

Africa

PHRASEBOOK & DICTIONARY

Hausa

(PDF Chapter)

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Pages 20

Page Range 77–94

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COVERAGE INCLUDES:

- Pronunciation
- Language Difficulties
- Time, Dates & Numbers
- Border Crossing
- Tickets
- Transport
- Directions
- Accommodation
- Banking & Communications
- Tours
- Shopping
- Making Conversation
- Eating out
- Emergencies
- Medical Needs
- English–Hausa Dictionary

Hausa

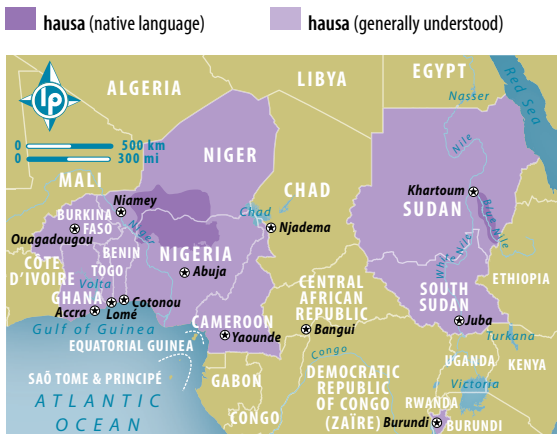
PRONUNCIATION	78
INTRODUCTION	79
LANGUAGE DIFFICULTIES	80
TIME, DATES & NUMBERS	80
BORDER CROSSING	81
TICKETS	82
TRANSPORT	82
DIRECTIONS	83
ACCOMMODATION	84
BANKING & COMMUNICATIONS	85
TOURS	86
SHOPPING	86
MAKING CONVERSATION	87
EATING OUT	88
EMERGENCIES	89
MEDICAL NEEDS	90
ENGLISH-HAUSA DICTIONARY	91

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
<p>In this chapter, the Hausa pronunciation is given in purple after each phrase. Each syllable is separated by a dot. For example:</p> <p><i>Na gode. naa gaw-dey</i></p> <p>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.</p>		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

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-bo

border crossing

I'm here ...

in transit

on business

on holiday

I'm here for ...

(10) days

(three) weeks

(two) months

I'm going to (Zaria).

Za ni (Zazzau).

I'm staying at the (Daula Hotel).

Ina zaune a (Daula Hotel).

Na zo nan ...

don ya

da zango

don yin kasuwanci

don yi hutu

Zan yi ... a nan.

kwana (goma)

mako (uku)

wata (biyu)

naa zaw nan ...

don yaa

da zan-goo

don yin ka-su-wan-chee

don yi hoo-too

zan yi ... a nan

kwaa-naa (gaw-ma)

maa-kaw (u-ku)

waa-taa (bi-yu)

zaa ni (zaz-zow)

i-naa zow-ne a (dow-la haw-tel)

tickets

One ... ticket
(to Zinder), please.

one-way

return

Tikitin ... guda d'aya
(zuwa Zandar), don Allah.

zuwa

zuwa da dawowa

ti-ki-tin ... gu-daa d'a-ya
(zu-waa zan-dar) don al-laa

zu-waa

zu-waa da daa-waw-waa

I'd like to ... my
ticket, please.

cancel

change

collect

Ina son in ...
tikitina, don Allah.

soke

canja

karb'i

i-naa son in ...
ti-ki-ti-naa don al-laa

saw-kye

chan-ja

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-yaa 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)?

boat

bus

plane

train

Wannan ... (zuwa
Maiduguri) ne/ce? m/f

jirgin ruwa m

mota f

jirgin sama m

jirgin k'asa m

wan-nan ... (zu-waa
mai-du-gu-ri) ney/chey

jir-gin ru-waa

maw-taa

jir-gin sa-ma

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).

Ina son in yi hayar ...

i-naa son in yi ha-yar ...

(tare da AC).

(taa-re da ai-si)

car

mota

maw-taa

4WD

mota mai juyawa

maw-taa mai joo-yaa-waa

da k'afa hud'u

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) ...?

internet café
market

Ina ... (mafi kusa)?

