

COMMON SNAKES OF EAST LONDON



East London has around 28 species of snakes. Three species are considered highly venomous. Three species can give a bad bite. Five species are mildly venomous. 17 species are harmless to humans.

HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused human fatalities

VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

MILDLY VENOMOUS

Not thought to be harmful to humans

HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)



Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



Natal Black Snake
(*Macrelaps microlepidotus*)



Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*) - photo Luke Kemp



Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



Olive Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)



Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



Western Natal Green Snake
(*Philothamnus occidentalis*)



Southern Brown Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



Common Slug-eater
(*Duberia latris*)



Delalande's Beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhynchophylax lalandi*)

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 is a Travel Doctor-approved service provider. His courses are also accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).

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.