COMMON SNAKES OF CAPE TOWN



Cape Town has around 26 species of snakes. Five species are considered highly venomous. Two species are venomous and another can deliver a painful bite that may require stitches. Seven species are mildly venomous and the rest are harmless to humans.

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



Cape Cobra
(Naja nivea)



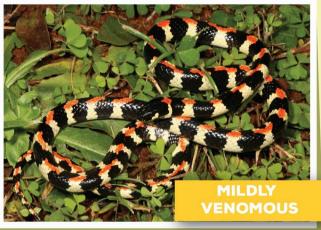
Boomslang (Dispholidus typus)



Puff Adder (Bitis arietans)



Berg Adder
(Bitis atropos)



Spotted Harlequin Snake (Homoroselaps lacteus)



Herald Snake (Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia) - photo Luke Kemp



Cross-marked Grass Snake (Psammophis crucifer)



Karoo Sand Snake (Psammophis notostictus)



Spotted Skaapsteker (*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



Many-spotted Reed Snake (Amplorhinus multimaculatus)



Mole Snake - adult (Pseudaspis cana)



Mole Snake - juvenile (Pseudaspis cana)



Brown Water Snake (Lycodonomorphus rufulus)



Olive Snake (Lycodonomorphus inornatus)



Brown House Snake (Boaedon capensis) - photo Luke Kemp



Aurora House Snake (*Lamprophis aurora*)



Common Egg-eater (Dasypeltis scabra)



Common Slug-eater
(Duberria lutrix) - photo Luke Kemp



Delalande's Beaked Blind Snake(Rhinotyphlops lalandei) - photo Luke Kemp



(Indotyphlops braminus)

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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