

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF SIERRA LEONE



Sierra Leone has a large selection of snakes across different habitats. Ten species are considered highly venomous and around eight species are dangerous or can inflict a painful bite.

HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Has caused human fatalities

VENOMOUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Western African Green Mamba
(*Dendroaspis viridis*) - photo Bill Branch



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black-necked Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricollis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black-necked Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricollis*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black Forest Cobra
(*Naja guineensis*)



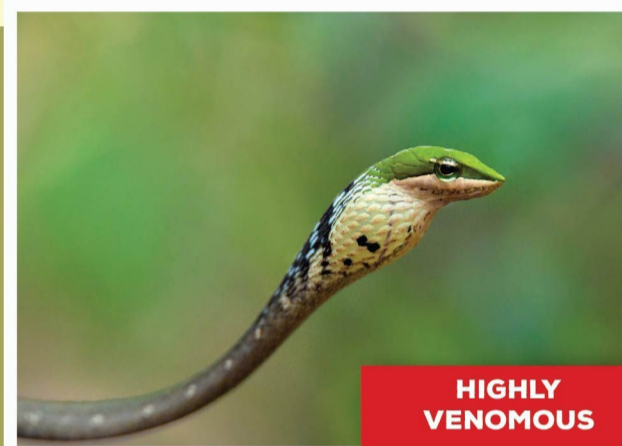
HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Western Gaboon Adder
(*Bitis rhinoceros*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Forest Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis kirtlandii*) - Photo Richard Mckibbin



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Western Bush Viper
(*Atheris chlorechis*) - photo Mo Rodel



VENOMOUS

Spotted Night Adder
(*Causus maculatus*) - Photo Jelmer Groen



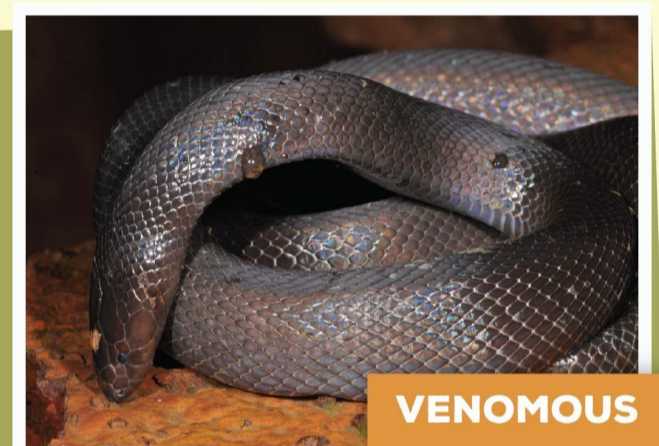
VENOMOUS

Spotted Night Adder
(*Causus maculatus*)



VENOMOUS

Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis sp.*) - Photo Luke Kemp



VENOMOUS

Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis sp.*) - Photo Bill Branch



VENOMOUS

Blanding's Tree Snake - male
(*Toxicodryas blandingii*) - Photo Gerald Dunger



VENOMOUS

Blanding's Tree Snake - female
(*Toxicodryas blandingii*) - Photo Luke Kemp



VENOMOUS

Blanding's Tree Snake - juvenile
(*Toxicodryas blandingii*) - photo Luke Verburgt



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

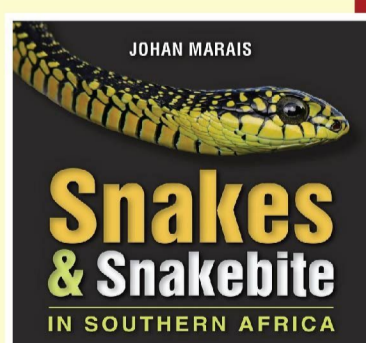
African Rock Python
(*Python sebae*)

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 the Poison Information Centre help-line for further advice: +27 861 555 777.

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.