

COMMON SNAKES OF THE MAGALIESBERG



The Magaliesberg range has around twenty different types of snakes. Three species are considered highly venomous and another four can give a bad bite. Most snakes encountered are 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 to humans

HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

Horned Adder
(*Bitis caudalis*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Black-headed Centipede-eater
(*Aparallactus capensis*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Western Natal Green Snake
(*Philothamnus occidentalis*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

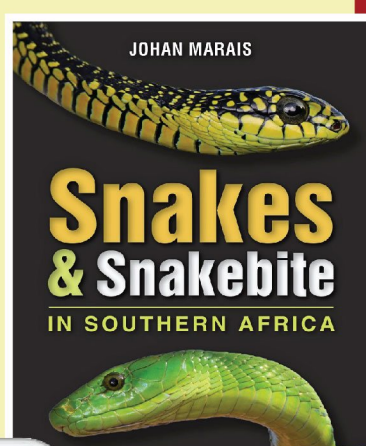
Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Delalande's Beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhinotyphlops lalandei*) - 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.



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: 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.