

COMMON SNAKES OF THE CRADLE OF HUMANKIND

The Cradle of Humankind has around 28 species of snakes. Four species are considered highly venomous. Two species are venomous and another can deliver a painful bite that may require stitches. Eight species are mildly venomous and the rest 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



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY
VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)



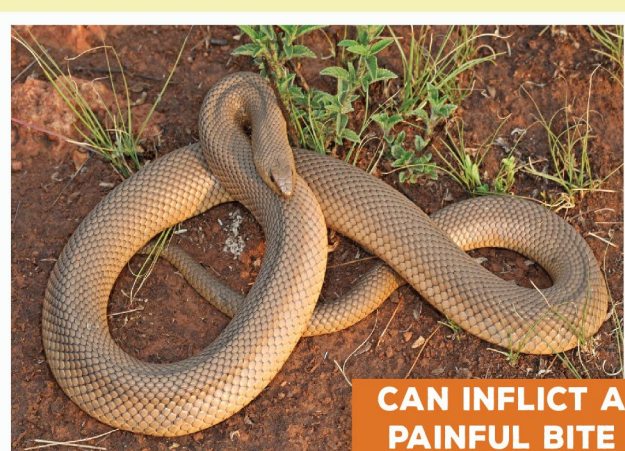
VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**CAN INFLECT A
PAINFUL BITE**

Mole Snake - adult
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Black-headed Centipede-eater
(*Aparallactus capensis*)



**MILDLY
VENOMOUS**

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*) - photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonormorphus rufulus*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Aurora House Snake
(*Lamprophis aurora*)



HARMLESS

Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Bibron's Blind Snake
(*Afrotyphlops bibronii*)

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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