



Lesson 2: Please (This Please)

моля molya

LESSON NOTES

Today's phrase will help you take matters into your own hands! In today's lesson we'll take a detailed look at "please," as in asking for something.

In Bulgarian, "please" is "molya" (моля). The most rudimentary way of using "please" is pointing at something while saying "molya," but let's try and build this up a bit, shall we?

Let's start with the expression, "this please" which in Bulgarian is "tova molya" (това моля). In English, "this" comes before "please". In Bulgarian this word order remains the same. In Bulgarian the word for "this," "tova" (това) precedes "molya."

Let's take a look at the word for "this." "This" in Bulgarian is "tova" (това). Exploring the word for "this" warrants a look at the word for "that" which is "onova" (онова). The phrase "that please" is "onova molya" (онова моля).

Finally, let's imagine that after a few days in Bulgaria, you have already tried the very famous and equally healthy "shopska salata" (шопска салата) which is a salad made of tomatoes, cucumbers, peppers, spring onions, fresh parsley, olive oil, and Bulgarian feta cheese. The next time you are in a restaurant and you would like to have the same salad, you can use the phrase "shopska salata, molya." This formula, of course, applies to any other item you would like to have. For instance, "one ticket, please" is "edin bilet, molya" (един билет, моля) where "edin" (един) stands for "one" and "bilet" (билет) stands for "ticket."

PHRASES

Bulgarian	Romanized	English
това моля	tova molya	this please
онова моля	onova molya	that please
един билет, моля	edin bilet molya	one ticket please
тази пица, моля	tazi pizza molya	this pizza please

VOCABULARY

Bulgarian	Romanized	English
моля	molya	please

QUICK TIP

A word of caution: unlike English nouns, Bulgarian nouns that refer to inanimate objects have different genders. For instance, a “table” – “masa” (маса) in Bulgarian – is a “she” while “chair” – “stol” (стол) in Bulgarian is a “he”. Under these linguistic circumstances, “tova” and “onova,” the Bulgarian equivalents of “this” and “that” should be used when you want to express something along the lines of “this thing” or “that thing” where the gender is neutral in Bulgarian and you will not have to worry about achieving gender agreement between “this” – your indicator word – and the noun you are indicating.

In other words, if you don't know what gender “pizza” (пица) is in Bulgarian, just say: “tova, molya” or “onova, molya” while pointing at it. Saying “tova pizza molya” is grammar error as “pizza” is a “she” in Bulgarian and requires the indicator “tazi” before a noun in the feminine: “tazi pizza, molya” (тази пица, моля) is the correct expression in this case.