

# COMMON SNAKES OF MUSINA



Musina has around forty different species of snakes. Six species are considered highly venomous. Another seven may give a bad bite but are not life-threatening. Twelve are considered mildly venomous and the other fifteen 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



**Black Mamba**  
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**



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

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**



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

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**



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

**VENOMOUS**



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

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**



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

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**



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

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**



**Horned Adder**  
(*Bitis caudalis*)

**VENOMOUS**



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

**VENOMOUS**



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

**CAN INFLICT  
A PAINFUL BITE**



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

**MILDLY  
VENOMOUS**



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

**MILDLY  
VENOMOUS**



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

**MILDLY  
VENOMOUS**



**Spotted Bush Snake**  
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*)

**HARMLESS**



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

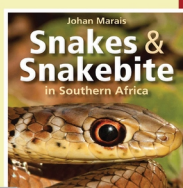
**HARMLESS**



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

**HARMLESS**

**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.