

COMMON SNAKES OF LADYSMITH, KZN



Ladysmith has around twenty-one different species of snakes. Four species are considered highly venomous. Another four may give a bad bite but are not life-threatening. Five are considered mildly venomous and the other eight are completely 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**

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus heamachatus*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



**CAN INFLICT A
PAINFUL BITE**

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**CAN INFLICT A
PAINFUL BITE**

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Teloscopus semiannulatus*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*)



HARMLESS

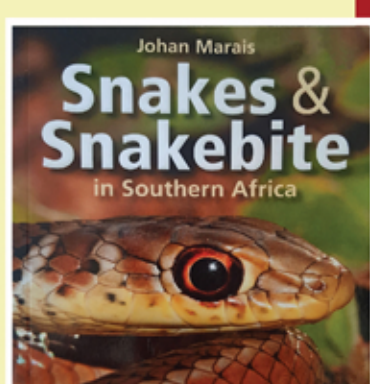
Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

JOHAN MARAIS is the author of various books on reptiles including the best-sellers *A Complete Guide to the Snakes of Southern Africa* and *Snakes and Snakebite in Southern Africa*. He is a popular public speaker and offers a variety of public and corporate courses including **Snake Awareness, Spider Awareness, Scorpion Awareness, Venomous Snake Handling, First Aid for Snakebite and Basic Life Support**. These courses are accredited by the **Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)** and endorsed by the **Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA)**.



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.