

# COMMON SNAKES OF SUURBRAK



Suurbrak has around 18 species of snakes. Four species are considered highly venomous. Two species can give a bad bite. Five species are mildly venomous and seven species are harmless to humans.

**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Has caused human fatalities

**VENOMOUS**

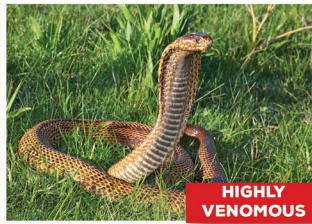
Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Not thought to be harmful to humans

**HARMLESS**

Not dangerous to humans



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Cape Cobra**  
(*Naja nivea*)



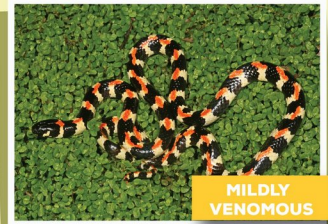
**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Rinkhals**  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

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



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Spotted Harlequin**  
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Many-spotted Reed Snake**  
(*Amplorhinus multimaculatus*)



**VENOMOUS**

**Common Night Adder**  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**VENOMOUS**

**Berg Adder**  
(*Bitis atropos*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

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



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Spotted Skaapsteker**  
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Cross-marked Grass Snake**  
(*Psammophis crucifer*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

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



**HARMLESS**

**Western Natal Green Snake**  
(*Philothamnus occidentalis*)



**HARMLESS**

**Brown Water Snake**  
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



**HARMLESS**

**Olive Snake**  
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)



**HARMLESS**

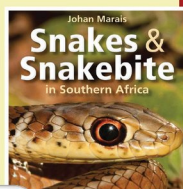
**Common Egg-eater**  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



**HARMLESS**

**Common Slug-eater**  
(*Duberria lutrix*) - photo Luke Kemp

**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**



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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.