

COMMON SNAKES OF CAPE TOWN



Cape Town has around twenty six species of snakes. Five species are considered highly venomous. Three species can give a bad bite. Seven species are mildly venomous and another eleven 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



Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Boomslang
(*Dispholidus typus*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophylax crucifer*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



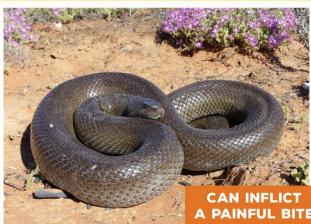
Karoo Sand Snake
(*Psammophis notostictus*)

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



Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)

HARMLESS



Aurora House Snake
(*Lamprophis aurora*)

HARMLESS



Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

HARMLESS



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

HARMLESS



Flowerpot Snake
(*Indotyphlops braminus*)

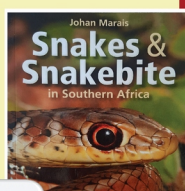
HARMLESS

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).

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.