

At the restaurant: Useful phrases.

Making a reservation.

- Can I book a table, please?
 - When for?
 - For what time?
 - For how many people?
- It's under the name *Smith*.
- I'd like to make a reservation for six people on Saturday night.

At the restaurant.

- A table for two, please.
- Do you have any free tables, please?
- Have you got a reservation?
- We have a reservation for three at 6:30 under the name McIntosh.

Ordering.

- Here is the menu.
- Can we have the menu, please?
- Are you ready to order?
- Anything to drink?
- What do you recommend?
- Do you have any specials?
- Today's special is meat pie.
- What's the soup of the day?
- What's this dish?
- I'm ready to order.
- Do you have any vegetarian selections?
- I'll have fish & chips, please.
- For my starter, I'll have ... and for my main course ...
- How would you like your steak?
 - rare / medium-rare / medium / well-done
- I'm sorry. That's not available today.
- I'm sorry, we are out of...
- Do you have a wine list?
- Can we have some more water, please?
- I'm (severely) allergic to...
- I'm a vegetarian.
- I don't eat...
- I'm on a diet.
- We are in a hurry.
- How long will it take?
- It'll take about 20 minutes.

During the meal.

- Enjoy your meal!
- Excuse me!
- Would you like some dessert?
- Can I get you anything else?
- Could we have a jug of tap water, please?

After the meal.

- How was your meal?
- It was delicious, thanks.
- May I have the bill, please?
- Can I pay by card?
- Do you take credit cards?
- Is service included?
- Can we pay separately?

Complaining.

- This isn't what I ordered.
- This food's cold.
- It's too salty / spicy...
- This doesn't taste right.
- We've been waiting a long time.
- Is our meal on its way?
- Will our food be long?
- It's been 30 minutes since I gave my order.
- I would appreciate if you can replace it with a well-cooked dish.

Responding to a complaint.

- I really apologize for that.
- Allow me to replace it with a better one.
- I assure you it won't happen again.
- As a token of our apologies, we won't charge you for it.
- It's on the house.
- It's a random mistake. I apologize on behalf of my chef.
- Thank you for your patience.
- Your order will be on your table within the next 5 minutes.
- Kindly give me a couple of minutes. I'll check the status of your order.