



SNAKE AWARENESS, FIRST AID FOR SNAKEBITE & VENOMOUS SNAKE HANDLING COURSES

CORPORATE AFRICA



www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com



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WHAT IS COVERED IN THE ONE DAY COURSE?

Snake Awareness and Behaviour

Snake Biology

Dealing with snake encounters

Debunking Myths and Superstition

Prevention of Snakebite

First Aid for Snakebite

Discussion on the Use of Antivenom

Discussion on Medical Treatment of Snakebite

Venomous Snake Handling

WHY USE THE AFRICAN SNAKEBITE INSTITUTE?

The African Snakebite Institute (ASI) is Africa's leading authority on Snake Awareness, First Aid for Snakebite, and Venomous Snake Handling.

With decades of experience and a proven track record, ASI has become the trusted training provider for industries, conservation groups, government bodies, and individuals across the continent.

We offer accredited, science-based training led by some of the most respected herpetologists and snakebite experts in Africa.

Our courses are designed to equip your team with the critical knowledge and practical skills to stay safe in snake-prone environments—minimising risk, improving response times, and potentially saving lives.

As the largest supplier of professional-grade snake handling equipment in Africa, we also ensure that clients have access to the safest, most effective tools for dealing with venomous snakes. Our gear is field-tested, durable, and trusted by professionals.

Whether you're operating in remote locations, managing biodiversity-sensitive areas, or simply prioritising safety and awareness, the African Snakebite Institute delivers unmatched expertise, equipment, and support.

Partner with us—because when it comes to snake safety, experience matters.



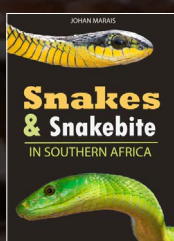
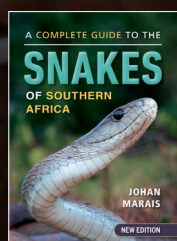


WHY USE THE AFRICAN SNAKEBITE INSTITUTE?

WE offer accredited, science-based training led by some of the most respected herpetologists and snakebite experts in Africa.



Johan Marais is the CEO of the African Snakebite Institute and is one of Africa's leading herpetologists, with over 45 years of experience. Johan is the most prominent author of snake books in Africa and has written the best-sellers - A Complete Guide to Snakes of Southern Africa, Snakes and Snakebite in Southern Africa and First Aid for Snakebite, to mention just a few. Johan regularly contributes to scientific papers and has been a reptile photographer for many years - with one of the largest herpetological image collections in Africa.



Luke Kemp is a keen herpetologist and photographer who has been working for the African Snakebite Institute for more than seven years. In addition to presenting courses throughout Africa, Luke develops much of the ASI course material and does the identification of snakes from all over Africa on the ASI App. He is also co-authoring a new book with Johan on the Reptiles & Amphibians of southern Africa.



Tim Brammer is an avid herpetologist who has been based in Malawi for the last few years, where he started presenting snake awareness and handling sessions. He also developed identification posters for the country and has recently published his first book "My Guide To Common Snake of Malawi". Tim is a keen reptile photographer and assists on field surveys in various African countries, when possible.

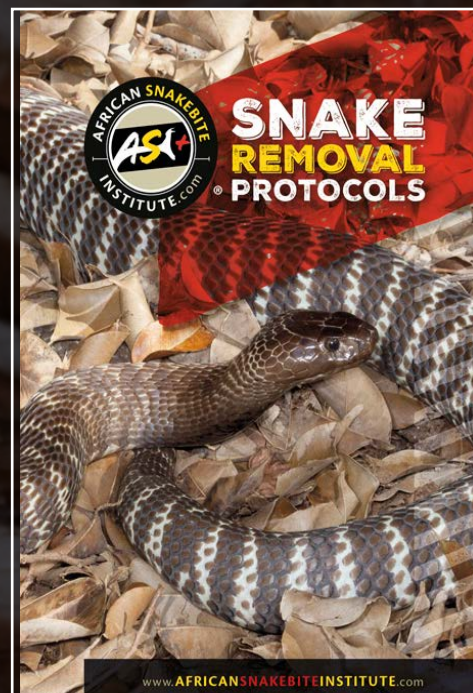
Our courses are in-depth and up to date, covering all aspects of snake awareness and safe handling techniques. Our trainers collectively have over 60 years of safe snake handling experience, writing scientific publications and presentation experience.

Our safe snake handling protocols were developed by Johan Marais, while working as curator at some of Africa's leading snake parks and as a result of visits to various reptile parks and research facilities in the USA, Mexico, U.K., Spain, France, The Netherlands, Belgium, China, Singapore, Thailand, Australia and various African countries.

