

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF THE WESTERN CAPE



The Western Cape has forty one different types of snakes. Eighteen species are not venomous, while eight can inflict rather painful bites. Six species are considered potentially deadly.

VERY DANGEROUS
Has caused human fatalities

DANGEROUS
Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



VERY DANGEROUS

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



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



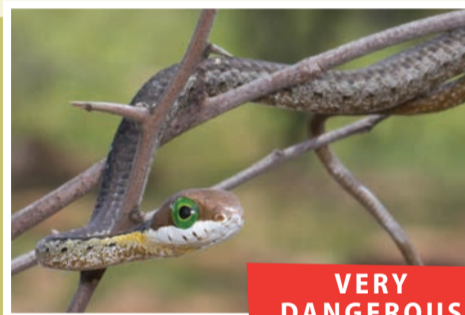
VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus typus*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus typus*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Boomslang - juvenile
(*Dispholidus typus typus*)



DANGEROUS

Coral Shield Cobra
(*Aspidelaps lubricus lubricus*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Black Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricincta woodi*) Photo Marius Burger



VERY DANGEROUS

Rinkhals - banded phase
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



DANGEROUS

Berg Adder
(*Bitis atropos*)



DANGEROUS

Rhombic Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



DANGEROUS

Many-horned Adder
(*Bitis cornuta*)



DANGEROUS

Horned Adder
(*Bitis caudalis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

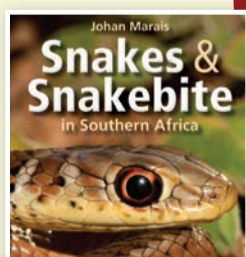
Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)

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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