

COMMON SNAKES OF BLOEMFONTEIN



Bloemfontein has around twenty two species of snakes. Three species are considered highly venomous. Two species can give a bad bite. Eight species are mildly venomous and another nine 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

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

Highveld Garter Snake
(*Elapsoides sundevalli media*) - photo Adriaan Jordaan



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Striped Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax triaenatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Fork-marked Sand Snake
(*Psammophis trinasalis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

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



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Black-headed Centipede-eater
(*Aparallactus capensis*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Mole Snake - adult
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



HARMLESS

Mole Snake - juvenile
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



HARMLESS

Aurora House Snake
(*Lamprophis aurora*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*) - photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

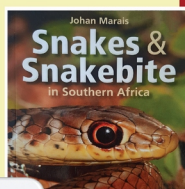
Bibron's Blind Snake
(*Afrotrophys bibronii*)

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

Johan Marais | African Snakebite Institute

+27 82 494 2039 | johan@asiorg.co.za



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.