

COMMON SNAKES OF LADYSMITH, KZN



Ladysmith has around twenty-one different species of snakes. Four species are considered highly venomous. Another four may give a bad bite but are not life-threatening. Five are considered mildly venomous and the other eight 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



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



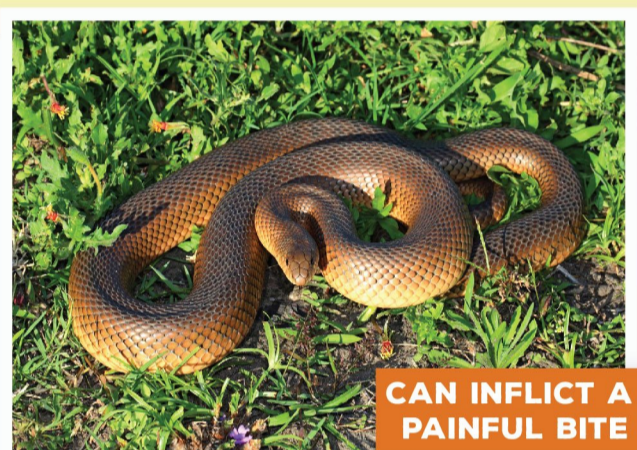
HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Telescopus semiannulatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammodon rhombatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammodon brevirostris*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*)



HARMLESS

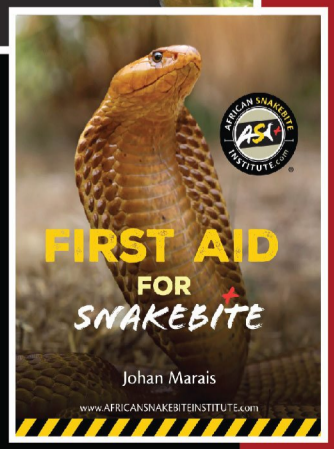
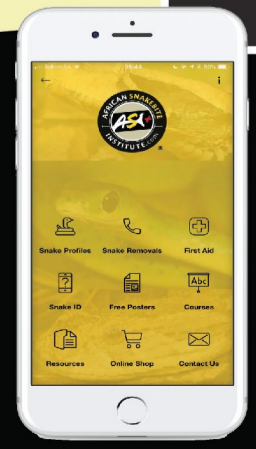
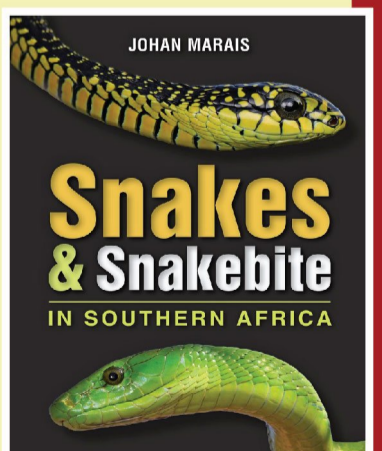
Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophilidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

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.



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.

FREE ASI SNAKES APP

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