

# COMMON SNAKES OF GOLDEN GATE HIGHLANDS NATIONAL PARK



Golden Gate Highland National Park has around 18 species of snakes. Two species are considered highly venomous. Another species can give a bad bite. Three species are mildly venomous and twelve 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 harmful to humans

## HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



## HIGHLY VENOMOUS

**Rinkhals**  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



## HIGHLY VENOMOUS

**Puff Adder**  
(*Bitis arietans*)



## VENOMOUS

**Berg Adder**  
(*Bitis atropos*)



## MILDLY VENOMOUS

**Spotted Skaapsteker**  
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*) - photo Luke Kemp



## MILDLY VENOMOUS

**Cross-marked Grass Snake**  
(*Psammophis crucifer*) - photo Luke Kemp



## MILDLY VENOMOUS

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



## CAN INFLECT A PAINFUL BITE

**Mole Snake - adult**  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



## HARMLESS

**Mole Snake - juvenile**  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



## HARMLESS

**Brown House Snake**  
(*Boaedon capensis*)



## HARMLESS

**Spotted Rock Snake**  
(*Lamprophis guttatus*)



## HARMLESS

**Aurora House Snake**  
(*Lamprophis aurora*) - photo Luke Kemp



## HARMLESS

**Olive Snake**  
(*Lycodonormorphus inornatus*)



## HARMLESS

**Brown Water Snake**  
(*Lycodonormorphus rufulus*)



## HARMLESS

**Common Egg-eater**  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



## HARMLESS

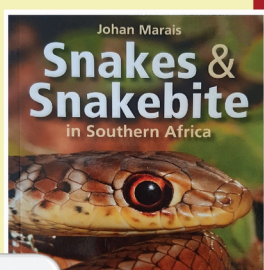
**Common Slug-eater**  
(*Duberria lutrix*) - photo Luke Kemp



## HARMLESS

**Bibron's Blind Snake**  
(*Afrotyphlops bibronii*)

**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).



## 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.