

HOSTELWORLD LAUNCHES TRANSLATOR THAT ALLOWS TRAVELLERS TO 'SPEAK THE WORLD'

- *Hostelworld has launched verbal Google Cloud translation capabilities on its hostel-booking app*
- *The 'Speak the World' feature immediately translates up to 43 languages*
- *Video demonstration with award-winning comedian Phil Wang putting it to the test in Indonesia available on [YouTube](#)*

[Hostelworld](#), the largest online hostel-booking platform sparking social experiences, today announced, this week launches an extension to its iOS and Android app – allowing users to instantly translate between up to 43 languages in a fun and engaging way.

Utilising Google Cloud Translate software, the 'Speak the World' translator makes the Hostelworld app not only to enable travellers to book over 35,000 hostels, but also speak fluently in 43 languages. It helps travellers to go even further off the beaten track and fully immerse themselves in the local culture by eliminating language barriers.

Speak the World will feature 43 languages including Bengali, English, French, Hindi, Japanese, Romanian, Spanish, and Thai¹. Available on iOS and Android, the app allows global travellers to overcome language barriers in real time.

With just a few simple taps the translator is ready to go; simply speak into the device's microphone and wait for your words to be translated. The feature will then listen to the response and translate that back to you, and so on. In addition, the device's screen can be set to show a comedic mouth and lips that move with the words, providing the ultimate icebreaker when meeting new people. Click [here](#) to see (a video demonstration with comedian Phil Wang putting it the test in Indonesia

Powering this development is Google Cloud Translate's neural machine translation, which by utilising state-of-the-art training techniques has achieved the largest improvements to date for machine translation quality.

Breffni Horgan, Head of Product at Hostelworld, said: *"The Hostelworld app already allows people to find and instantly book quality affordable accommodation with personalised itineraries showcasing the best things to do whilst travelling. With the launch of 'Speak the World' the app will*

now empower travellers to go even further off the beaten track and more fully immerse themselves in local culture. Our amazing selection of more than 35,000 hostels has already helped young travellers get over the cost barrier, and now with the help of new technology we're helping them tackle the language barrier in a fun way, too."

The Hostelworld is available to download from the [Apple AppStore](#) and [Google Play](#).

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About Hostelworld

Hostelworld, the largest online hostel-booking platform sparking social experiences, inspires passionate travellers to see the world, meet new people and come back with extraordinary stories to tell. Hostelworld customers are not your average tourists; they crave unique experiences that Hostelworld facilitates with the best choice of hostels around the world. It's the social nature of hostels that turbo-charges their global adventures and empowers them to Meet the World.

Hostelworld has over nine million reviews across 35,000 properties in more than 180 countries, making the brand the leading online hub for social travel. The website and mobile app operates in 19 different languages.

The Hostelworld Group went public in November 2015, listing on the main London and Dublin stock exchanges. Headquartered in Dublin, Hostelworld has offices around the world in London, Shanghai, Sydney and Seoul and was recently recognized as a Best Workplace for 2016 by the Great Places to Work Institute.

¹ The full list of 43 languages is: Afrikaans, Arabic, Basque, Catalan, Chinese (Hong Kong, Standard, Taiwan), Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch (Belgium, Netherlands), English (American, Australian, Ireland, South African, United Kingdom), Filipino, Finnish, French (Canada, France), Galician, German, Greek, Hebrew, Hindi, Hungarian, Icelandic, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Lithuanian, Malay, Norwegian, Persian, Polish, Portuguese (Brazilian, European), Romanian, Russian, Serbian, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish (Castilian, Mexican), Swedish, Thai, Turkish, Ukrainian, Vietnamese, Zulu.