

COMMON SNAKES OF BEAUFORT WEST



Beaufort West has around twenty different species of snakes. Three species are considered highly venomous. Another three may give a bad bite but are not life-threatening. Six are considered mildly venomous and the other eight are completely harmless to humans.

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 - yellow form
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Cape Cobra - brown form
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Cape Cobra - juvenile
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Dwarf Beaked Snake
(*Dipsina multimaculata*) photo - Marius Burger



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Harlequin Snake
(*Homoroselaps lacteus*)



VENOMOUS

Cape Coral Snake
(*Aspidelaps l. lubricus*)



VENOMOUS

Horned Adder
(*Bitis caudalis*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Spotted Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Cross-marked Grass Snake
(*Psammophis crucifer*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Karoo Sand Snake
(*Psammophis notostictus*)



HARMLESS

Sundevall's Shovel-snout
(*Prosymna sundevallii*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Rock Snake
(*Lamprophis guttatus*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

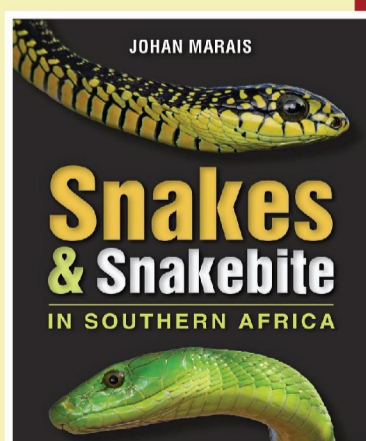
Rhombic Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



HARMLESS

Delelande'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.



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.