

EPIC WAVES FAMILY PRESENTS

¡Hola, Ola!



AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO THE SPANISH SURF LINGO

A BOOK BY ANGIE RINGLEB & MIRJAM LOOSLI



Angie



Miri

Welcome to ¡Hola, Ola!

Your illustrated guide to the Spanish surf lingo.

Maybe you are about to go on the surf trip of your lifetime to the Spanish Northwest coast, or you are running away from the European winter to hit the Canary Islands. Whatever your surf destination, some basic Spanish surf lingo will make it much easier for you.

But learning a new language can be a challenge and let's be honest, the older we get, the harder it is to feed our brain with new stuff. During high school days, everything seemed pretty painless and learning a new language came kind of natural to us, but who really wants to go back to conjugating irregular verbs just to be able to communicate in the water?

We figured there had to be an easier way to get some Spanish into our heads. And here we go: ¡Hola, ola! Through illustrations and little anecdotes, we make it easy for you to remember all those essential words to survive in a Spanish surf environment. The German language has a great word for this kind of learning; an Eselsbrücke (aka donkey bridge), or mnemonic in English.

Funny fact: the little stories told in this book did actually happen. They are memories of the surf trips we have shared

and surf stories we have experienced. We? That's us:
Angie & Miri, and a whole group of passionate surfers and
ocean lovers: the Epic Waves Family.

We hope you enjoy tagging along on our surf trip journeys
and dedicate a wave to us when you confidently cruise
through a Spanish speaking line-up.

Buenas olas,

Angie & Miri



Bombette

Rainbow



Ramonski



Lindis

Ray

Joshiño



Emilio Slater



Paul



Good old Lee



Melly

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A surfear
- gone surfing -

Olas, basically means energy and moving water. And while some prefer the moving water to be tube shaped, others might prefer a more mellow type of energy. However, beggars can't be choosers and sometimes you take what you get.

So here they were in Tenerife. Their local surf guide Emilio Slater had taken them to an uncrowded town beach. A small bay beautifully nestled between rocks, palm trees and houses, but looking at the ocean Angie felt confused. There was massive swell hitting the bay, it was January after all, but the breaking **olas** were sort of mellow and reforming before hitting the beach. To be honest, she didn't really think how this could be fun to surf, but knowing Emilio, she trusted him to have a plan. And he certainly did.

Emilio explained that the local government had thrown massive rocks into the bay, to protect the sand to be washed away by the big winter swells. The rocks made the **olas** break before hitting the sandbank. The whitewash then passed the rocks and rolled into the bay, making it a perfect take-off zone for learning surfers. They then finished with a pretty fun shore break section.

But Angie didn't know all of this yet, when she was staring at the wave and saying to herself: hola **ola**, nice to meet you.





La ola (noun, feminine)

oh - lah (IPA: o-la)

wave

The object of our desire. Hollow, mushy, fat it doesn't matter. We simply love olas, in any shape and form.

Let's face it. As cool as it looks, surfing is not all sunshine. Realistically we are playing in a massive body of water and being moved around by sheer energy. The smooth rides we see in the videos are only a small part of what is going on out there.

So here she was, paddling for what seemed to be the biggest wave of the day. Her surf coach next to her was excitedly screaming: go for it, remember, commitment! Miri didn't want to disappoint her coach, so took a couple of deep strokes, felt the wave lifting her board and popped up. What followed was a hell of a ride down the wave's face. Pure adrenaline.

Her scream of joy was only stopped by the sudden realization that her good old friend gravity had shown up, and she ended up straight in the flats. When the whitewash behind her hit, Miri prepared for the **lavadora**. Getting tossed around underwater, she curled up and let the ocean unload its energy. Few times in her life had she felt more alive than in this moment.

Exhausted but happy, Miri resurfaced, took a big breath and smiled. Smooth rides are great but still, surfing would only be half the fun without a proper **lavadora**.