

# DANGEROUS SNAKES OF BOTSWANA



Botswana has 62 species of snakes. Eight species are considered potentially deadly. Another ten species can give a bad bite. Twenty species are mildly venomous and not dangerous to humans. Twenty-four species are harmless.

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Has caused human fatalities.

**VENOMOUS**

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom.



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Snouted Cobra**  
(*Naja annulifera*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Snouted Cobra - banded form**  
(*Naja annulifera*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Anchieta's Cobra**  
(*Naja anchietae*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Cape Cobra - juvenile**  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Mozambique Spitting Cobra**  
(*Naja mossambica*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - female**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - juvenile**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Southern Vine Snake**  
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**VENOMOUS**

**Horned Adder**  
(*Bitis caudalis*)



**VENOMOUS**

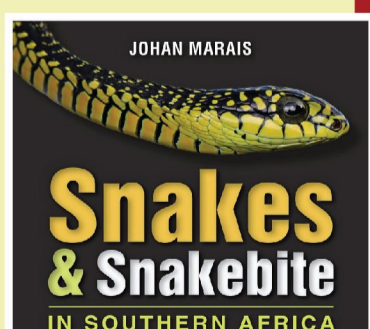
**Bibron's Stiletto Snake**  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)

**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.

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: +27 861 555 777.

### 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.