

COMMON SNAKES OF THE EASTERN CAPE



The Eastern Cape has 49 different types of snakes. Eight species are highly venomous. Ten species are venomous and two can give a painful bite. Eight are mildly venomous and 21 species 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

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang
(*Dispholidus typus*) - photo Luke Kemp



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



VENOMOUS

Natal Black Snake
(*Macrelaps microlepidotus*) - photo Sake van Wyk



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Herald Snake
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*) - photo Luke Kemp



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Karoo Sand Snake
(*Psammophis notostictus*) - photo Sake van Wyk



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophis crucifer*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Western Natal Green Snake
(*Philothamnus occidentalis*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

Brown Water Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



HARMLESS

Olive Snake
(*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)



HARMLESS

Common Slug-eater
(*Duberria lutrix*) - photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Brown Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis inornata*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



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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