*internet cafe
kasuwa*

i-naa ... (ma-fee ku-sa)

*in-tey-net ka-fey
kaa-su-waa*

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>	<i>ga shi/ta ...</i>
behind ...	<i> bayan ...</i>	<i>baa-yan ...</i>
in front of ...	<i> gaban ...</i>	<i>ga-ban ...</i>
near (to ...)	<i> kusa (da ...)</i>	<i>ku-sa (da ...)</i>
next to ...	<i> daf da ...</i>	<i>daf da ...</i>
on the corner	<i> a kwana</i>	<i>a kwa-naa</i>
opposite ...	<i> daura da ...</i>	<i>dow-ra da ...</i>
straight ahead	<i> mik'e sosai</i>	<i>mee-k'yey so-sai</i>
there	<i> can</i>	<i>chan</i>

accommodation

Where's a ...?	<i>Ina ... yake?</i>	<i>i-naa ... yak-yey</i>
camping ground	<i>wurin da aka kafa</i> <i>tanti-tanti</i>	<i>wu-rin da a-ka ka-fa</i> <i>tan-ti-tan-ti</i>
guesthouse	<i>gidan saukar bak'i</i>	<i>gi-dan sow-kar baa-k'ee</i>
hotel	<i>hotal</i>	<i>haw-tal</i>
youth hostel	<i>makwancin matasa</i>	<i>ma-kwan-chin ma-taa-saa</i>

Can you recommend somewhere (cheap/good)?

Za ka/ki iya gaya mini ina za a zaa ka/ki i-ya gaa-yaa mi-ni i-naa za a sami wani wuri (mai araha/kyau)? m/f *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, i-naa son a kaa-maa mi-ni d'aa-kee don Allah. *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>	<i>ka-naa/ki-naa da d'aa-kee ...</i>
single	<i>ga mutum d'aya</i>	<i>ga mu-tum d'a-ya</i>
double	<i>ga mutane biyu</i>	<i>ga mu-taa-ney bi-yu</i>
twin	<i>biyu wad'anda</i> <i>aka had'a su</i>	<i>bi-yu wa-d'an-da</i> <i>a-ka ha-d'a su</i>

How much is it per ...?	<i>Nawa ne kud'in ... d'aya?</i>	<i>na-wa ney ku-d'in ... d'a-ya</i>
night	<i>kwana</i>	<i>kwaa-naa</i>
person	<i>mutum</i>	<i>mu-tum</i>

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 ...

Ina son in ...

i-naa son in ...

arrange a transfer

aika da kud'i

ai-kaa da ku-d'ee

cash a cheque

chanja cek na banki

chan-ja chek na ban-kee

zuwa kud'i

zu-waa ku-d'ee

**change a travellers
cheque**

canja cek

chan-ja chek

zuwa kud'i

zu-waa ku-d'ee

change money

canja kud'i

chan-ja ku-d'ee

withdraw money

karb'i kud'i

kar-b'i ku-d'ee

I want to ...

Ina son ...

i-naa son ...

to call (Singapore)

buga waya zuwa

bu-ga wa-yaa zu-waa

(Singapur)

(sin-ga-pur)

reverse the charges

mutumin da zan

mu-tu-min da zan

buga masa waya

bu-ga ma-sa wa-yaa

ya biya kud'in waya

ya bi-ya ku-d'in wa-yaa

use a printer

yin amfani da printer

yin am-faa-nee da prin-ter

use the internet

yin amfani da

yin am-faa-nee da

internet

in-tey-net

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

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

shopping

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

burn a CD from

my memory card

develop this

film

Kana/Kina iya ...? m/f

sa abubuwa daga

katin nan zuwa faifai

wanke wannan

fim

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

sa a-boo-bu-waa da-ga

kaa-tin nan zu-waa fai-fai

wan-kye wa-nan

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

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>	<i>naa fi-taw da-ga ...</i>
Australia	<i>Ostareliya</i>	<i>os-ta-rey-li-ya</i>
Canada	<i>Kyanada</i>	<i>kya-na-da</i>
New Zealand	<i>New Zeland</i>	<i>nyu zi-lan</i>
the UK	<i>Ingila</i>	<i>in-gi-la</i>
the USA	<i>Amirka</i>	<i>a-mir-ka</i>

