



Classic Mariachi Songs

If you're lucky enough to listen to a live band, these three classic songs are essential for you to know. Listen to them, enjoy them, and hopefully learn some new Spanish vocabulary!

El Mariachi Loco

This is the perfect song for beginners. You can know absolutely no Spanish and still learn this song in less than a day. *El Mariachi Loco*, or "The Crazy Mariachi" is a song about a band member who wants to dance but can't find a partner. Poor *mariachi loco*!

Vocabulary

- *Loco* – crazy
- *Bailar* – dance
- *Gozar* – to have fun

El Rey

This tragic song called "The King" talks about a man who's just broken up with his wife, and how he'll carry on without her. Composed by one of the mariachi music legends, Vicente Fernandez, *El Rey* is a must-know for all music fans of this genre.

Vocabulary

- *Rey* – king
- *Reina* – queen
- *Piedra* – stone
- *Afuera* – outside
- *Camino* – road
- *Destino* – destiny
- *Llorar* – cry

Las Mañanitas

Did you know that Latin America has its own "Happy Birthday" song? While we usually sing a translated version of the classic song, *Las Mañanitas* is the default mariachi



birthday song. This song is usually played during the early morning hours of someone's birthday (as early as 5 am!), and some people even hire live bands to play for the birthday person. Also, it's common to light fireworks to make some extra noise. The lyrics talk about how the song was usually sung to King David, "and because today's your birthday, we sing them to you."

Vocabulary

- *Despierta* – wake up
- *Luna* – moon
- *Pajaritos* – birds
- *Cantaba* – sang
- *Hoy* – today

Acá Entre Nos

Vicente Fernandez is one of mariachi music's best songwriters. *Acá Entre Nos* translates to "between you and me." The song talks about how the singer lies to his friends about no longer being in love with their ex-girlfriend, and then he admits to the girl that "between you and I, I've never stopped loving you". It's a sad romantic story, perfect for a well timed *grito*.

Vocabulary

- *Acá* – here
- *Amigos* – friends
- *Verdad* – truth
- *Soledad* – loneliness
- *Adorar* – adore
- *Preguntar* – (to) ask

La Mano de Dios

Let's finish this list with a positive love story! *La Mano de Dios*, or "God's Hand", is a song that talks about a love so strong that only God is able to break it apart. This type of music is a testament to the romantic personality Latin Americans are known for.

Vocabulary



- *Nacimos* – (to be) born
- *Amor* – love
- *Esperando* – (to) wait
- *Mundo* – world
- *Mar* – sea
- *Profundo* – deep