

COMMON SNAKES OF THE GARDEN ROUTE



The Garden Route has around twenty five different species of snakes. Four species are considered highly venomous. Another three may give a bad bite but are not life-threatening. Five are considered mildly venomous and the other thirteen are completely harmless to humans.

VERY DANGEROUS

Has caused human fatalities

DANGEROUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

MILDLY VENOMOUS

Not thought to be harmful to humans

HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



VERY DANGEROUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophis crucifer*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



DANGEROUS

Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



DANGEROUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



HARMLESS

Western Natal Green Snake
(*Philothamnus occidentalis*)



HARMLESS

Common Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



HARMLESS

Olive Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

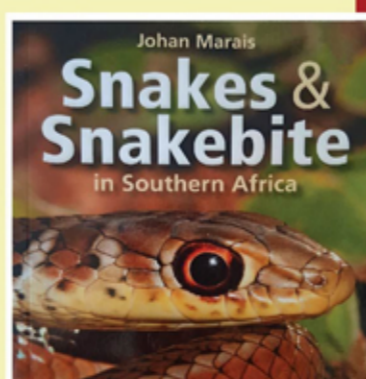
Common Slug-eater
(*Duberria lutrix*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

JOHAN MARAIS is the author of various books on reptiles including the best-sellers *A Complete Guide to Snakes of Southern Africa* and *Snakes and Snakebite in Southern Africa*. He is a popular public speaker and offers a variety of public and corporate courses including **Snake Awareness, Spider Awareness, Scorpion Awareness, Venomous Snake Handling, First Aid for Snakebite and Basic Life Support**. These courses are accredited by the **Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)** and endorsed by the **Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA)**.



FREE ASI SNAKES APP

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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.