

COMMON SNAKES OF THORNYBUSH NATURE RESERVE



Thornybush Nature Reserve has around sixty-eight different types of snakes. Six species are highly venomous, while six others can inflict a rather painful bites. Twenty species are considered mildly venomous. Thirty-six 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

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Southern Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Spouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



VENOMOUS

Intermediate Shield-nose Snake
(*Aspidelaps scutatus intermedius*)



VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VENOMOUS

Spouted Night Adder
(*Causus defilippi*)



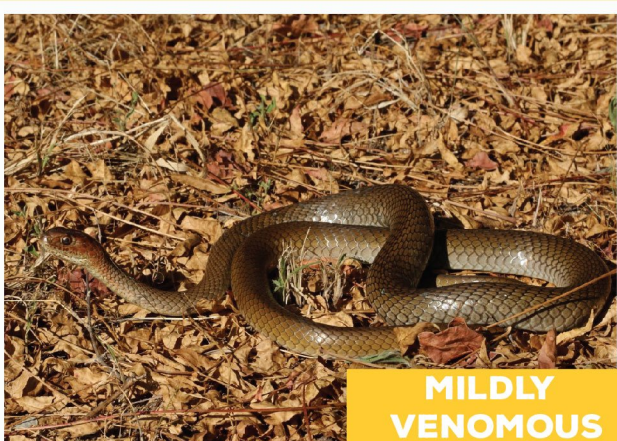
MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Olive Grass Snake
(*Psammophis mossambicus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Western Yellow-bellied Sand Snake
(*Psammophis subtaeniatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Striped Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax triaenatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Reticulated Centipede-eater
(*Aparallactus lunulatus*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Schlegel's Blind Snake
(*Afrotrophops schlegelii*)

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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