

# COMMON SNAKES OF GROTTO BAY



Grotto Bay has around eighteen species of snakes. Three snakes are highly venomous. Another three may give a painful bite. Five species are only mildly venomous and seven snake species are harmless.

**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**

**Cape Cobra**  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - male**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - female**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Puff Adder**  
(*Bitis arietans*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Cape Sand Snake**  
(*Psammophis leightoni*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Cross-marked Grass Snake**  
(*Psammophis crucifer*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Spotted Skaapsteker**  
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



**VENOMOUS**

**Southern Adder**  
(*Bitis armata*)



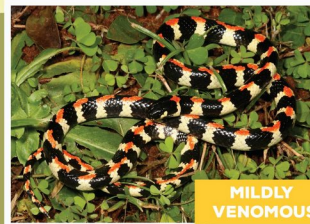
**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Karoo Sand Snake**  
(*Psammophis notostictus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Herald Snake**  
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Spotted Harlequin Snake**  
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



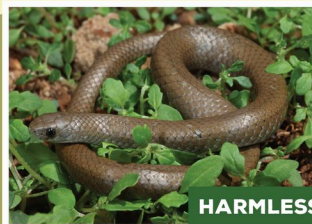
**CAN INFLECT A PAINFUL BITE**

**Mole Snake**  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**HARMLESS**

**Brown Water Snake**  
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



**HARMLESS**

**Common Slug-eater**  
(*Duberria lutrix*)



**HARMLESS**

**Common Egg-eater**  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

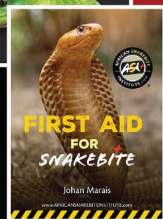


**HARMLESS**

**Delelande's Beaked Blind Snake**  
(*Rhinityphlops lalandei*) - photo Luke Kemp

**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@asi.org.co.za](mailto:johan@asi.org.co.za)

[www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com](http://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.
- 3 Call the Poison Information Centre helpline for further advice: 0861 555 777.

### 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.