

Cebuano/Bisayan is an extremely phonetic language, thus making it much simpler for non-Cebuano to learn and speak.

If one is familiar with [Spanish](#), this makes Cebuano all the easier. Every Filipino dialect has similarities to Spanish (the Philippines having been conquered by the Spaniards and subsequently under Spanish rule for 300 years), and the pronunciation is nearly identical. Double "l"s in Cebuano are pronounced with a "y" sound, the "j" is typically spoken as "h", and the "r"s are rolled in the same way Spanish-speakers roll their "r"s.

The most common pronunciation mistake made by non-Cebuano speakers trying to learn the language is its double vowels. Take, for instance, the phrase for good evening:: "Maayong gabii". Most non-Filipinos would read that out loud as "mai-yong gabby". Not so. Every vowel in Filipino languages are pronounced, even when they are following another vowel. Thus, good evening would be "ma-ayong gabi-i".

Basics

How are you?

Kumusta ka? (?)

Fine, thank you.

Maayo, salamat. ()

What is your name?

Unsay imong pangalan?, Unsay ngalan mo? (?)

My name is _____.

Ang akong pangalan mao si _____. (_____ .)

I am _____.

Ako si _____.

Nice to meet you.

Maayo nga nagka-ila ta . (')

Please.

Palihug. ()

Thank you.

Salamat. ()

You're welcome.

Walay sapayan. ()

Yes.

Oo. ()

No.

Dili. ()

Excuse me. (*getting attention*)

Kadiyot lang. ()

Excuse me. (*begging pardon*)

Pasaylo-a ko. ()

I'm sorry.

Pasaylo-a ko. ()

Goodbye

Babay. ()

I can't speak *name of language* [well].

Dili ko makasulti'g Cebuano[]. ([])

Do you speak English?

Makasulti ka ug Iningles? (?)

Is there someone here who speaks English?

Naa bay makasulti ug Iningles diri? (?)

Help!

Tabang! (!)

Look out!

Pagbantay! (!)

Good morning.

Maayong buntag. ()

Good afternoon.

(11:00 am to 12:59 pm) Maayong udto, (1:00 pm and onwards) Maayong hapon.
()

Good evening.

Maayong gabi-i. ()

Good night.

Maayong gabi-i. ()

I don't understand.

Dili ko makasabot. ()

Where is the toilet?

Asa dapit ang kasilyas? (?)

I'm lost!

Nawala ko! (!)

Problems**Leave me alone!**

Pasagda-i ko! (!)

Don't touch me!

Ayaw ko hilabti! (!)

Help!

Tabang! (!)

I need your help!

Kinahanglan ko ug tabang ninyo! (!)

Police!

Pulis! (!)

Call the police!

Tawag ug pulis! (!)

I'm lost.

Nasalaag ko. (!)

I'm tired

Gikapoy ko.

I'm not feeling well.

Lain ang akong panglawas.

I can't sleep.

Dili ko makatulog

I can't eat.

Dili ko makakaon.

I have a headache.

Sakit ang akong ulo, Labad ang akong ulo

I'm hungry.

Gigutom ko.

I'm thirsty.

Giuhaw ko.

I ran out of money

Nahurot ang akong kwarta.

I lost my bag.

Nawala ang akong bag.

I lost my wallet.

Nawala ang akong pitaka. ()

I lost my cellphone.

Nawala ang akong cellphone. ()

Where's the nearest hospital?

Asa dapit ang pinakaduol na ospital? (?)

Numbers

For numbers above 10, Spanish is more commonly used, although it is spelt phonetically. When using numbers with currency, Spanish notation commonly is used (e.g. P 5.00, in English, it says five pesos, but in Cebuano, it says *singko pesos*).

