

COMMON SNAKES OF WEST COAST NATIONAL PARK



West Coast National Park has around 15 species of snakes. Three species are considered highly venomous. Another species can give a bad bite. Six species are mildly venomous and five other 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 harmless to humans.

HARMLESS
Not dangerous to humans.



Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)
HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)
HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)
HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)
HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*) - photo Marius Burger
MILDLY VENOMOUS



Cape Sand Snake
(*Psammophis leightoni*)
MILDLY VENOMOUS



Karoo Sand Snake
(*Psammophis notostictus*)
MILDLY VENOMOUS



Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophis crucifer*)
MILDLY VENOMOUS



Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombatus*)
MILDLY VENOMOUS



Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)
MILDLY VENOMOUS



Mole Snake - adult
(*Pseudaspis cana*)
CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE



Mole Snake - juvenile
(*Pseudaspis cana*)
HARMLESS



Olive Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)
HARMLESS



Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)
HARMLESS

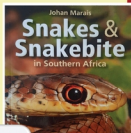


Delalande's beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhinotyphlops kalandae*)
HARMLESS



Black Thread Snake
(*Leptotyphlops nigricans*)
HARMLESS

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 helpline 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.