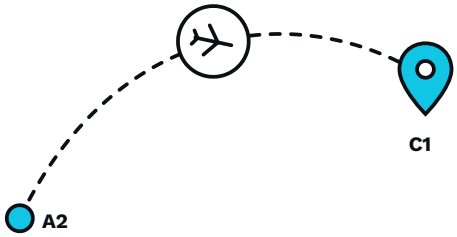
SPEAKING TOPICS TEMAS DE CONVERSACIÓN · A2 → C1

Travel



Words, phrases and questions to talk about trips, holidays and places — at your level.

Todo lo que necesitas para hablar de viajes en inglés, ordenado por nivel del Marco Común Europeo (MCER).

1 **Find your level.** Start with your column, then try the next one.

2 **Say it out loud.** Read every example sentence aloud — twice.

3 **Make it yours.** Answer the questions on page 3 about **your** life.

1 Vocabulary by level

Vocabulario por nivel

A2 Elementary

- **holiday** — vacaciones
- **trip** — viaje (ida y vuelta)
- **suitcase** — maleta
- **flight** — vuelo
- **passport** — pasaporte
- **souvenir** — recuerdo
- **abroad** — en el extranjero
- **sightseeing** — hacer turismo

B1 Intermediate

- **luggage** — equipaje (incontable)
- **journey** — trayecto, viaje
- **destination** — destino
- **accommodation** — alojamiento
- **delay** — retraso
- **return ticket** — billete de ida y vuelta
- **tourist attraction** — atracción turística
- **guided tour** — visita guiada

B2 Upper-int.

- **itinerary** — itinerario
- **jet lag** — desfase horario
- **backpacker** — mochilero/a
- **landmark** — lugar emblemático
- **budget airline** — aerolínea low cost
- **scenic route** — ruta panorámica
- **self-catering** — sin comidas incluidas
- **crowded** — abarrotado

C1 Advanced

- **wanderlust** — ganas de viajar
- **layover** — escala
- **overtourism** — masificación turística
- **off-season** — temporada baja
- **sustainable tourism** — turismo sostenible
- **cultural immersion** — inmersión cultural
- **breathtaking** — impresionante
- **unspoilt** — virgen, sin masificar

2 Phrasal verbs in action

Phrasal verbs con ejemplos

check in / out — A2
register at / leave a hotel or airport
You can **check in** online 24 hours before your flight.

take off — B1
(a plane) leave the ground
The plane **took off** two hours late.

pick up / drop off — B1
collect / leave someone somewhere
Can you **drop** me **off** at the airport?

stop over — B2
stay briefly on a long journey
We **stopped over** in Dubai.

set off — B1
start a journey
We **set off** at 6 a.m. to avoid the traffic.

look around — B1
explore a place
We spent the morning **looking around** the old town.

get away — B2
go somewhere on holiday to relax
We're hoping to **get away** for a long weekend.

take in — C1
look at and enjoy something slowly
We sat on the terrace and **took in** the view.

3 Travel, trip or journey?

La duda más típica

VERB · GENERAL ACTIVITY

travel

The activity in general. Usually a **verb**. Don't say "a travel".

> **I love to travel. Travel broadens the mind.**

NOUN · THERE AND BACK

trip

You go somewhere **and come back**, usually for a short time.

> **We went on a school trip to Cartagena.**

NOUN · FROM A TO B

journey

The act of **moving** from one place to another — often long.

> **The train journey from Murcia to Madrid takes three hours.**

4 Idioms & expressions

Para sonar como un nativo

travel light — B1
take very little luggage
I always travel light — just hand luggage.

a must-see — B2
something you really should visit
The Alhambra is an absolute must-see.

in the middle of nowhere — B2
far from towns and people
The campsite was in the middle of nowhere.

on a shoestring — C1
with very little money
We travelled round Portugal on a shoestring.

catch the travel bug — C1
start to love travelling
She caught the travel bug on her Erasmus year.

hit the road — B2
start a journey
It's getting late — we should hit the road.

a stone's throw from — B2
very close to
Our hotel was a stone's throw from the beach.

a change of scenery — B2
a new place that feels refreshing
After exams, I really needed a change of scenery.

off the beaten track — C1
away from the usual tourist places
I prefer villages off the beaten track.

broaden your horizons — C1
learn about new things and ideas
Living abroad really broadened my horizons.

5 Spanish speakers' traps

Errores típicos

✗ ~~I went of holidays.~~
✓ **I went on holiday.**
"de vacaciones" = **on** holiday

✗ ~~I want to know Rome.~~
✓ **I want to visit Rome.**
"conocer un lugar" = **visit / see**

✗ ~~We arrived to London.~~
✓ **We arrived in London.**
in a city/country · **at** the airport/hotel

✗ ~~We lost the plane.~~
✓ **We missed the flight.**
"perder un vuelo/tren" = **miss**

✗ ~~I have three luggages.~~
✓ **I have three bags.**
luggage is uncountable — no plural

✗ ~~We did an excursion.~~
✓ **We went on a day trip.**
go on a trip / tour / excursion

6 Quick check

¿Lo has pillado?

1. We missed / lost the train by two minutes.
2. It's a stone's throw / kick from here.
3. How was your travel / trip to Paris?
4. We set off / set on early to beat the traffic.
5. She only took hand luggage / luggages.
6. We love places off the beaten road / track.

Answers: 1 missed · 2 throw · 3 trip · 4 set off · 5 luggage · 6 track

7 Questions for your level

Practica en voz alta

A2 Cambridge A2 Key style

1. Where do you usually go on holiday?
2. Who do you like travelling with?
3. How do you get to work or school?
4. Tell me about your last holiday.

B1 Cambridge B1 Preliminary style

1. Do you prefer holidays by the sea or in the mountains? Why?
2. What do you always pack when you travel?
3. Tell me about a place you'd like to visit one day.

B2 Cambridge B2 First style

1. Do you plan your trips carefully, or are you more spontaneous?
2. What's the most interesting place you've ever been to?
3. Would you rather travel alone or with friends? Why?

C1 Cambridge C1 Advanced style · discussion

1. How has social media changed the way people choose where to travel?
2. Some say travel is the best education. To what extent do you agree?
3. Should popular cities limit the number of tourists?

8 Level up your answer

Sube de nivel

"What's the best place you've ever visited?"

A2	I went to London. It was very nice. I **visited** the museums.	**Past simple** + basic adjectives. Clear, but short.
B1	The best place I've **been to** is London. We went last summer and saw lots of museums, **which were free!**	**Present perfect** + a relative clause to add detail.
B2	**I'd have to say** Lisbon. We went **on a shoestring**, but I was blown away by the views — I'd love to go back.	**Thinking phrase** + idiom + a contrast with "but".
C1	Without a doubt, Kyoto. **What struck me most** wasn't the temples but how calm everything felt. **It really broadened my horizons.**	**Cleft sentence** for emphasis + precise, natural collocations.

9 Keep talking

Frases para alargar tu respuesta

Give a reason

The main reason is that...
That's mainly because...
For one thing, ...

Add an example

For example, last summer I...
I remember once when...
Take Granada, for instance.

Imagine

If I had the chance, I'd...
One day I'd love to...
My dream trip would be...

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