

COMMON SNAKES OF GANSBAAI



Gansbaai has around 16 species of snakes. Four species are highly venomous. One species can give a bad bite and one other may require stitches. Five species are mildly venomous. Five 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



Cape Cobra - adult
(*Naja nivea*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)

HIGHLY VENOMOUS



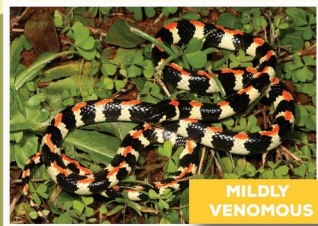
Many-spotted Reed Snake
(*Amplorhinus multimaculatus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombatus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Southern Adder
(*Bitis armata*)

VENOMOUS



Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophis crucifer*)

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)

CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE



Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*) - Photo Luke Kemp

MILDLY VENOMOUS



Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)

HARMLESS



Olive Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)

HARMLESS



Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

HARMLESS



Common Slug-eater
(*Duberria lutrix*)

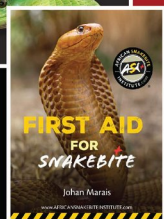
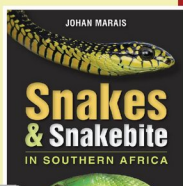
HARMLESS



Sundevall's Shovel-snout
(*Prosymna sundevallii*)

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 Travel Doctor-approved service provider. His courses are also accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).



FREE ASI SNAKES APP

Johan Marais | African Snakebite Institute
+27 82 494 2039 | johan@asiorg.co.za

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.