DANGEROUS SNAKES OF GABON



Gabon has a large variety of snakes. Around fourteen species of snakes are highly venomous. About twelve are venomous but not deadly. The majority of snakes encountered are either mildly venomous or harmless to humans.

HIGHLY **VENOMOUS**

Has caused human fatalities. **VENOMOUS**

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom.



(Naja melanoleuca) - photo Luke Verburgt

HIGHLY **VENOMOUS**

Black-necked Spitting Cobra

(Naja nigricollis)

(Bitis gabonica)





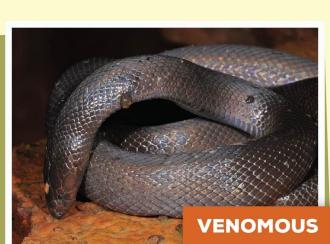
HIGHLY VENOMOUS Jameson's Mamba (Dendroaspis jamesonii) - photo Bill Branch



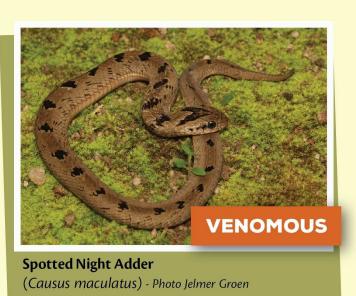
VENOMOUS Rhino-horned Viper (Bitis nasicornis)

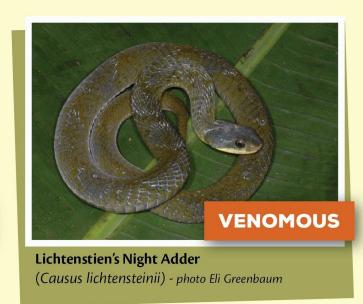
(Naja annulata) - photo Bill Branch







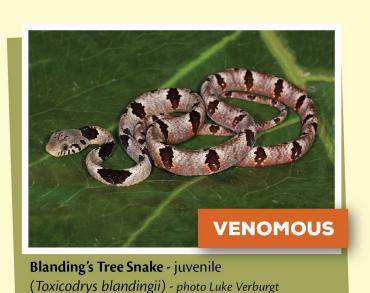




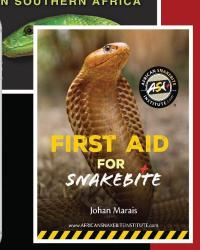




(2)



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

Free ASI SNAKES App

handling and safety equipment in Africa.

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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 helpline 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.