

# Important Phrases

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**N**orwegian is closely related to Danish and Swedish (while totally unrelated to Finnish), written Norwegian is virtually identical to Danish, whereas Swedes and Norwegians understand each other very easy. Norwegian is also related to German, Dutch and English. English is widely spoken in Norway, and virtually every Norwegian can speak or understand a minimum English. Tourist information is usually printed in several languages.

Because English and Norwegian are closely related, a large number of basic and everyday words can be well understood if some creativity is added, examples:

## English - Norwegian

Thank you/thanks - takk  
Please - vær så snill  
good morning - god dag/god morgen  
good night - god natt  
good bye - hade (ha det bra)  
police - politi  
yes - ja  
no - nei  
entrance - inngang  
exit - utgang  
tram - trikk  
metro/subway/underground - T-bane/undergrunn  
airplane - fly  
train - tog  
bus - buss  
sick/ill - syk  
emergency room/ward - legevakt  
pharmacy - apotek  
luggage - baggasje  
cell phone - mobiltelefon  
backpack - ryggsekk

"False friends" - Norwegian words (left hand side) that can be confused, English translation shown right-hand

rar = strange, unusual  
sjelden = rare  
gate = street  
port = gate  
havn = port, harbour  
morgen = early morning  
fabrikk = factory  
fly = airplane  
dress = suit (men's)  
kjole = dress (women's)  
smoking = black tie, tuxedo/dinner jacket  
prikk = dot  
butikk = shop, store (like grocery store)  
matbutikk = food store

korn = seeds/grain/cereal from wheat, barely, rye, oats  
mais = corn ( US), maize  
time = hour  
tid = time