I'm married.	<i>Ina da miji/mata. m/f</i>	<i>i-naa da mi-jee/maa-taa</i>
I'm not married.	<i>Ba ni da miji/mata. m/f</i>	<i>baa ni da mi-jee/maa-taa</i>
Can I take a photo (of you)?	<i>Zan iya d'augar hoto(-nka/-nki)? m/f</i>	<i>zan i-ya d'ow-ka haw-to(-nka/-nki)</i>

eating out

Can you recommend a ...?	<i>Za ka/ki iya gaya mini ... mai kyau? m/f</i>	<i>zaa ka/ki i-ya ga-yaa mi-ni ... mai kyow</i>
bar	<i>wurin shan giya</i>	<i>wu-rin shan gi-yaa</i>
place to eat	<i>wurin cin abinci</i>	<i>wu-rin chin a-bin-chi</i>
dish	<i>abinci</i>	<i>a-bin-chi</i>

I'd like ..., please. the bill the menu	<i>Ina son ... , don Allah. bil takardar bayyanin abinci</i>	i-naa son ... don al-laa bil 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 ...? eggs meat stock	<i>Kana/Kina iya yin abinci ba tare da ... ba? m/f k'wai nama</i>	ka-naa/ki-naa i-ya yin a-bin-chi baa taa-re da ... ba k'wai naa-maa
(cup of) coffee ... (cup of) tea ... with milk without sugar	<i>kofi (guda d'aya) ... shayi (guda d'aya) ... da madara ba sukari</i>	kaw-fee (gu-daa d'a-ya) ... shaa-yi (gu-daa d'a-ya) ... da ma-da-raa 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 ...! an ambulance	<i>Kirawo ...! motar d'aaukar maras lafiya</i>	ki-raa-waw ... moo-tar d'ow-kar maa-ras laa-fi-yaa
a doctor the police	<i>likita 'yan sanda</i>	li-ki-taa 'yan san-daa
Could you help me, please? <i>Kana iya ka taimake ni, don Alla. m 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-yaa
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 ...

assaulted

raped

robbed

An yi mini ...

farmaki

fyad'e

sata

an yi mi-ni ...

far-ma-kee

fyaa-d'ey

saa-taa

My ... was/were stolen.

bags

credit card

jewellery

money

passport

travellers cheques

wallet

An sace mini ...

kaya

katin adashin banki

kayan ado

kud'i

fasfo

cek

alabe

an saa-chey mi-ni ...

kaa-yaa

kaa-tin a-daa-shin ban-kee

kaa-yan a-daw

ku-d'ee

fas-faw

chek

a-la-bey

medical needs

Where's the

nearest ...?

dentist

doctor

hospital

pharmacist

Ina ne/ce ...

mafi kusa? m/f

likitan hak'ori m

likita m

asibiti f

kantin magani m

i-naa ney/chey ...

ma-fee ku-sa

li-ki-tan ha-k'aw-ree

li-ki-ta

a-si-bi-ti

kan-tin maa-ga-nee

I need a doctor (who speaks English).

Ina bukatar 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/manyu* ♂/♀ *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 *mashak'o* ♂ *maa-shaa-k'aw*

C

- cancel *soke 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-ye*
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-ree*
dirty *mai daud'a* *mai dow-d'aa*
disabled *nak'asashe* *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*

A

E

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

F

- fast *mai sauri* mai sow-ree
 fever *zazzab'i* (m) zaz-za-b'ee
 finger *yatsa* (f) yaa-ts'aa
 first class *faskila fas-ki-la*
 fish *kifi* (m) kee-fee
 food *abinci* (m) a-bin-chi
 foot *k'afa* (f) k'a-faa
 fork *cokali mai yatsu* (m) 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* (m) wu-rin shaa-k'a-ta-waa
 gift *kyauta* (f) kyow-taa
 girl *yarinya* (f) yaa-rin-yaa
 glass *kofi* (m) kaw-fee
 glasses *tabarau* (m) ta-baa-row
 good *mai kyau* mai kyow
 guide n *ja-gora* (m) jaa-gaw-ra

H

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

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

K

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

L

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

M

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

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

N

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

O

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

P

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

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

Q

quiet *mai shiru* mai shi-roo

R

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

S

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

- 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-ye'e
 tent *tanti* (m) tan-tee
 that (one) *wancan/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 *burashin 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) cek
 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 *yausha* 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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