

Los saludos

Greetings and goodbyes — the words that make Spanish social, not schoolwork.

SAYING HELLO

hola	O-la	hello (the h is silent)
buen día	bwen DEE-a	good morning (the Argentine way)
buenas tardes	BWE-nas TAR-des	good afternoon
buenas noches	BWE-nas NO-ches	good evening / good night
¿Cómo andás?	KO-mo an-DAS	how's it going? (friendly)
¿Cómo estás?	KO-mo es-TAS	how are you?
Bien, ¿y vos?	byen, ee VOS	fine, and you?

SAYING GOODBYE · BEING KIND

chau	CHOW	bye (Argentina's favorite)
hasta mañana	AS-ta ma-NYA-na	see you tomorrow
hasta luego	AS-ta LWE-go	see you later
por favor	por fa-VOR	please
gracias	GRA-syas	thank you
de nada	de NA-da	you're welcome
Me llamo...	me SHA-mo	my name is...

Buen día

Textbooks teach “buenos días,” and it works everywhere — but in Argentina you'll hear the singular buen día. We teach what Profé's family actually says.

¿Y vos?

Argentine Spanish uses vos for “you”: Bien, ¿y vos? If another book says “¿y tú?”, it's the same question in a different country.

Chau, from Italian

Argentina's goodbye comes from the Italian ciao — a little echo of the country's immigrant history at the door of every house.

—¡Buen día! ¿Cómo andás? —¡Bien! ¿Y vos?

Make it the official family greeting at breakfast. Bonus round at bedtime: buenas noches, hasta mañana.

