



“Say G’day in an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Language”

“Say G’day in an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Language”

The State Library of Queensland in partnership with Yugambah Museum, Language and Heritage Research Centre, Indigenous Language Centres and other community groups would like to invite you to:

“Say G’day in an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Language!”

UNESCO has proclaimed 2019 the Year of Indigenous Languages. During this year we encourage Queenslanders to say ‘g’day’ in their local Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander language; it is a timely reminder of the importance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages.



In Queensland there are over 100 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and dialects; today only about 30 are spoken on a daily basis!

To help raise awareness and promote Queensland’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages, we are asking schools, organisations, communities, individuals, etc. to find out their local word for ‘G’day’ or ‘Hello’ and use it during this week.

- Talk to your local community to find out the word and how to say it!
- Use your library, IKC, language centre to research other local words!
- Share this new greeting with friends, families and others during the week!

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Language Wordlists for ‘g’day’, ‘hello’ and other greetings are posted on the State Library and Yugambah Museum websites:

SLQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Webpages:

www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/atsi/languages/word-lists/say-gday-in-an-indigenous-language

Yugambah Museum Website: www.yugambah.com

Need further information?

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G'day in Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages

Here is a list of some greeting words or phrases from a range of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages and dialects and their suggested pronunciation. Where possible, documented greetings have been listed; however it should be acknowledged that greetings are a fairly contemporary notion that may not have been present in many Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander settings. Alternatively a generic phrase such as 'Good day' 'Are you good?' or 'How are you?' is listed

Note: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages are oral languages that have only been written since European settlement; there may be several variations in spelling and pronunciation. The following list should be seen as a guide – check with local language speakers/custodians as to the preferred local pronunciation.

Language and Location	Greeting word	Pronunciation
<i>Agwamin</i> [Einasliegh, Mt Surprise]	<i>Pumbarra oomba</i> = good day	Poom-bah-ra oom-bah
<i>Angkamuthi</i> [Northern Peninsula Area, Cape York]	<i>Iyurrah</i> = hello (I am here)	Eye-you-rah
<i>Areba</i> [Western Cape York, Staaten River]	<i>Lungga niani</i> = good day	Loon-ga nee-ah-nee
<i>Ayabadhu</i> [Northern Peninsula Area, Cape York]	<i>Tonki ninya ngai y'angkunjya</i> = you come, I'm here	Tun-kee nin-yah nay ya-un-kun-jia
	<i>Wanthi punga</i> = good day	Won-tee pun-ah
<i>Barna</i> [Nebo, North Queensland]	<i>Boongonna moogonoo</i> = good day	Boon-on-nah moo-go-noo
<i>Barunggam</i> [Dalby, Bunya Mountains]	<i>Gamba daru</i> = good day	Gum-bah dah-roo
<i>Bidjara</i> [Charleville Region, South West Queensland]	<i>Budabai duru</i> = good day	Bood-ah-bye doo-roo
<i>Bigambul</i> [South-West Queensland]	Weeimba gilee = good day (g'day)	Wee-im-bar Gea-lee
<i>Biri</i> [Central Queensland]	<i>Budjeri gari</i> = good day	Budge-ah-ree gah-ree
<i>Biri</i> [Central Queensland]	<i>Yandandji</i> = hello	Yan-dan-gee
<i>Biri-guba</i> [Townsville Region]	<i>Wudamuli</i> = hello	Wood-a-ma-lee
<i>Biyay</i> [Hinchinbrook Island, Far North Queensland]	<i>Mullee weeyee</i> = good day	Mull-lee wee-yee
<i>Buluguyban</i> [Palm Island]	<i>Wudamulli</i> = hello	Wood-a-ma-lee
<i>Butchulla</i> [Hervey Bay / Fraser Coast]	<i>Galangoor D'Buthbee</i> = good Morning	Gull-a-ngoor dee-buth-bee
<i>Darumbal</i> [Rockhampton]	<i>Gudamulli</i> = hello	Good-a-ma-lee
<i>Djabugay</i> [Kuranda Range]	<i>Djirri-nyurra</i> = hello	Ji-rii-new-ra
<i>Djirbal</i> [Tully]	<i>Nginda nyjangum</i> = how are you?	Nin-dah nee-jun-goom
<i>Duungidjawa</i> [Upper Brisbane Valley]	<i>Galang meng</i> = good day	Gull-un men
	<i>Galang dulara</i> = good morning	Gull-un doo-lah-rah

