

# COMMON SNAKES OF THE KZN MIDLANDS



The KZN Midlands has around twenty eight different types of snakes. Three species are highly venomous, while five others can inflict a rather painful bites. Six species are considered mildly venomous. The majority 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



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Rinkhals  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - male  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder  
(*Bitis arietans*)



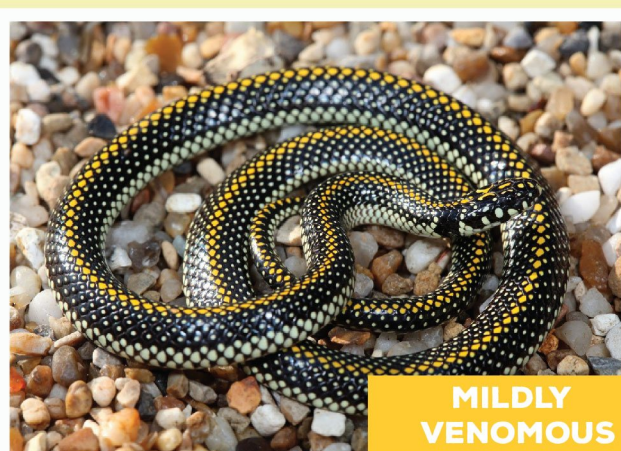
**VENOMOUS**

Common Night Adder  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Spotted Skaapsteker  
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Spotted Harlequin Snake  
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



**VENOMOUS**

Sundevall's Garter Snake  
(*Elapsoidea s. sundevallii*)



**VENOMOUS**

Natal Black Snake  
(*Macrelaps microlepidotus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Cross-marked Grass Snake  
(*Psammophis crucifer*) - Photo Luke Kemp



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

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



**CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE**

Mole Snake  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**HARMLESS**

Brown House Snake  
(*Boaedon capensis*)



**HARMLESS**

Olive Snake  
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)



**HARMLESS**

Brown Water Snake  
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



**HARMLESS**

Dusky-bellied Water Snake  
(*Lycodonomorphus laevisimus*) - Photo Luke Kemp



**HARMLESS**

Western Natal Green Snake  
(*Philothamnus occidentalis*)



**HARMLESS**

Southern Brown Egg-eater  
(*Dasypeltis inornata*)



**HARMLESS**

Common Egg-eater  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



**HARMLESS**

Common Slug-eater  
(*Duberria lutrix*)



**HARMLESS**

Bibron's Blind Snake  
(*Boaedon capensis*)

**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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