

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF SOUTH AFRICA



South Africa has one hundred and twenty-six different types of snakes. Fourteen species are considered potentially deadly. Twenty-three are considered venomous. Two can inflict a painful bite that might require stitches. Thirty-five species are mildly venomous, and fifty-two are non-venomous.

HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused human fatalities

VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Green Mamba
(*Dendroaspis angusticeps*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*) - photo Sake van Wyk



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Brown Forest Cobra
(*Naja subfulva*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricincta woodi*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



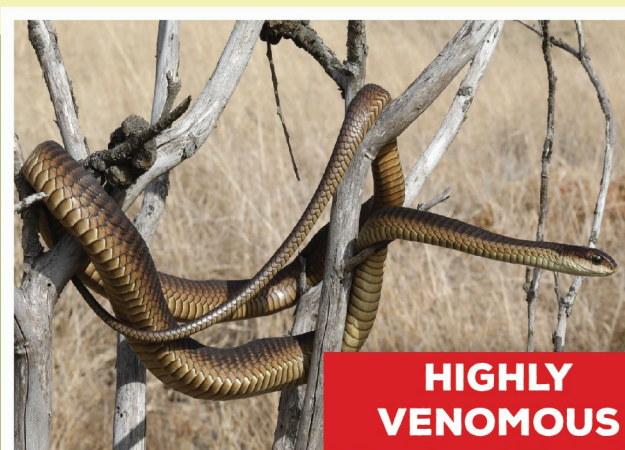
HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - Northern male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - Southern male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)



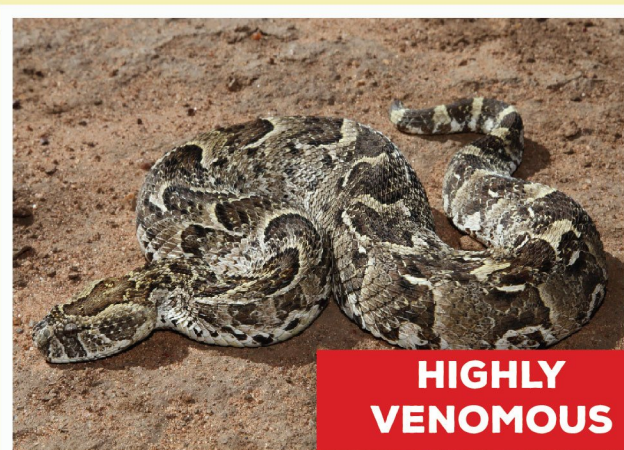
HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Southern Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Gaboon Adder
(*Bitis gabonica*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



VENOMOUS

Common Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*) - photo Sake van Wyk



VENOMOUS

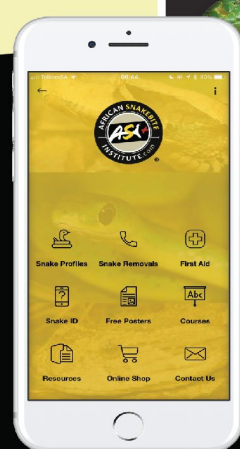
Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)

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.

FREE ASI SNAKES APP

Johan Marais | African Snakebite Institute

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



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.
- 3 Call Johan Marais for further advice:
+27 82 494 2039.

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.