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<i>Gambuwal</i> [Inglewood, South-West Queensland]	<i>Winba duru</i> = good day (g'day)	Win-bar doo-roo
<i>Gamilaraay/Kamilaroi</i> [South-West Queensland]	<i>Gaba yaadha</i> = good day (g'day)	Gar-bar Yah-dah
<i>Gamilaraay/Kamilaroi</i> [South-West Queensland]	<i>Yaama</i> = hello	Yah-mah
<i>Gamilaraay/Kamilaroi</i> [South-West Queensland]	<i>Yaamagara</i> = hello [more respectful way to say hello, especially to Elders and other respected community members or formal settings]	Yah-mah-gah-rah
<i>Ganggalida</i> [Westmoreland Station, Gulf]	<i>Guwa-nyi mirrara</i> = how are you today?	Goo-wah-nee mere-ah-ra
<i>Gangulu</i> [Duarina, Central Queensland]	<i>Binbee karri</i> = good day	Bin-bee car-ree
<i>Ganulu</i> [Comet River, Central Queensland]	<i>Binbee kurri</i> = good day	Bin-bee curry
<i>Garingbal</i> [Peak Downs, Central Queensland]	<i>Binbee karri-yamba</i> = good day	Bin-bee carry-yum-bah
<i>Gayiri</i> [Nogoa River, Central Queensland]	<i>Binbee karri</i> = good day	Bin-bee car-ree
<i>Giabal</i> [Toowoomba South to Allora]	<i>Budgeree djanahn</i> = good day	Bood-jah-ree jar-nun
<i>Gidhabal</i> [Warwick, Darling Downs]	<i>Bugal numgirr</i> = good day (g'day)	Boog-al numb-gear
<i>Giya</i> [Proserpine-Bowen, North Queensland]	<i>Bungunna kari</i> = good day	Boon-un-nah car-ee
<i>Goreng Goreng</i> [Bundaberg Region]	<i>Balka wittaberry</i> = good day	Bal-car wit-ah-berry
<i>Gowar</i> [Moreton Island]	<i>Kooemba boodloongun</i> = good day	Ko-em-bah bood-loong-oon
<i>Gubbi Gubbi</i> [Sunshine Coast]	<i>Ngara</i> = hello	Nah-ra
<i>Gubbi Gubbi</i> [Sunshine Coast]	<i>Wunya ngulum</i> = welcome everyone	Won-yah noo-lum
<i>Gudang</i> [Tip of Cape York]	<i>Mita dju</i> = good day	Mit-ah ju
<i>Gudjal</i> [Charters Towers, North Queensland]	<i>Nooda kurra</i> = good day	Noo-dah kar-rah
<i>Gugu Rarmul</i> [Morehead and Kennedy Rivers, Cape York]	<i>Arlalyira ampyu</i> = good day	Arl-al-yee-ra um-pew

