

PREL

Commonwealth of the  
Northern Mariana Islands

# Chamorro

Finu' Chamorro

Flame Tree  
*Brachychiton acerifolius*

English	Finu' Chamorro (Chamorro)	"Sounds Like..." pronunciation guide
Hello	Håfa adai	ha <sup>1</sup> -fæ <sup>2</sup> DEY <sup>3</sup>
Good morning	Buenas días <sup>4</sup>	BWE-næs DEE-æS
Good afternoon	Buenas tâtdis <sup>5</sup>	BWEH-næs tat-DIS
Good evening	Buenas noches <sup>6</sup>	BWEH-næs no-TSEHS
Good night	Buenas noches (can be the same phrase as "good evening")	BWEH-næs no-TSEHS
Thank you	Si Yu'us Ma'ási' <sup>7</sup>	see DZOO-ʔoos <sup>8</sup> ma-ʔA-seeʔ
You're welcome	Buen prubetchu	BWEHN proo-BEHT-tsoo
Goodbye	Adios	a-dee-OS
My name is __[insert name]__	I na'ån hu si __[insert name]__	ee na-ʔAN-hoo see __[insert name]__
What is your name?	Håyi i nã'an mu?	HA-dzee na-ʔAN-moo
Yes	Hunggan	HOONG <sup>9</sup> -gæn
No	Ahe'	A-heeʔ

Phase 1 reviewer: CNMI Dialect

Phase 2 reviewer: Saipan and Tinian Dialect

Phase 3 reviewer: Standard Dialect

<sup>1</sup> The [a] sound is similar to the [a] in English *fall*

<sup>2</sup> The [æ] and [ɛ] sound is similar to the [a] in English *hat*

<sup>3</sup> The syllables that are all capitalized represent the syllables with more emphasis (i.e., pronounce them a little bit louder or longer)

<sup>4</sup> Another spelling/pronunciation is also used: *dahas* (DEE-hæs)

<sup>5</sup> Another spelling is also used: *tatdes*

<sup>6</sup> Another spelling is also used: *notchis*

<sup>7</sup> Other spellings are also used: *Mã'ase* and *Ma'ãse'*

<sup>8</sup> The [ʔ] symbol represents the hard glottal beginning of a vowel, like the beginning of English *Uh-oh!*

<sup>9</sup> The [ŋ] represents the nasal sound made with the back of the tongue touching the soft palate, like the "ng" of English *sing*