

# COMMON AND DANGEROUS SNAKES OF NIGERIA



Nigeria has a large variety of snakes. Around 12 species of snakes are highly venomous. About nine are venomous but not deadly. The majority of snakes encountered 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



**Jameson's Mamba**  
(*Dendroaspis jamesoni*) - Photo Bill Branch



**Black-necked Spitting Cobra**  
(*Naja nigricollis*)



**Forest Cobra**  
(*Naja melanoleuca/savannula*)



**Egyptian Cobra**  
(*Naja haje*)



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



**Gaboon Adder**  
(*Bitis gabonica*)



**Rhino Horned Viper**  
(*Bitis nasicornis*)



**Carpet Viper**  
(*Echis romani/ocellatus*)



**Boomslang**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**Forest Vine Snake**  
(*Thelotornis kirtlandii*) - Photo Steve Spawls



**Blanding's Tree Snake - male**  
(*Toxicodryas blandingii*) - Photo Gerald Dunger



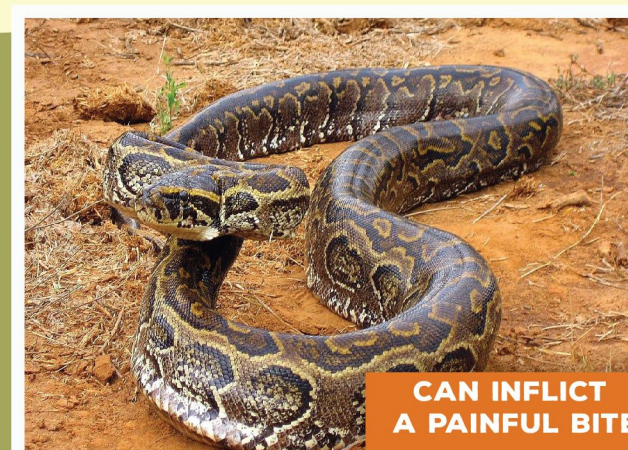
**Blanding's Tree Snake - juvenile**  
(*Toxicodryas blandingii*) - photo Jean-François Trape



**Stiletto Snakes**  
(*Atractaspis spp.*) - Photo Bill Branch



**Spotted Night Adder**  
(*Causus maculatus*)



**African Rock Python**  
(*Python sebae*) - Photo Steve Spawls



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



**Olive Grass Snakes**  
(*Psammophis spp.*)



**Common Bush Snake**  
(*Philothamnus irregularis*)



**Spotted Bush Snake**  
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*)



**African House Snake**  
(*Boaedon fuliginosus*)

**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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