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<i>Gunggari</i> [Mitchell, South-West Queensland]	<i>Yowallah</i> = hello	Yah-a-la
<i>Gunggari</i> [Mitchell, South-West Queensland]	<i>Migany duru</i> = good day	Mee-gun doo-roo
<i>Gunggari</i> [Mitchell, South-West Queensland]	<i>Gnunha yinda murdi</i> = how are you?	Noon-nah yin-dah murr-dee
<i>Guugu Yimithirr</i> [Cooktown, Hope Vale]	<i>Wantharra Nyundu?</i> = how are you?	One-tharr(roll r) a Noon(short)-do
<i>Guugu Yimithirr</i> [Cooktown, Hope Vale]	<i>Ga-dii wawu-wi</i> = come inside	Gu-dee wah-woo-wee
<i>Gunya</i> [Cunnamulla-Augathella, Western Queensland]	<i>Mudga dhurdi</i> = good day	Mud-gah door-dee
<i>Guwa / Koa</i> [Diamantina River, Western Queensland]	<i>Manyo thuru</i> = good day	Mun-yo too-roo
<i>Guwamu</i> [Bollon-Cunnamulla, Western Queensland]	<i>Murga dhurdi</i> = good day	Moor-gah door-dee
<i>Jandai</i> [Stradbroke Island]	<i>Maroomba Biggee</i> = good day	Mah-room-bah big-ee
<i>Jarowair</i> [Toowoomba north to Crow's Nest]	<i>Gamba daru</i> = good day	Gum-bah dah-roo
<i>Kaanju</i> [Coen]	<i>Meenee cumballagoo</i> = good day	Mee-nee cum-bah-lah-goo
<i>Kala Kawaw Ya</i> [Western Torres Straits]	<i>Ngj midh</i> = how are you?	Ngee mith
<i>Kala Lagaw Ya/Kala Kawaw Ya</i> [Western Torres Straits]	<i>Sew ngapa</i> = welcome	Seh-oooh nga-pah
<i>Kala Lagaw Ya/Kala Kawaw Ya</i> [Western Torres Straits]	<i>Kapu goiga</i> = good day	Car-Poo gur-gah
<i>Kalili</i> [Western Queensland]	<i>Dhali mura</i> = good day	Dah-lee mah-rah
<i>Kalkadoon</i> [Mt Isa, North-West Queensland]	<i>Kammanuroo kaamp</i> = good day	Kah-man-ah-roo camp
<i>Kukatj</i> [Burketown, Gulf of Carpentaria]	<i>Manja mandja</i> = good day	Mun-yah mun-jar
<i>Kuku Yalanji</i> [Mossman, Wujal Wujal]	<i>Yundu Yalada</i> = you ok?	Yun-doo Yah-la-da
<i>Kungkari</i> [Lower Barcoo and Thompson Rivers, Western Queensland]	<i>Parla kothogum</i> = good day	Pah-lah koth-o-gum
<i>Kunjen</i> [Mitchell River, Kowanyama, Cape York]	<i>Wana yinang</i> = how are you? <i>Mini punga</i> = good day	Wah-na yin-un Mini pa-nah

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<i>Kunkalanya</i> [Far Western Queensland]	<i>Ulyarri walka</i> = good day	Ool-yah-ree wal-kah
<i>Kuuk Thayorre</i> [Pormpuraaw, Western Cape York]	<i>Wooy</i> = hello I'm here	Woy
<i>Kuuk Thayorre</i> [Pormpuraaw, Western Cape York]	<i>Min yoor</i> = good day	Min Yaw
<i>Lamalama</i> [Normanby River, Lower Cape York]	<i>Hayi lun</i> = good day	Hay-ee loon
<i>Mandandanji</i> [Roma District, Darling Downs]	<i>Galang genan</i> = good day	Gull-ung gen-un
<i>Meriam Mir</i> [Eastern Torres Straits]	<i>Maiem</i> = hello	May-em
<i>Mayi Thakurti</i> [Cloncurry, North-West Queensland]	<i>Yathi winja</i> = good day	Yah-thee win-yar
<i>Mingin</i> [Burketown, Gulf]	<i>Boorooga tirangana</i> = good day	Boo-roo-gah tear-un-ah-na
<i>Mithaka</i> [Windorah, Western Queensland]	<i>Patji kayiri</i> = good day	Par-gee kay-eerie
<i>Ngadjon</i> [Lake Eacham, Atherton Tablelands]	<i>Wammai kare</i> = good day	Wom-eye kar-ee
<i>Ngaro</i> [Whitsunday Islands]	<i>Malannandu</i> = general greeting <i>Ganniyu</i> = goodbye	Mull-un-arn-doo Gun-ee-oo
<i>Ngawun</i> [Taldora-Julia Creek, North-West Queensland]	<i>Kultjin mandharra</i> = good day <i>Wanyu yira?</i> = how are you?	Kul-jin mun-dah-ra Won-oo year-ah
<i>Nguri</i> [Maranoa River, South-West Queensland]	<i>Migunguri toonee</i> = good day	Mee-gun-oo-ree too-nee
<i>Olkola</i> [Alice River, Lower Cape York]	<i>Ugnga olong</i> = good day	Oog-nah oh-lon
<i>Pirriya</i> [Cooper Creek, Western Queensland]	Burlo moori = good day	Burr-low moo-ree
<i>Pitta Pitta</i> [Bouliia, Far Western Queensland]	<i>Hoo</i> = general greeting to someone far away <i>Koua</i> = general greeting to someone close <i>Myalli walka</i> = good day	who ko-oo-a My-al-lee wal-kah

