

LEARN A NEW LANGUAGE EMBRACE A NEW CULTURE

The East Timorese people are known for their hospitality. They instinctively make an effort to communicate with guests to their country. In turn, they appreciate it when guests make a special effort to communicate with them. Language is the key to entering a new culture and it's the best way to show respect for another's way of life. Hopefully, this vocabulary list will help get you

-- be you Timorese or a guest in the country -- more conversant with one of the frequently used languages in East Timor, including, of course, Tetun. Spend the small amount of time it takes to learn the phrases and you're started in a new language. They'll open up a whole new world to you, and truly delight a few people in the process!

Tetun

English

Portuguese Indonesian

Hello
 Dadeer kmanek
 Loron kmanek or Bondia
 Loraik kmanek or Botarde
 Kalan Kmanek or Bonoite
 Di'ak ka lae?
 Di'ak, obrigadu(a)
 Ha'u di'ak tebetebes
 Obrigada [said by females]
 Obrigado [said by males]
 Obrigadu(a) barak
 Favór ida
 Ho lisensa or Konlisensa
 Deskulpa
 Ha'u nia naran _____
 Ita nia naran saida?
 Ita bá ne'ebé?
 Saida maka ne'ebá?
 Saida maka ne'e?
 Ne'e folin hira?
 Ita tinan hira?
 Ita fa'an ikan?
 Iha ne'ebé maka ha'u bele sosa modo tahan?
 Ita hela iha ne'ebé?
 Ne'e Dook ka lae?
 Iha liman karuk ka?
 Iha liman loos ka?
 Ha'u bá lai or Adeus
 Ida
 Rua
 Tolu
 Haat
 Lima
 Neen
 Hitu
 Ualu
 Sia
 Sanulu

Hello
 Good morning
 Good day
 Good afternoon
 Good evening/night
 How are you?
 Well, thank you
 I'm very well
 Thank you
 Thank you
 Thank you very much
 Please
 Excuse me
 I'm sorry
 My name is _____
 What is your name?
 Where are you going?
 What is that?
 What is this?
 How much does this cost?
 How old are you?
 Do you sell fish?
 Where can I buy vegetables?
 Where do you live?
 How far is it?
 It is on the left?
 Is it on the right?
 Goodbye
 One
 Two
 Three
 Four
 Five
 Six
 Seven
 Eight
 Nine
 Ten

Olá
 Bom dia
 Bom dia
 Boa tarde
 Boa tarde/Boa noite
 Como está?
 Bem, obrigada/obrigado
 Estou muito bem
 Obrigada
 Obrigado
 Muito obrigada/obrigado
 Por favor
 Com licença
 Peço desculpa/Desculpe
 O meu nome é _____
 Como é que se chama?
 Onde é que vai?
 O que é isso?
 O que é isto?
 Quanto é que isto custa?
 Quantos anos tem?
 Vende peixe?
 Onde é que posso comprar legumes?
 Onde é que vive?
 É longe?
 É à esquerda?
 É à direita?
 Adeus
 Um
 Dois
 Três
 Quatro
 Cinco
 Seis
 Sete
 Oito
 Nove
 Dez

Halo, Helo, Hai
 Selamat pagi
 Selamat pagi
 Selamat sore
 Selamat sore/Selamat malam
 Apa kabar?
 Baik-baik saja, terima kasih
 Baik(lah), terima kasih
 Terima kasih
 Terima kasih
 Terima kasih banyak
 Silahkan
 Permisi
 Maaf (minta maaf)
 Nama saya (adalah) _____
 Siapa namamu?
 Kemana anda pergi?/Mau kemana?/kamana?
 Apa itu?
 Apa ini?
 Berapa (harga barang) ini?
 Berapa umurmu?
 (Anda) jual ikan?
 Dimana dapat saya beli (belikan) sayur-sayuran?
 Anda tinggal dimana?/Dimana anda tinggal?
 Berapa jauh (jarak)?
 Di bagian kiri?
 Di bagian kanan?
 Sampai jumpa
 Satu
 Dua
 Tiga
 Empat
 Lima
 Enam
 Tujuh
 Delapan
 Sembilan
 Sepuluh

Cultural Notes
 The word Obrigadu/Obrigada is a loan word from the Portuguese. In the Timorese culture there is no word which can truly express someone's gratitude. When said by a female, one says obrigada (feminine) and when said by a male, one say's obrigadu (masculine).
 The pronunciation of Tetun vowels are as follow:
 A = haat as in English pronunciation for bar
 E = bele as in English pronunciation for set
 I = Dili as in English pronunciation for reed
 O = kolo as in English pronunciation for got
 U = sunu as in English pronunciation for good
 With words which contain double vowels or accent-ed vowels, they are lenghtened, prolonged or stressed:
 AA = haat as in Hut
 Á = pás as in Pass (Australian English pron.)
 EE = dadeer as in daa-dare