

# COMMON SNAKES OF POTCHEFSTROOM



There are around 27 snake species in the Potchefstroom area. Fourteen are harmless, nine can deliver a painful bite and four are considered highly venomous.

## 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 - adult  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Rinkhals - juvenile  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - male  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Spotted Skaapsteker  
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



**VENOMOUS**

Bibron's Stiletto Snake  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*) - photo Marius Burger



**VENOMOUS**

Common Night Adder  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder  
(*Bitis arietans*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Striped Skaapsteker  
(*Psammophylax triaenatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Herald Snake  
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Short-snouted Grass Snake  
(*Psammophis brevirostris*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

Black-headed Centipede-eater  
(*Aparallactus capensis*)



**KAN N PYNLIKE BYT TOEDIEN**

Mole Snake - adult  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**HARMLESS**

Mole Snake - juvenile  
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



**HARMLESS**

Aurora House Snake  
(*Lamprophis aurora*)



**HARMLESS**

Brown House Snake  
(*Boaedon capensis*)



**HARMLESS**

Common Wolf Snake  
(*Lycophidion capense*)



**HARMLESS**

Common Egg-eater  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



**HARMLESS**

Brown Water Snake  
(*Lycodonomorphus rufulus*)



**HARMLESS**

Delalande'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.

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