

COMMON AND DANGEROUS SNAKES OF NIGERIA



Nigeria has a large variety of snakes. Around 12 species of snakes are highly venomous. About nine are venomous but not deadly. The majority of snakes encountered are either mildly venomous or harmless to humans.

HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Has caused human fatalities

VENOMOUS
Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

MILDLY VENOMOUS
Not thought to be harmful

HARMLESS
Not dangerous to humans



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Jameson's Mamba
(*Dendroaspis jamesoni*) - Photo Bill Branch



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Black-necked Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricollis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Forest Cobra
(*Naja melanoleuca/savannula*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Egyptian Cobra
(*Naja haje*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Gaboon Adder
(*Bitis gabonica*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Rhino Horned Viper
(*Bitis nasicornis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Carpet Viper
(*Echis romani/ocellatus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Boomslang
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS
Forest Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis kirtlandii*) - Photo Steve Spawls



VENOMOUS
Blanding's Tree Snake - male
(*Toxicodryas blandingii*) - Photo Gerald Dunger



VENOMOUS
Blanding's Tree Snake - juvenile
(*Toxicodryas blandingii*) - photo Jean-François Trape



VENOMOUS
Stiletto Snakes
(*Atractaspis spp.*) - Photo Bill Branch



VENOMOUS
Forest Night Adder
(*Causus maculatus*)



CAN INFLECT A PAINFUL BITE
African Rock Python
(*Python sebae*) - Photo Steve Spawls



MILDLY VENOMOUS
Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS
Olive Grass Snakes
(*Psammophis spp.*)



HARMLESS
Common Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus irregularis*)



HARMLESS
Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*)



HARMLESS
African House Snake
(*Boaedon fuliginosus*)

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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