1

usa, uno ()

2

duha, dos ()

3

tulo, tres ()

4

upat, kuwatro ()

5

lima, singko ()

6

unom, says ()

7

pito, siyete ()

8

- walo, otso ()
- 9**
- siyam, nuwebe ()
- 10**
- napulo, diyas ()
- 11**
- napulog-usa, onse ()
- 12**
- napulog-duha, dose ()
- 13**
- napulog-tulo, trese ()
- 14**
- napulog-upat, katorse ()
- 15**
- napulog-lima, kinse ()
- 16**
- napulog-unom, desisais ()
- 17**
- napulog-pito, desisiyete ()
- 18**
- napulog-walo, desiotso ()
- 19**
- napulog-siyam, desinuwebe ()
- 20**
- kawhaan, baynte ()
- 21**
- kawhaan ug uno, baynte uno ()
- 30**
- katloan, traynta ()
- 40**
- kwarenta ()
- 50**
- singkwenta ()

60

saysenta ()

70

setenta ()

80

otsenta ()

90

nubenta ()

100

usa ka gatos, siyento ()

101

usa ka gatos ug usa, siyento uno ()

110

usa ka gatos ug napulo, siyento diyees ()

1000

usa ka libo, mil ()

10,000

napulo ka libo, diyees mil ()

100,000

usa ka gatos ka libo, siyento mil ()

For numbers 1,000,000 and above, use the American English notation.

1,000,000

usa ka milyon ()

1,000,000,000

usa ka bilyon ()

1,000,000,000,000

usa ka trilyon ()

Time

Clock time

one o'clock AM

ala una sa ka-adlawon

two o'clock AM

alas dos sa ka-adlawon

three o'clock AM

alas tres sa ka-adlawon

four o'clock AM

alas kwatro sa ka-adlawon

five o'clock AM

alas singko sa ka-adlawon

six o'clock AM

alas seis sa buntag

seven o'clock AM

alas siyete sa buntag

eight o'clock AM

alas otso sa buntag

nine o'clock AM

alas nuwebe sa buntag

ten o'clock AM

alas diyas sa buntag

eleven o'clock AM

alas onse sa buntag

twelve o'clock noon

alas dose sa udto

one o'clock PM

ala una sa hapon

two o'clock PM

alas dos sa hapon

three o'clock PM

alas tres sa hapon

four o'clock PM

alas kwatro sa hapon

five o'clock PM

alas singko sa hapon

seven o'clock PM

alas siyete sa-gabi-i

six o'clock PM

alas sais sa-gabi-i

eight o'clock PM

alas otso sa-gabi-i

nine o'clock PM

alas nuebe sa-gabi-i

ten o'clock PM

alas dies sa-gabi-i

eleven o'clock PM

alas onse sa-gabi-i

one o'clock PM

ala una sa hapon

two o'clock PM

alas dos sa hapon

twelve o'clock midnight

alas dose sa ka-adlawon

one thirty o'clock PM

ala una y media sa hapon

two thiry PM

alas dos y media sa hapon, alas dos traynta sa hapon

one thirty AM

ala una y media sa ka-adlawon, ala una traynta sa ka-adlawon

nine thirty AM

alas nuwebe sa buntag

one forty five AM

ala una kwarenta y singko sa buntag

nine forty five AM

alas nuebe kwarenta y singko sa buntag

Duration

_____ **second(s)**

_____ ka segundo(s)

_____ **minute(s)**

_____ ka minuto(s) (...)
_____ **hour(s)**
_____ ka oras (...)
_____ **day(s)**
_____ ka adlaw (...)
_____ **week(s)**
_____ ka semana (...)
_____ **month(s)**
_____ ka bulan (...)
_____ **year(s)**
_____ ka tu-ig (...)

Days

today

karon

yesterday

gahapon

tomorrow

ugma

this week

karong semana

last week

niaging semana

next week

sunod semana

The days of the week are borrowed from Spanish.

