## COMMON AND DANGEROUS SNAKES OF SIERRA LEONE



Sierra Leone has a large variety of snakes. Around ten species of snakes are highly venomous. About eight are venomous but not deadly. The majority of snakes encountered are either mildly venomous or harmless to humans.

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

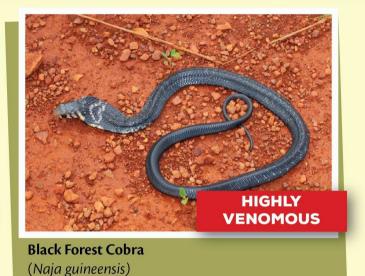


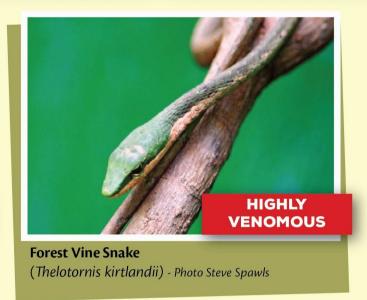
(Dendroaspis jamesoni) - Photo Bill Branch

**VENOMOUS** 

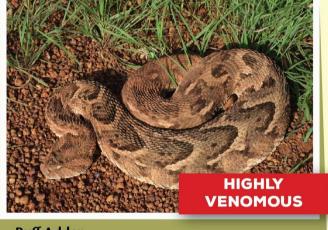
**Black-necked Spitting Cobra** 

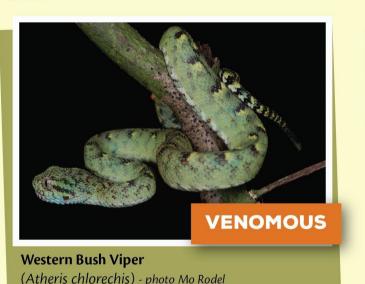
(Naja nigricollis)











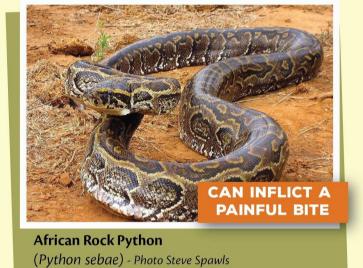


(Bitis rhinoceros) - photo Luke Kemp





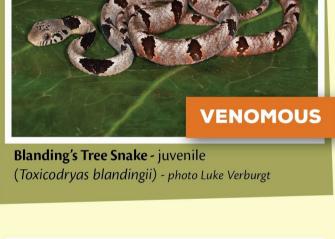


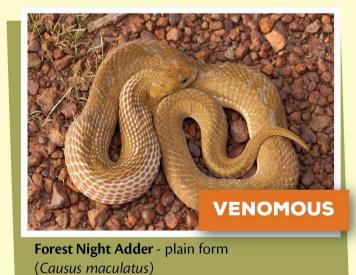






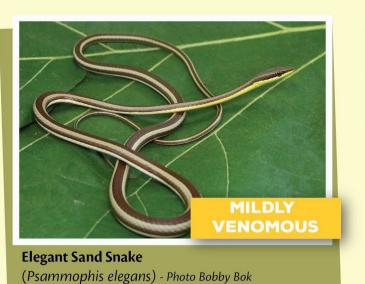
(Toxicodryas blandingii) - Dr Jean-François Trape







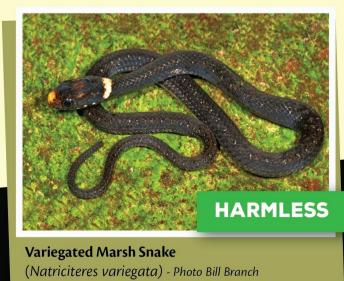
(Causus maculatus) - Photo Jelmer Groen





**HARMLESS** 





**Ball Python** (Python regius) - Photo Luke Kemp







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).

**HARMLESS** 

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