

COMMON SNAKES OF THE CAPE PENINSULA AND TABLE MOUNTAIN



The Cape Peninsula and Table Mountain region has twenty five species of snakes. Only four species are considered very dangerous and another two are considered dangerous. The common Mole Snake, although not venomous, can inflict a nasty bite that may need stitches. Six species are mildly venomous and eleven 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



Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)

**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**



Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)

**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**



Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)

**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**



Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)

**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**



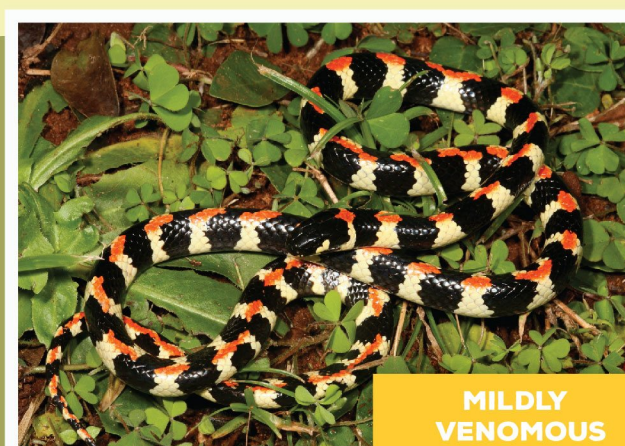
Many-spotted Reed Snake
(*Amplorhinus multimaculatus*)

**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**



Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)

**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**



Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)

**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**



Berg Adder
(*Bitis atropos*)

VENOMOUS



Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)

**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**



Karoo Sand Snake
(*Psammophis notostictus*)

**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**



Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophis crucifer*)

**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**



Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)

**CAN INFLICT A
NASTY BITE**



Olive Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)

HARMLESS



Aurora House Snake
(*Lamprophis aurora*)

HARMLESS



Yellow-bellied House Snake
(*Lamprophis fuscus*)

HARMLESS



Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)

HARMLESS



Common Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)

HARMLESS



Common Slug-eater
(*Duberria lutrix*)

HARMLESS



Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

HARMLESS



Delaland's Beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhinoityphlops lalandei*) - photo Luke Kemp

HARMLESS

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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