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<i>Ringu Ringu</i> [Hamilton River, Boulia District, Far Western Queensland]	<i>Hoo</i> = general greeting to someone far away <i>Koua</i> = general greeting to someone close <i>Myalli walka</i> = good day	who ko-oo-a My-al-lee wal-kah
<i>Tagalaka</i> [Gilbert River, Gulf Region]	<i>Manyarah yunda</i> = are you good?	Mun-a-ra yun-dah
<i>Turrbal</i> [Brisbane Northern Suburbs, Caboolture]	<i>Galang nguruindhau</i> = good day (g'day)	Gull-ung noo-roon-die
<i>Waka Waka</i> [Burnett River]	<i>Galang ngunar</i> = good day	Gull-ung noo-nah
<i>Waka Waka</i> [Gayndah, North Burnett]	<i>Galangul allara</i> = good day	Gull-ung-ull al-ah-rah
<i>Wakaman</i> [Mt Mulgrave, Far North Queensland]	<i>Ngulkurr warnghku</i> = good day	Nool-kore warn-koo
<i>Walangama</i> [Croydon-Normanton, Western Queensland]	<i>Wingk punga</i> = good day <i>Wanai yital</i> = how are you?	Wink pa-na Won-eye it-al
<i>Wangkumarra</i> [Western Queensland]	<i>Tharli mura</i> = good day	Tha-lee mah-rah
<i>Wargamay</i> [Herbert River, North Queensland]	<i>Nginba nyunga gaganyu</i> = general greeting 'Oh, you have come (here)'	Nin-bah new-nah gah-gun-oo
<i>Warungu</i> [Upper Herbert River, North Queensland]	<i>Nooda kurra</i> = general greeting	Noo-dah –car-rah
<i>Wik-mungkan</i> [Western Cape York]	<i>Niiyalang</i> = hello/general greeting to one person <i>Niipalang</i> = hello/general greeting to two people	Nee-yah-lung Nee-pah-lung
<i>Wiri</i> [Central Queensland]	<i>Bunyiba garibiri</i> = good day	Bun-yee-bah gar-ee-beer-ee
<i>Wulgurukaba</i> [Townsville Region]	<i>Wudamuli</i> = hello/greetings	Wood-a-ma-lee
<i>Wuli Wuli</i> [Burnett River]	<i>Gamba dunba</i> = good day	Gum-bah doon-bah
<i>Yalarnnga</i> [Duchess, Burke River, North-West Queensland]	<i>Kuyungu mungatha</i> = good day	Koo-un-oo moon-ath-ah
<i>Yandruwandha</i> [Western Queensland]	<i>Patji dritji</i> = good day	Pat-gee drit-gee
<i>Yangga</i> [Gilbert River, North Queensland]	<i>Marbil kai</i> = good day	Mah-bill kye
<i>Yilba</i> [Cape River, North Queensland]	<i>Thurriil adjila</i> = good day	Tha-rill add-jill-ah

