

## Languages in Europe:



Choose another chapter

Print version (PDF)



## Languages in Europe

People in Europe speak many different languages. Most of these languages belong to three large groups or 'families': Germanic, Slavic and Romance.

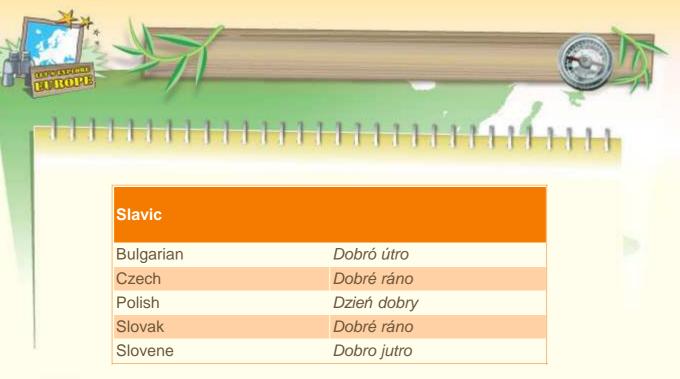


The languages in each group family likeness share a because they are descended from the same ancestors. For example, Romance languages are descended from Latin - the language spoken by the Romans.

Here's how to say "Good morning" or "Hello" in just a few of these languages.

Germanic	
Danish	God morgen
Dutch	Goedemorgen
English	Good morning
German	Guten Morgen
Swedish	God morgon

Romance	
French	Bonjour
Italian	Buon giorno
Portuguese	Bom dia
Romanian	Bună dimineața
Spanish	Buenos días



It's not hard to see the family likeness in these examples. But there are other European languages that are less closely related, or not at all related, to one another. Here's how to say "Good morning" or "Hello" in just a dozen of these languages.

Basque	Egun on
Breton	Demat
Catalan	Bon dia
Estonian	Tere hommikust
Finnish	Hyvää huomenta
Gaelic (Scottish)	Madainn mhath
Greek	Kalimera
Hungarian	Jó reggelt
Irish	Dia dhuit
Latvian	Labrīt
Lithuanian	Labas rytas
Maltese	L-Għodwa t-Tajba
Welsh	Bore da

In the language of the Roma people, who live in many parts of Europe, 'Good morning' is *Lasho dyes*.

Learning languages can be great fun – and it's important on a continent like Europe. Many of us enjoy going on holiday to other European countries, and getting to know the people there. That's a great opportunity to practise the phrases we know in different languages.

