

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF BOTSWANA



Botswana has fifty eight different types of snakes. Twenty two species are not venomous, while seven can inflict rather painful bites. Nine species are considered potentially deadly.

VERY DANGEROUS
Has caused human fatalities

DANGEROUS
Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



VERY DANGEROUS

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



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Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Snouted Cobra - banded phase
(*Naja annulifera*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Anchieta's Cobra
(*Naja anchietae*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Cobra - juvenile
(*Naja nivea*) Photo Marius Burger



VERY DANGEROUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



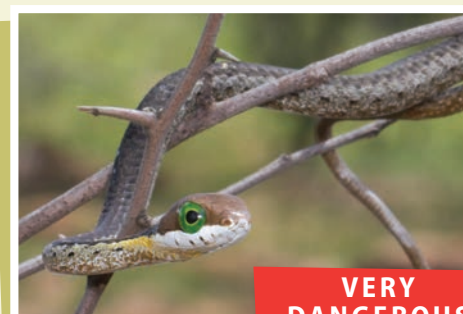
VERY DANGEROUS

Common Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*)



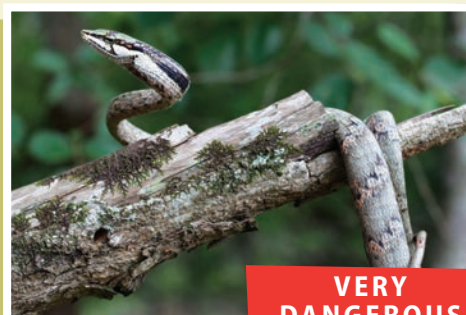
VERY DANGEROUS

Common Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*) Photo André Coetzer



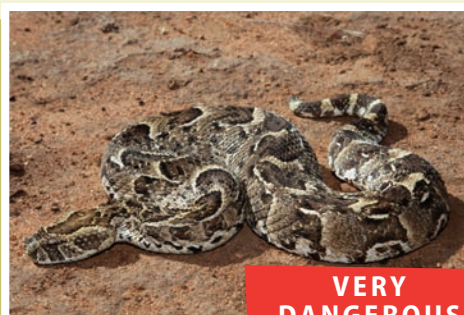
VERY DANGEROUS

Common Boomslang - juvenile
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Southern Twig Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis capensis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



DANGEROUS

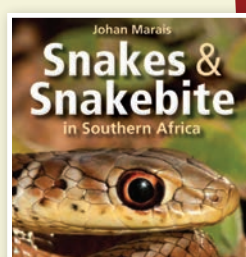
Horned Adder
(*Bitis caudalis*)



DANGEROUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*) Photo Warren Dick

JOHAN MARAIS is the author of various books on reptiles including the best-seller *A Complete Guide to Snakes of Southern Africa*. He is a popular public speaker and offers a variety of courses including **Snake Awareness**, **Scorpion Awareness** and **Venomous Snake Handling**. Johan is accredited by the International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS) and is a Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA) and Travel Doctor-approved service provider. His courses are also accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).



EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

IN THE EVENT OF A SNAKE BITE

- 1 Keep the victim calm, immobilized and transport the victim to the closest hospital **without delay**.
- 2 If the victim stops breathing, resort to artificial respiration or make use of a Bag Valve Mask.
- 3 Call the Poison Information Centre help-line for further advice: 0861 555 777.

DO NOT

- ... apply a tourniquet.
- ... cut and suck the wound.
- ... use ice or very hot water.
- ... give the victim alcohol.
- ... apply electric shock.
- ... inject antivenom randomly.

Antivenom (if required) must be administered by a doctor in a hospital environment.

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