

COMMON SNAKES OF THABAZIMBI



Thabazimbi has around twenty-six different species of snakes. Six species are considered highly venomous. Another three may give a bad bite but are not life-threatening. Six are considered mildly venomous and the other ten 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

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Common Purple-glossed Snake
(*Amblyodipsas polylepis*)



DANGEROUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Southern Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Dwarf Sand Snake
(*Psammophis angolensis*) - photo Ashley Kemp



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Western Yellow-bellied Sand Snake
(*Psammophis subtaeniatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Telescopus semiannulatus*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*) - photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

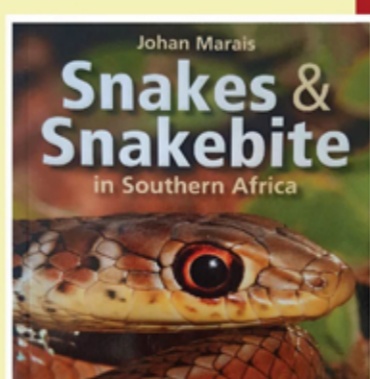
Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



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.