

# Some words and phrases in Romani dialects

Roma, Manouche, Kale, Sinti, Romany Gypsy and people from the Romani diaspora live across the world.

There are more than 10 million people of Romani descent in Europe alone. Romani, Romanes or Romani čhib (Romani tongue) is a rich family of languages with an Indo-Aryan root. It is the only Indo-Aryan language that has been spoken exclusively in Europe since the Middle Ages.

Much of the vocabulary and grammar are related to Sanskrit. The language used by Romani people is a source of great pride, it facilitates connection and communication between the Romani diaspora across the world. Nearly all Romani speakers are multilingual (speak another language) and will use the language of the majority population where they live. It is estimated that there are 4.6 million Romani speakers in Europe.

There are many different dialects of Romani spoken in England alone. The language is historically fluid, adapting with location and between families. There may be differences in words or structure commonly spoken across Europe and there may be a difference in spelling or pronunciation.

## HELLO

### Galicja (Rumungry)

Lacio Giles

### Kalderash

Bahtalo

### Lovari

Lasho djes

### English Romaniachal

Kushti divvus

## WELCOME

### Galicja (Rumungry)

Jal Bahtali / Bahtalo

### Kalderash

Mišto avilean

### Lovari

Po sastipe

### English Romaniachal

'Vel adrey



# GOODBYE

## Galicja (Rumungry)

Deloreha

## Kalderash

Ceau

## Lovari

Lasho djes/devla sa

## English Romaniachal

Devlesa

## MY HOME IS...

### Galicja (Rumungry)

Mindoro kher hino

### Kalderash

Moro char si

### Lovari

Moro ker si

### English Romaniachal

Mandies kher/kenna's

## THIS IS MY HOME

### Galicja (Rumungry)

Kada hin mindoro kher

### Kalderash

Cado si moro char

### Lovari

Kado si moro ker

### English Romaniachal

Kuvva's mandies kher/kenna

## FAMILY

### Galicja (Rumungry)

Familja

### Kalderash

Familia

### Lovari

Nipo/Familia

### English Romaniachal

Mandies folki



## BEAUTIFUL

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Szucar

**Kalderash**

Sukar

**Lovari**

Sukar

**English Romaniachal**

Rinkeni

## FOOD

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Haben

**Kalderash**

Haben

**Lovari**

Habe

**English Romaniachal**

Hobben

## MY HOME HAS...

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Dre mindoro kher

**Kalderash**

Moro char sas

**Lovari**

Ande moro ker si

**English Romaniachal**

Adrey mandies kher/  
kenna amandies diks

## PETS

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Macka (cat) Rukono (dog)

**Kalderash**

Animale chereske

**Lovari**

Muci/Goukel

**English Romaniachal**

Jiviners

## IN MY HOME

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Kie mande khere

**Kalderash**

Ando moro char

**Lovari**

Ande moro ker

**English Romaniachal**

Adrey mandies kher/kenna



## WE COOK

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Talas

**Kalderash**

Amen chiravas

**Lovari**

Chi ravas

**English Romaniachal**

Amandies ker hobben

## WE PLAY

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Baszalas

**Kalderash**

Amen chelasamen

**Lovari**

Ame kelasaman

**English Romaniachal**

Amandies kel

## WE DANCE

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Khelas

**Kalderash**

Amen chelas

**Lovari**

Ame kelas

**English Romaniachal**

Amandies kel

## WE SING

**Galicja (Rumungry)**

Gilalas

**Kalderash**

Amen ghilabas

**Lovari**

Ame gilabas

**English Romaniachal**

Amandies kom gilling

We would like to thank Gabriel Covaci, Mania Malek, Matthey Mitchell and Sonia Michalewicz for supporting us with these translations.



**FRIENDS,  
FAMILIES &  
TRAVELLERS**

**JUNE  
20  
22**

**GYPSY, ROMA  
and TRAVELLER  
HISTORY MONTH**

[gypsy-traveller.org/grthm](http://gypsy-traveller.org/grthm)



# Some words and phrases in Irish Cant

**For Irish Traveller or Mincéir people, the language you speak can have different names.**

Mincéir Thari (which translates to 'Traveller talk') can be called Shelta, Cant or De Gammon.

It is an ancient indigenous language formed using the Ogham technique, gradually developing towards its present form under the pressure of contact with Irish and Hiberno-English.

The closest living language is old Irish, which was spoken in Ireland pre 1200s. While the language is practiced mainly through the oral tradition, with very little written history of it, the words for 'priest' and 'God' shown in old, pre-Christian documents in Ireland show shared lineation between the languages.

Irish Cant is widely used today and the majority of people who speak it also speak English. There are different dialects of Irish Cant and in Ireland alone, pronunciation and spelling of particular words can differ between regions and families.

We would like to thank Traveller Pride for supporting us with these translations.



## **Hello**

Grált'a

## **Good morning**

Slum hawrum

## **Good evening**

Slum dorahög

## **It's good to see you**

Tome ta Soonee ya lace

## **You are looking well**

Yoordjeele's soonee-in munya

## **See you later**

Muni got-in to

## **This is my home**

Mwĩša's havari

## **My home**

Mo havari

## **Family**

Tribli

## **Beautiful**

Bura/Buri

## **To cook**

T'ērp

## **To make**

Grati

## **To sing**

Swurk

## **To dance**

Dausa



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# Some words and phrases in Scottish Cant

**Scottish Cant is spoken between Scottish Gypsy Traveller or Nacken people.**

While there can be general strains of Cant, localised dialects mean there are infinite evolutions of words and phrases. The language is almost entirely oral and differs between geographical locations or through family and social preferences. The language is constantly evolving.

For Scottish Gypsy Travellers, Scottish Cant is often the first language for children, but will be accompanied by other languages used by parents.

Scottish Cant shares greater commonality with Romanés than with Gaelic languages, revealing the lineage of Scottish Gypsy Travellers from Northern India, with Roma peoples. It is part of the phenomenon of Indic diaspora languages spoken by travelling communities of Indian origin outside India.

There are different dialects of Scottish Cant and in Scotland alone, there can be differences in words commonly spoken across the country and differences in spelling between people.

We would like to thank Davie Donaldson for supporting us with these translations.



## **Come in**

Bing anee

## **Look at my place**

Deek naggins stallins

## **I stay in a house**

Naggins bides an Keir

## **I stay in a camp/a trailer**

An wattle

## **My home has...**

Naggins stallins has

## **Family**

Naggins Hantle

## **Beautiful**

Beenship

## **Food**

Habbin

## **I have one small dog**

Naggins has yaick technie yaffin

## **I have two big cats**

Naggins has dui muckle meowin-chaets

## **In my home**

In naggin's stalin...

## **We cook**

Wor noggins ker habbin

## **We sing**

Wor noggins Chant

## **We dance**

Wor noggins Grib



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