

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF THE DRC



The DRC has a large selection of snakes across a massive area. Eleven species are considered highly venomous and around nine species are dangerous or can inflict a painful bite.

**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Has caused
human fatalities

VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does
not require antivenom



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Jameson's Mamba
(*Dendroaspis jamesoni*) - photo Bill Branch



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Black-necked Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricollis*)



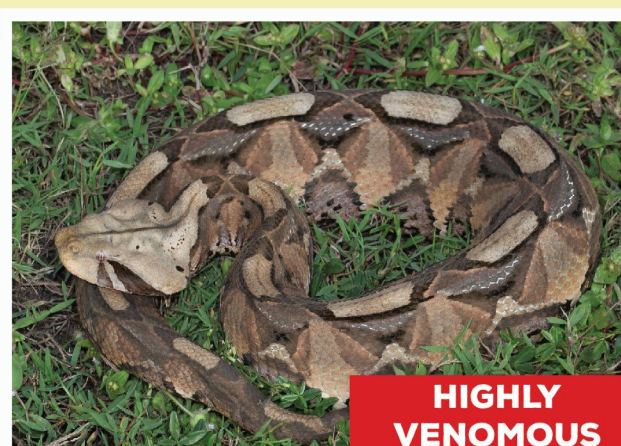
**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Forest Cobra
(*Naja melanoleuca*) - photo Luke Verburgt



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Banded Water Cobra
(*Naja annulata*) - photo Bill Branch



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Gaboon Adder
(*Bitis gabonica*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Rhino-horned Adder
(*Bitis nasicornis*)



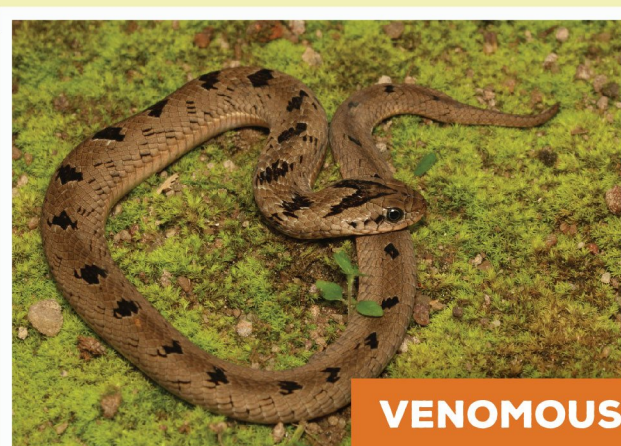
**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

African Bush Viper
(*Atheris squamigera*) - photo Luke Verburgt



VENOMOUS

Spotted Night Adder
(*Causus maculatus*) - Photo Jelder Groen



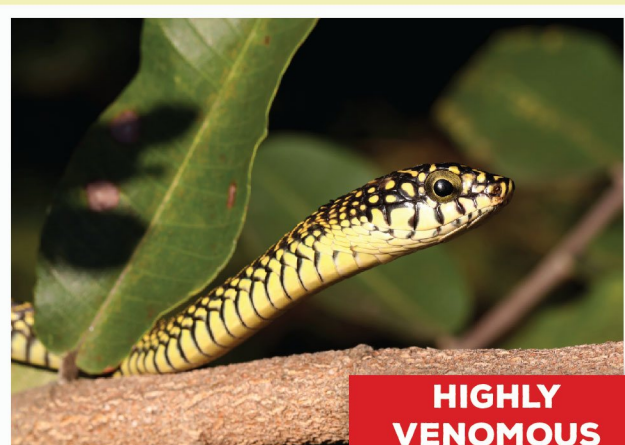
VENOMOUS

Lichtenstein's Night Adder
(*Causus lichtensteini*) - photo Dr. Eli Greenbaum



VENOMOUS

Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis sp.*) - Photo Bill Branch



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Kivu Boomslang
(*Dispholidus kivuensis*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Forest Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis kirtlandii*) - Photo Richard Mckibbin



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

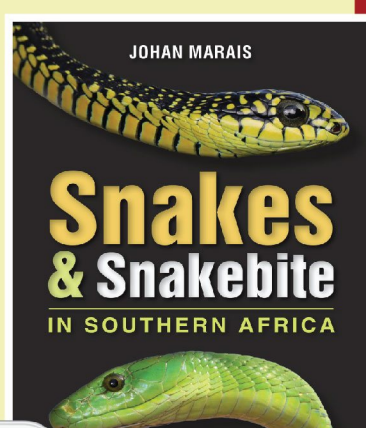
Savanna Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



**CAN INFLICT A
PAINFUL BITE**

African Rock Python
(*Python sebae*)

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.



Free ASI SNAKES App

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EMERGENCY PROTOCOL

IN THE EVENT OF A SNAKE BITE

- 1 Keep the victim calm, immobilized and transport the victim to the closest hospital **without delay**.
- 2 If the victim stops breathing, resort to artificial respiration or make use of a Bag Valve Mask.
- 3 Call the Poison Information Centre help-line for further advice: +27 861 555 777.

DO NOT

- ... apply a tourniquet.
- ... cut and suck the wound.
- ... use ice or very hot water.
- ... give the victim alcohol.
- ... apply electric shock.
- ... inject antivenom randomly. Antivenom (if required) must be administered by a doctor in a hospital environment.