

# DANGEROUS SNAKES OF EAST AFRICA



East Africa has around 223 different species across different habitats. Nineteen species are considered highly venomous and around thirty six species are dangerous or can inflict a painful bite. The rest are mildly venomous or harmless.

**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

Has caused human fatalities

**VENOMOUS**

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Brown Forest Cobra**  
(*Naja subfulva*) - photo Luke Kemp



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Vine Snake**  
(*Thelotornis* sp.)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Ashe's Spitting Cobra**  
(*Naja ashei*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**Red Spitting Cobra**  
(*Naja pallida*)



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

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



**HIGHLY  
VENOMOUS**

**North-east African Carpet Viper**  
(*Echis pyramidum*)



**VENOMOUS**

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



**VENOMOUS**

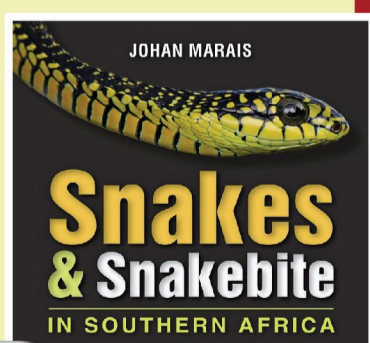
**Stiletto Snake**  
(*Atractaspis* sp.) - photo Bill Branch

**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.