Sunday

Dominggo

Monday

Lunes (LOO-ness)

Tuesday

Martes (MAR-tess)

Wednesday

Miyerkoles (MEE-yer-koh-less)

Thursday

Huwebes (HOOweh-bess)

Friday

Biyernes (BEEyer-ness)

Saturday

Sabado (SA-ba-do)

Months

The names of the months are borrowed from the Spanish language.

January

Enero ()

February

Pebrero ()

March

Marso ()

April

Abril ()

May

Mayo ()

June

Hunyo ()

July

Hulyo ()

August

Agosto ()

September

Septyembre ()

October

Oktubre ()

November

Nobyembre ()

December

Disyembre ()

Writing time and date

Dates can be written as follows:

- English format: June 18, 2006 would be Hunyo 18, 2006
- Spanish format: June 18, 2006 would be ika-18 sa Hunyo, 2006

Times are written as in English (as in 6:23 AM) but are spoken as in Spanish (as in *alas says beynte tres sa buntag*).

Colors

black

itum (...)

blue

asul (...)

brown

kape (...)

gold

bulawan (...)

green

berde (...)

gray

abuhun (...)

orange

orens (...)

pink

rosa (...)

red

pula (...)

violet

bayole (...)

white

puti (...)

yellow

dalag (...)

Transportation

Bus

How much is a ticket to _____?

Tagpila ning tiket padulong _____ ? ()

One ticket to _____, please.

Usa ka tiket padulong _____, palihug. ()

Where does this bus go?

Asa na padulong kining bus? ()

Where is the bus to _____?

Asa ang bus padulong _____ ? ()

Does this bus stop in _____?

Mohunong ba ning bus sa _____? ()

When does the bus for _____ leave?

Kanus-a molarga ang bus padulong _____? ()

When will this bus arrive in _____?

Kanus-a moabot ang bus sa _____? ()

Directions

Where is the _____?

Asa dapit ang _____? ()

street

dalan (...)

Turn left.

Liko sa wala. (...)

Turn right.

Liko sa tu-o. (...)

left

wala (...)

right

tu-o (...)

straight ahead

adto deretso (...)

towards the _____

padulong sa _____ (...)

past the _____

lapas sa _____ (...)

before the _____

sa dili pa ang _____ (...)

Watch out for the _____.

Pagbantay sa _____. (...)

intersection

eskina (...)

north

norte, amihanan (...)

south

sur, habagatan (...)

east

sidlakan (...)

west

kasadpan (...)

uphill

pasaka (sa buntod) (...)

downhill

paubos (sa buntod) (...)

Taxi

Taxi!

Taksi! (*TAHK-see*)

Take me to _____, please.

Dad-a ko sa _____, palihug. (...)

I'm going to _____

Mo-adto ko sa _____ (...)

How much does it cost to get to _____?

Pila ang pliti padulong _____? (...)

How much is the fare?

Pila ang pliti?

Take me there, please.

Dad-a ko diha, palihug. (...)

Jeepney

When you hand your fare over to a driver or a conductor (the person who usually keeps on hanging on the jeepney rails), always say your origin, your destination, and how many are you with.

Stop! (to get off the jeepney)

Lugar! (...)

How much is the fare to _____?

Tagpila ang pliti padulong _____ (...)

Sir (Driver), where's my change?

Manong, Asa ang akong sukli? (...)

Sir (Driver), you have excess change.

Manong, sobra ang imong sukli. (...)

Can you drop me off at _____?

Mahimo ba malugar sa _____? (...)

Where are you from?

Asa ka gikan? (...)

Where will you drop off?

Asa ka manaog? (...)

Lodging

Do you have any rooms available?

Naa moy kwarto na bakante? (...)

How much is a room for one person/two people?

Tagpila ang room alang sa usa ka tawo/duha ka tawo? (...)

Does the room come with...

Kining kwarto apil na ba ang _____ ? (...)

...bedsheets?

...habol? (...)

...pillows?

...unlan

...a bathroom?

