

COMMON SNAKES OF KATHU



Kathu has around 20 species of snakes. Four species are highly venomous and another one is venomous. Five species are mildly venomous and another can inflict a nasty bite. The other nine 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



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammophis brevirostris*) - Photo Marius Burger



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Teloscopus semmiannulatus*)



VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



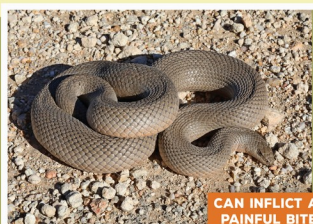
HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Fork-marked Sand Snake
(*Psammophis trinasalis*)



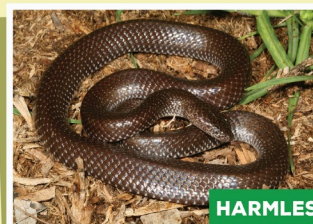
CAN INFLECT A PAINFUL BITE

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Delalande's Beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhynchophis lalandei*)



HARMLESS

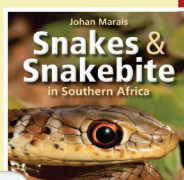
Peters' Thread Snake
(*Leptotyphlops scutifrons*)

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.