

# COMMON SNAKES OF MAHIKENG



Mahikeng has around 18 species of snakes.  
Four species are considered highly venomous.  
Two species can give a bad bite.  
Six species are mildly venomous and another six species are harmless to humans.

## HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused human fatalities

## VENOMOUS

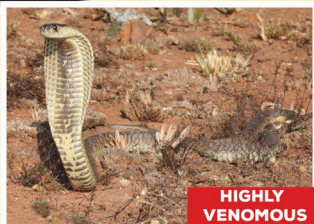
Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

## MILDLY VENOMOUS

Not thought to be harmful to humans

## HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

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



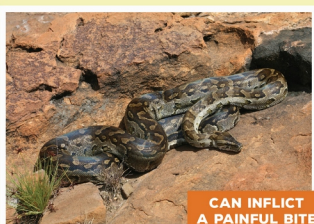
**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - female**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE**

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



**CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE**

**Mole Snake - adult**  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**HARMLESS**

**Mole Snake - juvenile**  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Eastern Tiger Snake**  
(*Teloscopus semiannulatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

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



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Striped Skaapsteker**  
(*Psammophylax tritaeniatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Short-nouted Grass Snake**  
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



**HARMLESS**

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



**HARMLESS**

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



**HARMLESS**

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



**HARMLESS**

**Common Wolf Snake**  
(*Lycophidion capense*)



**HARMLESS**

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

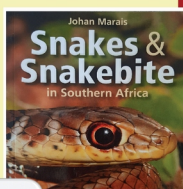
**JOHAN MARAIS** is the author of various books on reptiles including the best-seller *A Complete Guide to Snakes of Southern Africa*. He is a popular public speaker and offers a variety of courses including **Snake Awareness**, **Scorpion Awareness** and **Venomous Snake Handling**. Johan is accredited 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

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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.