Some basic expressions in colloquial Syrian/Lebanese

At the airport:

marHaba — Welcome
‘ana *(name)* — I [am] *(name)*

Example:
marHaba , ‘ana John — Welcome, I am John
marHaba fii Canada — Welcome to Canada

Everyday:

‘ahlan
‘ahliin
‘ahla we sahla
} Hi, Hello

kiifak ? — How are you? (to man)
kiifik ? — How are you? (to woman)

Note: kiif ? How?

Response:
(‘ana) mniiH (I am) good, fine [man speaking]
(‘ana) kwayiss (I am) good, fine [man speaking]

(‘ana) mniiHa (I am) good, fine [woman speaking]
(‘ana) kwayissa (I am) good, fine[woman speaking]

Shukran — thank you
3afwan — you’re welcome

Example of daily greeting:

‘ahliin, kiifak Ali ? — Hello, how are you, Ali?
mniiH, shukran — I’m fine, thanks

‘ahliin, kiifik Nadia? — Hello, how are you Nadia?
mniiHa, shukran — I’m fine, thanks

With children:

Habiib
Habiiba
} loved one (dear)

Greeting children:

Example:
‘ahliin, kiifak Habiibi? — Hi, how are you my dear? [to male child]

‘ahliin, kiifik Habiibti? — Hi, how are you my dear? [to female child]

Other Expressions:

Salam ‘alaykum — General greeting (peace be upon you)

wi ‘alaykum issalaam response: (peace be upon you, too)

ilHamdulillaah — Thanks be to God