The ASI courses are accredited by the International Society of Zoological Sciences and registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa.

The ASI snakebite protocols and first aid for snakebite procedures are regularly updated with leading snakebite experts in the world. Johan is the snake expert for the Tygerberg Poison Centre and the Red Cross Poison Centre as well as advisor to various hospitals and clinics throughout Africa.

All courses offered comply with the requirements of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.



Courses are regularly offered to the likes of Sasol, Eskom, Department of Water Affairs, Umgeni Water, Master Drilling, Group 5, Anglo American, De Beers, Wilderness Safaris, Wind Farms, Siemens, Singita, MMG, Angloflex, Anadarko and various mines and construction companies throughout Africa.

The African Snakebite Institute is affiliated with the Alexander Herp Lab, University of Witwatersrand, and a service provider to the South African Society of Travel Medicine and Travel Doctors.



TRAINING PROGRAM

SITE visits vary from five to fourteen days depending on the requirements of the client.

SNAKES

Venomous snakes are needed for the snake handling segment of the course. Wherever possible snakes should be sourced from a local snake park or private collector, otherwise snakes need to be captured by trained persons, and kept in a secure container.

Alternatively two or three days are required for the trainer to go out into the field and capture the snakes that are to be used for training.

This is done by the trainer actively looking for snakes in suitable habitat during the day and by driving quiet roads at night and capturing snakes crossing the road.

RISK ASSESSMENT

Upon arrival on site, a risk assessment (if required) is done by our trainer, looking at general work and storage areas. Recommendations are made on how to reduce the risk of snakes establishing themselves on site.

SNAKE AWARENESS

A lecture venue with a digital projector is required for this segment. It is a one hour program that includes; snake awareness, snake identification, what to do in snake encounters, snake biology and behaviour, myths and superstition, basic first aid for snakebite and a discussion on the medical treatment of snakebite. The Snake Awareness course should be attended by as many employees as possible - there is no minimum or maximum number of delegates required for this session. An interpreter must be provided, if required.

TOOLBOX TALKS

If required **Toolbox Talks** lasting around 20 minutes can be presented to staff, and will cover the basics of snake behaviour, avoidance and first aid treatment.

VENOMOUS SNAKE HANDLING



Selected employees are trained in the safe handling of venomous snakes, using appropriate equipment and safe handling methods. This duration of this training is in the region of one to two hours, depending on the size of the group. The purpose of this segment is to train a number of people (usually from various shifts and sections of the site) who can safely remove snakes in an encounter.

At no stage do any of the delegates make physical contact with any snake and both 'necking' and 'tailing' are not allowed. Necking and tailing both dramatically increase the chances of the handler getting bitten, and as such, this unnecessary risk goes against the health and safety policy for most corporate sites.

BASIC FIRST AID FOR SNAKEBITE



The do's and don'ts of first aid for snakebite are covered in the Snake Awareness course, as well as a discussion on the medical treatment of snakebite. The latter segment is purely to enlighten delegates so that they fully understand how medical doctors treat snakebite and what can be done during first aid to assist with subsequent treatment.

This segment also includes a discussion on antivenom and the myths around its use. First Aid procedures for snakebite will be adapted to suit the needs of the company.



EMERGENCY PROTOCOLS

An audit of required emergency equipment, antivenom and protocols can be done if required. This can include going through existing emergency snakebite protocols with clinic staff and will be reported on.



Antivenom, if stocked, should only be used by medical doctors in a hospital environment and is not a first aid solution.

If there are no proper protocols for snakebite emergencies the ASI can assist with the drawing up of such protocols.

CERTIFICATES

Successful delegates are awarded a certificate in Snake Awareness and Basic First Aid for Snakebite, whereas those also doing the snake handling receive a certificate in Snake Awareness, First Aid for Snakebite and Venomous Snake Handling.

The Snake Awareness course is registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa and registered medical practitioners received 4 CPD points (Level 2).

PRICING

\$1,400.00 (USD) per day including travel time and excluding any compulsory government deductions or retainers.

All transport, accommodation and meals to be provided ex O.R. Tambo International Airport in Johannesburg, South Africa, or charged at \$0.44/km from and to Johannesburg.

Additional costs may include the cost of road taxes, visas and malaria medication where required.

SNAKE HANDLING EQUIPMENT

An extensive selection of snake handling tools including snake tongs of different sizes, snake hooks, snake tubes and buckets, snake gaiters, scorpion torches, books and posters are available for purchase from our website.



CONTACT US

Corporate on-site Training - Email: courses@asiorg.co.za or call +27 64 704 7229
For Equipment quotes: Email: info@asiorg.co.za or call +27 60 957 2713



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