiero, yo no quiero (yoh kee-ayr-oh, yoh noh kee-ayr-oh)

I would like (polite) — **Me gustaría** (*may goo-stah-rEE-ah*)

Where is - **¿Dónde está?** (dohn-day es-tAH)

How much does it cost — ¿Cuánto cuesta? (cwahn-toh cways-tah)?

What time is it? — ¿Qué hora es? (kay orah-ess)?

Do you have? — :Tiene? (tee-ayn-ay)?

I have, I don't have — **Yo tengo**, **yo no tengo** (yoh tayn-goh, yoh noh tayn-goh)

I understand, I don't understand — **Yo entiendo**, **yo no entiendo** (*yoh ayn-tee-ayn-doh*, *yoh noh ayn-tee-ayn-doh*)

Do you understand? — ¿Entiende? (ayn-tee-ayn-day)?

Asking Directions:

Where is — "¿dónde está? (dohn-day es-tAH)

Where is the bus train station (or bus station) — ¿Dónde está la estación de ferrocarril? (dohnday es-tAH la ays-ta-see-OHn day fay-roh-cahr-reel) or "autobuses" (ow-toe-boos-ehs).

Where is a restaurant? — ¿Dónde hay un restaurante? (dohn-day eye oon rays-tore-rahn-tay)?

A train? — ¿Un tren? (oon trayn)?

The street ...? — ¿La calle ...? (lah cah-yay)?

A bank? — ¿Un banco? (oon bahn-coh)?

Where is the bathroom? — ¿Dónde está el baño? – (dohn-day es-tAH el ban-yoh)?

I'm looking for a hotel — **Busco un hotel** (yoh kee-ayr-oh oon oh-tayl)

I need — **Yo necesito** (*yoh nay-say-see-toh*)

— Yo necesito un hotel / un cuarto / un cuarto con baño — (yoh nay-say-see-toh oon oh-tayl / oon cwar-toh / oon cwar-toh cohn ban-yoh)

Where is the exchange? / Where is a bank? — ¿Dónde hay una casa de cambio? (dohn-day estah oon-ah cah-sah day cahm-bee-oh) / ¿Dónde está el banco? (dohn-day es-tah ayl bahn-coh)? Money — Dinero (dee-nayr-oh).

Receiving Directions:

Right — A la derecha (a lah day-ray-chah)

Left — A la izquierda (ah lah eez-kee-ayr-dah)

Straight ahead — **Derecho** (*Day-ray-choh*)

At the corner — **En la esquina** (an lah ays-kee-nah)

In one, two, three, four blocks — **A una cuadra, a dos, tres, cuatro cuadras** (*a oona cwahdrah, a dohss, trays, cwah-troh cwah-drahs*)