

COMMON SNAKES OF BELA BELA



Bela bela has around 33 species of snakes. Six species are highly venomous and another four are venomous. Ten species are mildly venomous and another two can inflict a nasty bite. The other eleven species are harmless.

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

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Southern African Python
(*Python natalensis*)



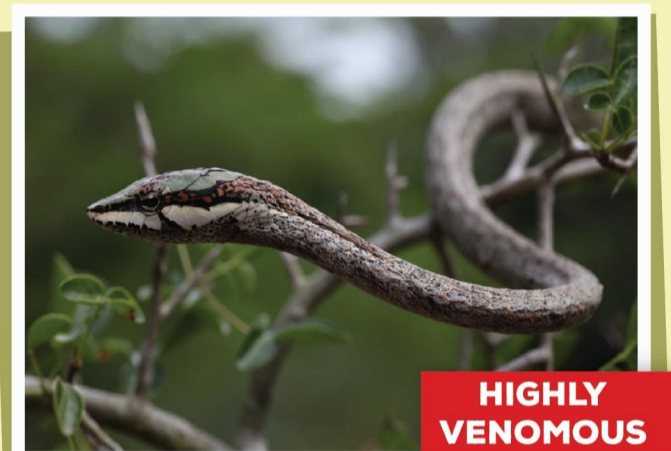
VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Southern Vine Snake
(*Thelotronis c. capensis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Short-snouted Grass Snake
(*Psammodromus brevirostris*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Western Yellow-bellied Sand Snake
(*Psammodromus subtaeniatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Common Purple-glossed Snake
(*Amblyodipsas polylepis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Telescopus semiannulatus*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

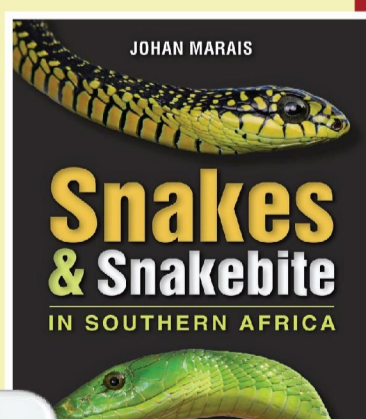
Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)

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

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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 help-line 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.