

# COMMON SNAKES OF LEPHALALE



Lephalale has around thirty different species of snakes. Six species are considered highly venomous. Another four may give a bad bite but are not life-threatening. Nine are considered mildly venomous and the other nine 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**

**Snouted Cobra**  
(*Naja annulifera*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Mozambique Spitting Cobra**  
(*Naja mossambica*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - male**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**VENOMOUS**

**Bibron's Stiletto Snake**  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



**VENOMOUS**

**Speckled Shield-nose Snake**  
(*Aspidelaps s. scutatus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Puff Adder**  
(*Bitis arietans*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Southern Vine Snake**  
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



**CAN INFLICT A  
PAINFUL BITE**

**Southern African Python**  
(*Python natalensis*)



**MILDLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Striped Skaapsteker**  
(*Psammophylax triaenatus*)



**MILDLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Western Yellow-bellied Sand Snake**  
(*Psammophis subtaeniatus*)



**MILDLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Herald Snake**  
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



**MILDLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Eastern Tiger Snake**  
(*Telescopus semiannulatus*)



**HARMLESS**

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



**HARMLESS**

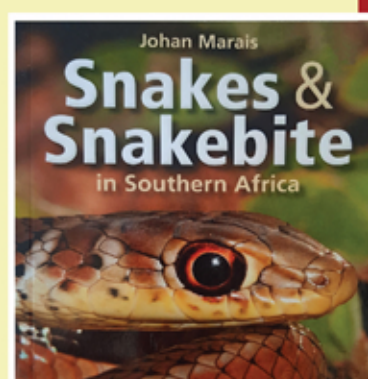
**Brown House Snake**  
(*Boaedon capensis*)



**HARMLESS**

**Common Egg-eater**  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

**JOHAN MARAIS** is the author of various books on reptiles including the best-sellers ***A Complete Guide to 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.