

# COMMON SNAKES OF PORT ST JOHNS



The Port St Johns area has around thirty different types of snakes. Four species are highly venomous, while two others can inflict a rather painful bite. Four species are considered mildly venomous and twelve species are harmless.

## HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused human fatalities

## VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

## MILDLY VENOMOUS

Not thought to be harmful

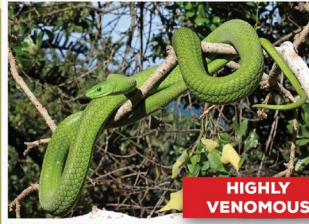
## HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

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



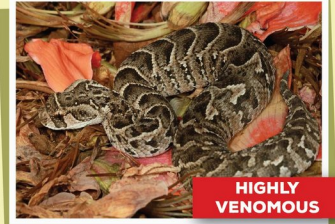
**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Green Mamba**  
(*Dendroaspis angusticeps*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Puff Adder**  
(*Bitis arietans*) - photo Luke Kemp



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Black-headed Centipede-eater**  
(*Aparallactus capensis*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Natal Purple-glossed Snake**  
(*Amblyodipsas concolor*) - photo Marius Burger



**VENOMOUS**

**Natal Black Snake**  
(*Macrelaps microlepidotus*)



**VENOMOUS**

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



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

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



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

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



**HARMLESS**

**Dusky-bellied Water Snake**  
(*Lycodonormorphus laevisimus*)



**HARMLESS**

**Brown Water Snake**  
(*Lycodonormorphus rufulus*)



**HARMLESS**

**Olive Snake**  
(*Lycodonormorphus inornatus*)



**HARMLESS**

**Spotted Bush Snake**  
(*Philothamnus semivariatus*)



**HARMLESS**

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



**HARMLESS**

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



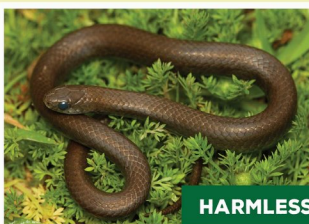
**HARMLESS**

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



**HARMLESS**

**Southern Brown Egg-eater**  
(*Daspeltis inornata*)



**HARMLESS**

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



**HARMLESS**

**Bibron's Blind Snake**  
(*Afrotrophaps bibronii*)

**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 CEO of the African Snakebite Institute. The **African Snakebite Institute (ASI)** offers a variety of courses including Snake Awareness, Scorpion Awareness and Venomous Snake Handling. ASI is accredited by the **International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS)** and Travel Doctor-approved service provider. The courses are also accredited by the **Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA)**. ASI is the largest provider of quality snake handling and safety equipment in Africa.

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