

COMMON SNAKES OF VAALWATER



Vaalwater has around thirty eight different snake species. Six species are considered highly venomous while another five are considered venomous. Two can give a bad bite that may require some stitches. Ten are considered mildly venomous and the other fifteen are completely harmless to humans.

HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused
human fatalities

VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does
not require antivenom

MILDLY VENOMOUS

Not thought to be
harmful to humans

HARMLESS

Not dangerous to
humans



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VENOMOUS

Speckled Shield-nose Snake
(*Aspidelaps s. scutatus*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Southern Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



**CAN INFLICT A
PAINFUL BITE**

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Common Purple-glossed Snake
(*Amblyodipsas polylepis*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Telescopus semiannulatus*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

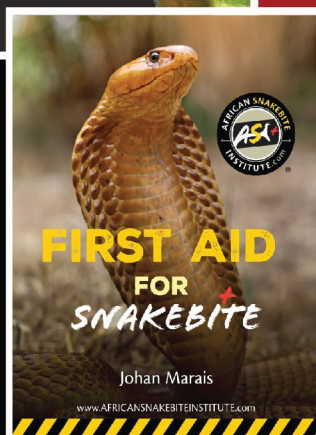
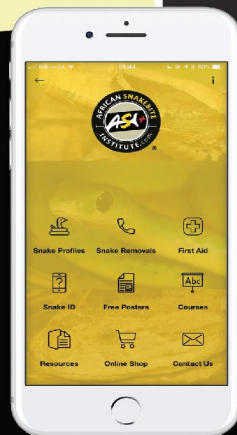
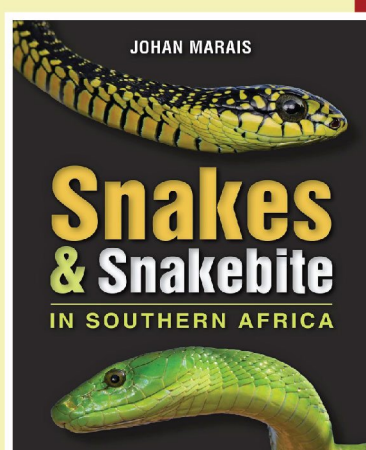
Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

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

Johan Marais | African Snakebite Institute

+27 82 494 2039 | johan@asiorg.co.za

www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com

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.

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.