



## Lesson 2: How to Say "You're Welcome" in Vietnamese

Không có gì.

### LESSON NOTES

In this lesson, we'll continue to learn more phrases that will help you with basic etiquette. Vietnamese people are very hospitable. They use phrases of gratitude quite often. Even though you may not get the chance to use *Không có gì*. (the phrase for "You're welcome") during your trip to Vietnam, there's a very good chance you'll hear it. So let's have a closer look at it!

In Vietnamese, "You're welcome" is *Không có gì*. Literally this means "Not have anything," but we translate it as "No problem."

The words *không* is the flat tone. the word *có* is the rising tone and the word *gì* falls gradually.

The first word, *không*, means "no."

After this comes *có*, meaning "have."

After this comes *gì*, meaning "anything."

All together, we have *Không có gì*.

In very formal situations or to address elders and superiors you can use the phrase *Không có gì đâu ạ*.

The word *đâu* means "at all" and the last word *ạ* doesn't have a definite meaning. It is added to show more respect to the other person, especially when that person is older.

Notice that *đâu* is the flat tone and *ạ* is the heavy falling tone.

Again, the whole phrase is *Không có gì đâu ạ*.

### PHRASES

Vietnamese	English
Đây là cái gì?	What is this?
Bạn đang nấu món gì vậy?	What are you cooking?
Không có gì.	You're welcome. (lit. It's not at all.)
Tôi có một món quà cho bạn.	I have a present for you.
Tôi không hút thuốc.	I don't smoke.

## VOCABULARY

<b>Vietnamese</b>	<b>English</b>
gì	what
có	to have
không	no, not, nothing, without

## QUICK TIP

There are various mutually spoken dialects. The three mainly dialects are:

Northern Vietnamese

Hanoi dialect, Other Northern dialects: Haiphong, and various provincial forms

Central Vietnamese

Huế dialect, Nghệ An dialect, Quảng Nam dialect

Southern Vietnamese

Saigon dialect, Mekong (Far West) dialect

Dialects differ slightly in tone, pronunciation, and sometimes vocabulary. In the north you will usually hear "Không có gì." While traveling in central and south Vietnam you will hear "Không có chi." Both phrases have the same meanings and connotations.

## QUICK TIP 2

Most people are able to understand different dialects, so you don't have to worry about learning how to say one phrase in all the various dialects. However, I do suggest familiarizing yourself so that you are not caught off guard.