

# COMMON SNAKES OF LESOTHO



Lesotho has around twenty five different types of snakes. Three species are highly venomous, while three others can inflict a rather painful bite. Six species are considered mildly venomous. Thirteen species are harmless.

## VERY DANGEROUS

Has caused human fatalities

## DANGEROUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

## MILDLY VENOMOUS

Not thought to be harmful

## HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Rinkhals  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Cape Cobra  
(*Naja nivea*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Puff Adder  
(*Bitis arietans*)



**DANGEROUS**

Berg Adder  
(*Bitis atropos*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Cross-marked Grass Snake  
(*Psammophis crucifer*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Spotted Skaapsteker  
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Many-spotted Reed Snake  
(*Amplorhinus multimaculatus*)



**DANGEROUS**

Spotted Harlequin Snake  
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Black-headed Centipede-eater  
(*Aparallactus capensis*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Herald Snake  
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



**CAN INFLICT A NASTY BITE**

Mole Snake  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**HARMLESS**

Aurora House Snake  
(*Lamprophis aurora*)



**HARMLESS**

Spotted Rock Snake  
(*Lamprophis guttatus*)



**HARMLESS**

Brown House Snake  
(*Boaedon capensis*)



**HARMLESS**

Olive Snake  
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)



**HARMLESS**

Common Brown Water Snake  
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



**HARMLESS**

Common Wolf Snake  
(*Lycophidion capense*)



**HARMLESS**

Rhombic Egg-eater  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



**HARMLESS**

Common Slug-eater  
(*Duberia lutrix*) - photo Luke Kemp



**HARMLESS**

Bibron's Blind Snake  
(*Afrotyphlops bibronii*)

**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).

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