

COMMON SNAKES OF NAMIBIA



Namibia has around 97 species of snakes. Eleven species are considered highly venomous. Thirteen species are venomous and another three can deliver a painful bite that may require stitches. The rest of the species are either mildly venomous or harmless to humans.

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

Anchieta's Cobra
(*Naja anchietae*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Zebra Cobra
(*Naja n. nigricincta*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



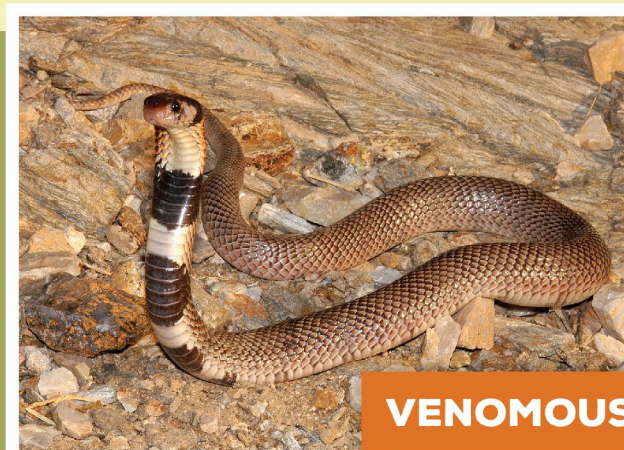
HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

Horned Adder
(*Bitis caudalis*)



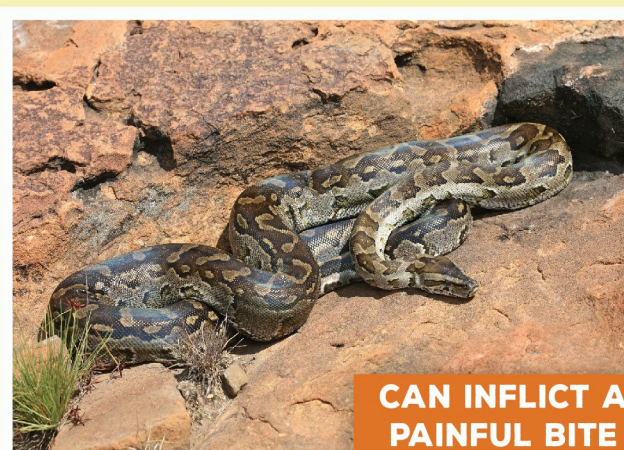
VENOMOUS

Kunene Coral Snake
(*Aspidelaps l. cowlesi*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Western Keeled Snake
(*Pythonodipsas carinata*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Dwarf Beaked Snake
(*Dipsina multimaculata*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

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



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Namib Sand Snake
(*Psammophis namibensis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Karoo Sand Snake
(*Psammophis notostictus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Olive Grass Snake
(*Psammophis mossambicus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Telescopus semiannulatus*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*) Photo: Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*) Photo: Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*) 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 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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