

COMMON SNAKES OF THE NORTHERN CAPE



The Northern Cape has 54 different types of snakes. Five species are highly venomous. Twelve species are venomous and two can give a painful bite. Fifteen are mildly venomous and 20 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

Black Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricincta woodi*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

Horned Adder
(*Bitis caudalis*) - photo Sake van Wyk



VENOMOUS

Many-horned Adder
(*Bitis cornuta*)



VENOMOUS

Cape Coral Snake
(*Aspidelaps lubricus lubricus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Beetz's Tiger Snake
(*Telescopus beetzii*) - photo Sake van Wyk



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Dwarf Beaked Snake
(*Dipsina multimaculata*) - photo Sake van Wyk



MILDLY VENOMOUS

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



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Cape Sand Snake
(*Psammophis leightoni*) - photo Sake van Wyk



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Fork-marked Sand Snake
(*Psammophis trinasalis*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Rock Snake
(*Alopecion guttatum*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

Bug-eyed House Snake
(*Boaedon mentalis*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

Schinz's Beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhinotyphlops schinzi*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HARMLESS

Delaland's Beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhinotyphlops lalandei*)

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.

Johan Marais | African Snakebite Institute

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

www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com

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