

COMMON SNAKES OF THORNYBUSH NATURE RESERVE



Thornybush Nature Reserve has around sixty-eight different types of snakes. Six species are highly venomous, while six others can inflict a rather painful bites. Twenty species are considered mildly venomous. Thirty-six species are harmless.

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



Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Southern Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Spouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Intermediate Shield-nose Snake
(*Aspidelaps scutatus intermedius*)

VENOMOUS



Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)

VENOMOUS



Spouted Night Adder
(*Causus defilippi*)

VENOMOUS



Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)

CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE



Olive Grass Snake
(*Psammophis mossambicus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



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

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Striped Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax tritaeniatus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Reticulated Centipede-eater
(*Aparallactus lunulatus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



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

HARMLESS



Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*) - photo Luke Kemp

HARMLESS



Schlegel's Blind Snake
(*Afrotyphlops schlegelii*)

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

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