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<i>Yiman</i> [Middle-Upper Dawson River]	<i>Kamba booar</i> = good day	Kum-bah boo-ah
<i>Yindiny</i> [Cairns, North Queensland]	<i>Goorin boongun</i> = good day	Goo-rin boon-un
<i>Yinangay</i> [Longreach, Central-West Queensland]	<i>Dhuraburra karri</i> = good day	Doo-rah-bar-rah car-ree
<i>Yintyingka</i> [Port Stewart-Coen, Cape York]	<i>Wanti kampala</i> = good day	Won-tee kum-par-la
<i>Yirandali</i> [Hughenden, North Queensland]	<i>Dharili kumba</i> = good day	Dah-ree-lee koom-bah
<i>Yugambeh</i> [Logan, Gold Coast]	<i>Baugull nyungai</i> = good day	Boo-gull nung-eye
<i>Yugambeh</i> [Logan, Gold Coast]	<i>Jingerrri</i> = Hello/greetings	Ging-gah-ree
<i>Yugambeh</i> [Logan, Gold Coast]	<i>Jingiwalli wahlu</i> = how are you?	Ging-gee-wally wah-loo
<i>Yugarabul</i> [Brisbane Western Suburbs, Ipswich, Boonah]	<i>Gurumba bigi</i> = good day	Goo-room-bah big-ee
<i>Yugara</i> [Brisbane region]	<i>Wunya</i> = welcome/greetings	Won-yah
<i>Yugara</i> [Brisbane region]	<i>Gurumba bigi</i> = good day	Goo-room-bah big-ee
<i>Yuru</i> [Burdekin River, North Queensland]	<i>Gudjilia yijiea</i> = good day	Good-jill-ee-a yee-gee-ee-ah
<i>Yuwaalaraay</i> [South-West Queensland]	<i>Gaba yaadha</i> = good day	Gar-bar yah-dah
<i>Yuwibara / Yuri</i> [Mackay Region, Central Queensland]	<i>Nunungeri nuningai</i> =greetings everyone	Noon-un-eh-ree noon-in-eye
<i>Yuwibara / Yuri</i> [Mackay Region, Central Queensland]	<i>Binbee kurri</i> = good day	Bin-bee car-ree

Further Details

State Library of Queensland's Indigenous Languages project is based on networks with communities, Indigenous Language Centres and other groups working with language revival.

For more information on **Indigenous Knowledge Centres (IKCs)** and the work they are doing in communities to support language and cultural heritage:

<http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/about-us/indigenous-knowledge-centres>

For more information on **Brisbane** and **South-East Queensland** languages: [Yugambeh Museum, Language and Heritage Research Centre](#) serves as the Indigenous Language Centre for Southern Queensland.

For more information on **Central Queensland** languages: [Central Queensland Language Centre](#) serves as the Indigenous Language Centre for Central and Central-Western Queensland.

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For more information on **North Queensland** languages: [North Queensland Regional Languages Centre](#) serves as the Indigenous Language Centre for North Queensland.

For more information on **Cape York** languages: [Pama Language Centre](#) serves as the Indigenous Language Centre for Cape York.

For more information on **Torres Strait Islander** languages: [Torres Strait Regional Authority](#) aims to strengthen the economic, social and cultural development of the Torres Strait; there are plans to establish a Language Centre on Thursday Island.

Say G'day

For more information on the 'Say G'day' initiative:

- Yugambeh Museum, Language and Heritage Research Centre, Beenleigh; visit Yugambeh Museum's website: www.yugambeh.com
- State Library of Queensland: www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/atsi/languages/word-lists/say-gday-in-an-indigenous-language

Yugambeh Language App

The original set of 'Say G'day' wordlists have been added to the latest version of the Yugambeh Language App which is available for stand-alone computers as well as Android/iOS.

Android also available through Google Play
<https://play.google.com/store/search?q=yugambeh>

iOS is available for iPads/iPhones on iTunes: <https://itunes.apple.com/au/app/yugambeh-app/id1121672412?mt=8>

State Library of Queensland

For further information on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander languages at the State Library of Queensland, please contact:

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SLQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Webpages:
www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources/atsi/languages

SLQ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Languages Blog:
<http://blogs.slq.qld.gov.au/ilq/>

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