

COMMON SNAKES OF POSTMASBURG



Postmasburg has around twenty species of snakes. Four species are considered highly venomous and another one is venomous. Three species are mildly venomous and another can inflict a nasty bite. The other eleven species 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 to humans

HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Black Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricincta woodi*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Striped Skaapsteker
(*Psammophylax tritaeniatus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Eastern Tiger Snake
(*Telescopus semmiannulatus*)



VENOMOUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



HIGHLY VENOMOUS

Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus*)



MILDLY VENOMOUS

Fork-marked Sand Snake
(*Psammophis trinasalis*)



CAN INFLICT A PAINFUL BITE

Mole Snake
(*Pseudaspis cana*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Bush Snake
(*Philothamnus semivariegatus*) - Photo Luke Kemp



HARMLESS

Common Wolf Snake
(*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Common Egg-eater
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake
(*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

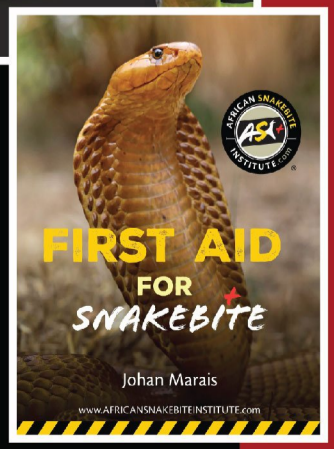
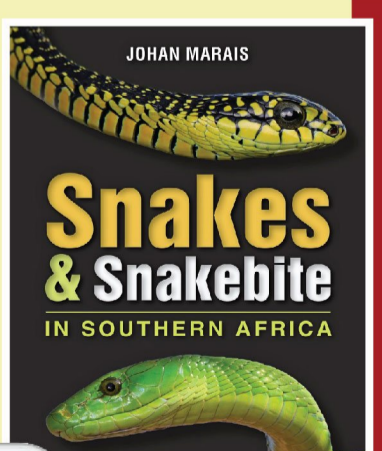
Delaland's Beaked Blind Snake
(*Rhinotyphlops lalandei*)



HARMLESS

Peter's Thread Snake
(*Leptotyphlops scutifrons*)

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.