...banyo? (*BAHN-yoh*)

...a telephone?

...telepono? (*te-LE-poh-NOH*)

...a TV?

... TV? (*TV*)

Can I see the room first?

Mahimo ba motan-aw sa inyong kwarto una? (...)

Do you have anything quieter?

Naa pay mas hilom pa? (...)

...bigger?

...mas dako? (...)

...cleaner?

...mas limpyo? (...)

...cheaper?

...mas barato? (')

OK, I'll take it.

Sige, kuhaon nako. (...)

I will stay for _____ night(s).

Mopuyo ko diri sa _____ ka gab-i. (...)

Can you suggest another hotel?

Naa bay masugyut nimu nga laing hotel? (...)

Do you have a safe?

Naa ba moy tipiganan sa salapi? (...)

...lockers?

...armaryo,...mga locker? (...)

Is breakfast/supper included?

Apil na ba ang pamahaw/panihapon? (...)

What time is breakfast/lunch/supper?

Unsa ang oras sa pamahaw/paniudto/panihapon? (...)

Please clean my room.

Palihug limpyoha ang akong kwarto. (...)

Can you wake me up at _____ (e.g. ten o'clock AM) ?

Mahimo ba pukawon ko sa _____(panganlit alas diyas sa buntag)? (...)

I want to check out.

Gusto na ko mo-check-out. (...)

Who's knocking the door?

Kinsa nagtuktok sa pultahan?

Who's there?

Kinsa na?

The toilet is not working.

Guba ang inidoro.

Money

Money

Kwarta

Wallet

Pitaka

How much is this/that?

Tag pila ni/na? (tug-pila-nee/nUH)

How many?

Pila ka buok? (pi-lah-ka-bu-ok).

I have no money.

Wala ko'y kwarta. (wa-IUH-koy-kwarta)

Do you have money?

Naa ka'y kwarta? (na-a-kai-kwarta)

Thief!

Kawatan! (ka-wa-tan)

I was robbed.

Natulisan ko. (na-tu-li-san KO)

I have ___ dollars/pesos.

Naa ko'y ___ dolyares. (na-ah-koy ___ DOU-li-ya-res/pe-sos) Note: You can use "dollars" instead of "dolyares."

Give me my money.

Ambi ang akong kwarta. (am-bi-ang-akong-kwarta)

Where is my/your wallet?

Asa ang akong/imohang pitaka? (asa-ang-akong/imo-hang-kwarta)

That's expensive!

Mahala pud ana! (mahala-pud-a-nUH)

That's really cheap!

Barato kaayo na! (barato-ka-ayo-nUH)

Can you lower your price?

Mahimo ba i-ubos ang imohang presyo? (MA-hi-mo-ba ee-oo-bos ang i-mo-hang-pres-yo)

I don't like this/that.

Dili ko ani/ana. (dee-lee-ko-ani/anUH)

I like this/that.

Ganahan ko ani/ana. (ga-nahan-ko-anee/anUH)

Eating

A table for one person/two people, please.

Lamisa alang sa usa/duha ka tao, palihug. (...)

Can I look at the menu, please?

Mahimo ba motanw-aw sa menu, palihug? (...)

Can I look in the kitchen?

Mahimo ba makakita ang kusina? (...)

Where's the bathroom/washroom?

Asa dapit ang banyo/hugasanan? (...)

Is there a house specialty?

Naa bay house specialty? (...)

Is there a local specialty?

Naa bay local specialty? (...)

I'm a vegetarian.

Vegetarian ko. (...)

I don't eat pork.

Dili ko mokaon ug karneng baboy. (!)

I don't eat beef.

Dili ko mokaon ug karneng baka. (...)

I only eat kosher food.

Mokaon ra ko ug sud-an nga kosher. (...)

Can you make it "lite", please? (*less oil/butter/lard*)

Mahimo ba gamay lang ang mantika, palihug? (...)

