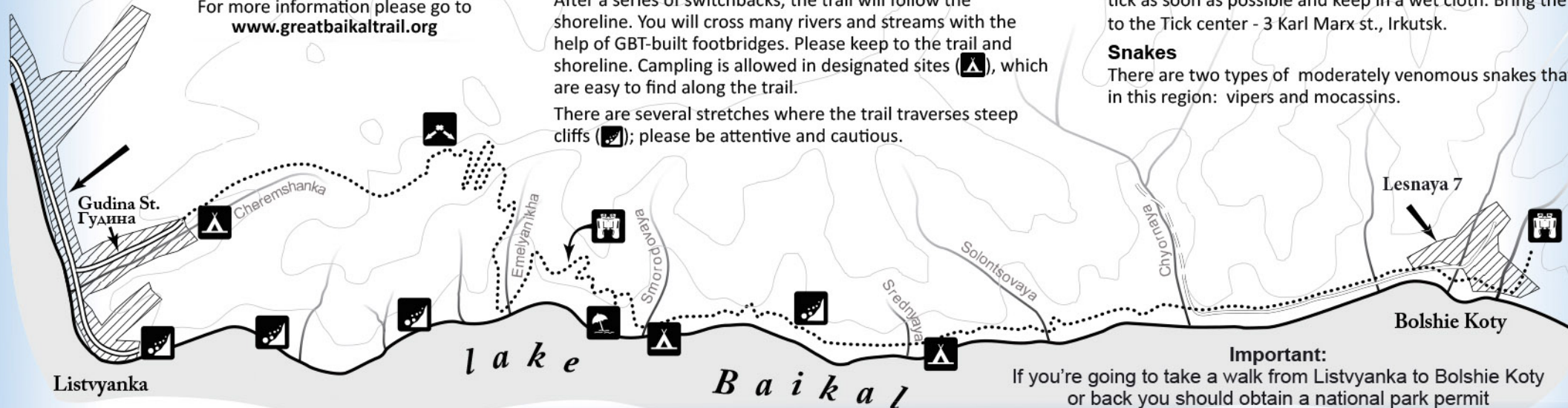


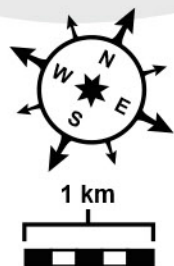
The Listvyanka — Bolshie Koty

section of *the Great Baikal Trail* is a very scenic hike through Siberian forest and along the shore of Lake Baikal. This moderate **24,7km** hike is easily accessible from Irkutsk and offers tourists an opportunity to truly experience Lake Baikal without venturing far from the city. On average, it takes 5-8 hours to hike. This trail guide provides information to help ensure that your hike is both safe and enjoyable.

For more information please go to www.greatbaikaltrail.org



Listvyanka (Листвянка) is a small village with population of 1800 people, the closest locale to Irkutsk (68km) and one of the most visited places at Lake Baikal. The name "Listvyanka" comes from the larch tree - Listvennitsa that grows on the nearby Listvyanichny cape.



Trail Description

The trail goes uphill starting at the trail head for about 4.5km. This ascent can be physically challenging, but it's the most strenuous section. Before you reach the top, the trail divides (🗺️) — take the trail on the **right**. You will be rewarded with a wonderful view of the lake from the crest (860m above the sea level, 404m above the lake level) before beginning your descent to the lake.

After a series of switchbacks, the trail will follow the shoreline. You will cross many rivers and streams with the help of GBT-built footbridges. Please keep to the trail and shoreline. Camping is allowed in designated sites (🏕️), which are easy to find along the trail.

There are several stretches where the trail traverses steep cliffs (🪨); please be attentive and cautious.

Things that bite

When hiking, travelers should be prepared for encounters with ticks and snakes.

Ticks

Ticks are most active from April until June and can transmit Lyme disease and encephalitis. While hiking, do a thorough body check every half hour. If bitten, safely remove tick as soon as possible and keep in a wet cloth. Bring the tick to the Tick center - 3 Karl Marx st., Irkutsk.

Snakes

There are two types of moderately venomous snakes that live in this region: vipers and moccasins.

Important:

If you're going to take a walk from Listvyanka to Bolshie Koty or back you should obtain a national park permit in Listvyanka, Gorky street, 2, just nearby the bus station. It costs 60 rub per day.

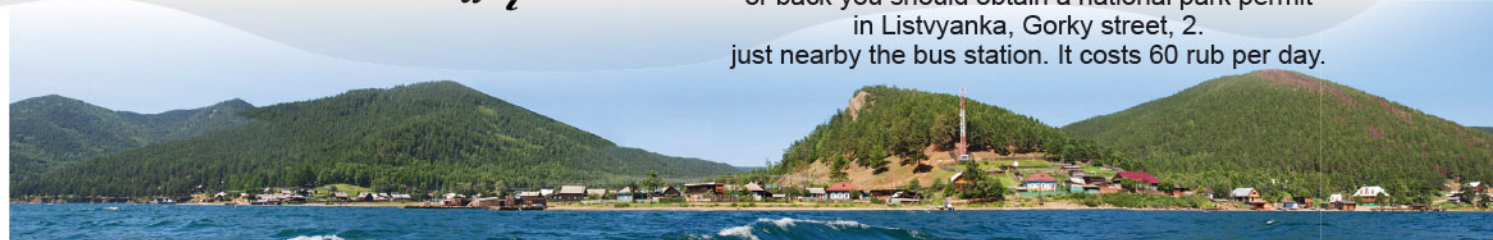
Getting there...

Listvyanka from Irkutsk:

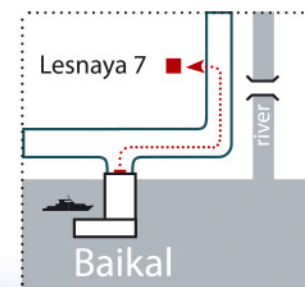
- By bus (🚌)(year round, every day, from the main bus station)
- By hydrofoil (June-mid September, see the timetable at www.vsrp.ru)

How to get to the trailhead:

From the last bus stop or hydrofoil dock across from the tall hotel, walk towards the central market. Turn left on Gudina street. Follow this street until you reach the very end (approximately 2km), and find the trailhead.



Irkutsk ← 🚌 → Listvyanka ← 🚶 → Bolshie Koty



- **Russian banya**
- **Tours and advices**

Lesnaya str. 7, Bolshie Koty
www.lesnaya7.com
 e-mail: lesnaya7@gmail.com
 tel.: +79041187275

please book in advance