

# COMMON SNAKES OF THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

The Cradle of Humankind has around 28 species of snakes. Four species are considered highly venomous. Two species are venomous and another can deliver a painful bite that may require stitches. Eight species are mildly venomous and the rest are 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



**Rinkhals**  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



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



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



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



**Boomslang - male**  
(*Dispholodus typus*)



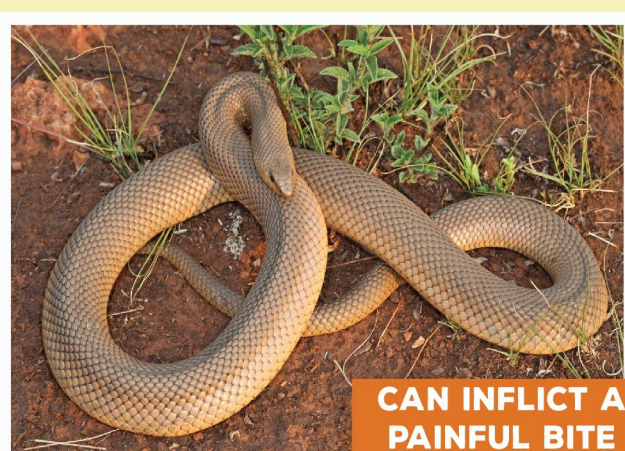
**Boomslang - female**  
(*Dispholodus typus*)



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



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



**Mole Snake - adult**  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**Short-snouted Grass Snake**  
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



**Spotted Skaapsteker**  
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



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



**Herald Snake**  
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*) - photo Luke Kemp



**Brown Water Snake**  
(*Lycodonormorphus rufulus*)



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



**Aurora House Snake**  
(*Lamprophis aurora*)



**Common Wolf Snake**  
(*Lycophidion capense*)



**Common Egg-eater**  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



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



**Bibron's Blind Snake**  
(*Afrotyphlops 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.

Johan Marais | African Snakebite Institute

+27 82 494 2039 | [johan@asiorg.co.za](mailto:johan@asiorg.co.za)

[www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com](http://www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com)

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