

COMMON SNAKES OF THE SOUTH COAST



The South Coast has under forty different types of snakes. Seven species are highly venomous, while two others can inflict a rather painful bites. Three species are venomous. Seven species are considered mildly venomous. Twenty species are harmless.

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

Green Mamba
(*Dendroaspis angusticeps*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Southern Twig Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



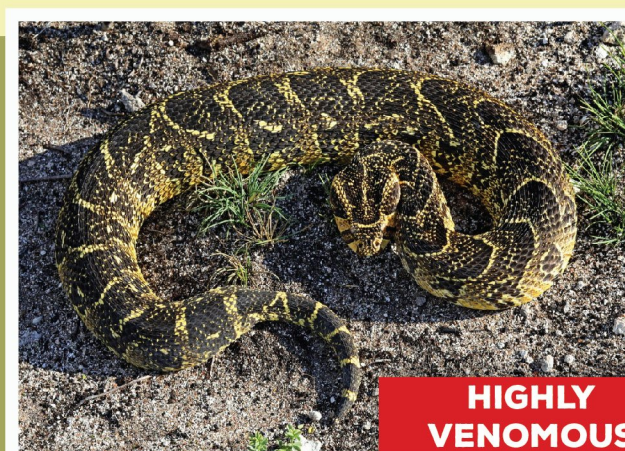
VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



VENOMOUS

Natal Black Snake
(*Macrelaps microlepidotus*)



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 NASTY BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*)



HARMLESS

Green Water Snake
(*Philothamnus hoplogaster*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Dusky-bellied Water Snake
(*Lycodononophorus laevisimus*)



HARMLESS

Southern Brown Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis inornata*)



HARMLESS

Peters' Thread Snake
(*Leptotyphlops scutifrons*)

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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