It's salty.

Parat ni.

It's so sweet.

Tam-is ni.

It's so spicy.

Halang-ni.

fixed-price meal

fixed-price meal (...)

◆ la carte

a la carte (...)

breakfast

pamahaw (...)

lunch

paniudto (...)

snack (*meal*)

snack (...)

supper

panihapon (...)

I want _____.

Gusto ko ug _____. (*GOOS-to koh*)

I want a dish called _____.

Gusto ko ug sud-an nga _____. (...)

chicken

manok (*chicken*)

beef

karneng baka (')

fish

isda (*is-DAH*)

ham

hamon (...)

food

pagkaon

drinks

panginom

sausage

longganisa (local sausage) (...)

cheese

keso (*keh-soh*)

eggs

itlog (*eet-LOG*)

salad

ensalada (...)

corn

mais

(fresh) vegetables

(preskong) utan (')

(fresh) fruit

(preskong) prutas (*proo-TAS*)

bread

pan (')

fastfood

fastfood

toast

toast (...)

noodles

noodles (...)

rice

kan-on (*KA-nin*)/bugas (*bee-GAS*, used for uncooked rice)

beans

beans (...)

raw

hilaw (*HEElaw*)

cooked

luto (*LOOto*)

fried

prito/minantikaan

fried chicken/fish/egg

pritong manok/isda/itlog

grilled/roasted

inihaw

boiled

nilaga

salt

asin (*uh-SEEN*)

sugar

asukar

cooking oil

mantika (man-TEE-ka)

garlic

ahos

onion

sibuyas

black pepper

paminta(...)

soy sauce

toyo(*to-yo*)

butter

margarina (...)

Can/May I have a glass of _____?

Naa moy usa ka baso na _____? (...)

Can/May I have a cup of _____?

Naa moy usa ka tasa na _____? (...)

Can/May I have a bottle of _____?

Naa moy usa ka botelya na _____? (...)

coffee

kape (*ka-FEH*)

tea (*drink*)

ttaa (*cha-AH*)

iced tea

iced tea (no direct translation)

chocolate

tsokolate

ice

yelo

juice

juice (...)

water

tubig (*TOO-BEEG*)

beer

serbesa(...)

red/white wine

red/white wine (...)

dessert

panghimagas (...)

Excuse me, waiter? (*getting attention of server*)

Excuse me, waiter? (...)

I'm finished/done.

Humana na ko ug kaon.

It was delicious.

Lami ang pagkaon

Please clear the plates.

Palihug kuhai ang mga plato. (...)

Can I get the bill, please.

Mokuha ko ug bill, palihug. (...)

Driving

Most of the Philippine road signs are in English.

I want to rent a car.

Gusto ko moabang ug awto. (')

Can I get insurance?

Makuha ba nako ang insurance? (...)

no parking

ginadili pagparada (')

gas/petrol station

gasolinahan (...)

gas/petrol

gasolina (...)

diesel

diesel (...)

Authority

I haven't done anything wrong.

Wala man ko gibuhat nga dautan. (...)

It was a misunderstanding.

Wala to nagkasinabot. (...)

Where are you taking me?

Asa ko dad-on? (...)

Am I under arrest?

Dakpan na ba ko? (...)

Where's the warrant?

Asa ang warrant?

I am an American/Australian/British/Canadian citizen.

Ako ang usa ka Amerikano/Britano/Kanadyano. (...)

I want to talk to the American/Australian/British/Canadian embassy/consulate.

Gusto ko makaistorya sa American/Australian/British/Canadian embassy/consulate. (...)

I want to talk to a lawyer.

Gusto ko makaistorya sa abogado. (!)

Can I just pay a fine now?

Mahimo mobayad na lang ko ug multa/silpi? (...)

Law

Bala-od

Judge

Huwes

Lawyer

Abogado

Court

Korte

Jail

Prisoan

Cop

Pulis