

COMMON SNAKES OF MBONA PRIVATE NATURE RESERVE



Mbona has around thirty five different types of snakes. Four species are highly venomous, while six others can inflict a rather painful bite. Seven species are considered mildly venomous. Sixteen 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

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Harlequin
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



VENOMOUS

Natal Black Snake
(*Macrelaps microlepidotus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophis crucifer*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



CAN INFLECT A NASTY BITE

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



HARMLESS

Western Natal Green Snake
(*Philothamnus occidentalis*)



HARMLESS

Green Water Snake
(*Philothamnus hoplogaster*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Olive Snake
(*Lycodonornorphus inornatus*)



HARMLESS

Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonornorphus rufulus*)



HARMLESS

Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Southern Brown Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis inornata*)



HARMLESS

Common Slug-eater
(*Duberria lutrix*)



HARMLESS

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.

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