

# COMMON SNAKES OF POLOKWANE



Polokwane has around forty different types of snakes. Six species are highly venomous, while four others can inflict a rather painful bite. Eight species are considered mildly venomous. The majority 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



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Black Mamba**  
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Snouted Cobra - plain form**  
(*Naja annulifera*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Snouted Cobra - banded form**  
(*Naja annulifera*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Mozambique Spitting Cobra**  
(*Naja mossambica*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Puff Adder**  
(*Bitis arietans*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - female**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Boomslang - male**  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

**Southern Vine Snake**  
(*Thelotornis capensis*)



**VENOMOUS**

**Bibron's Stiletto Snake**  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Common Purple-glossed Snake**  
(*Amblyodipsas polylepis*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Short-snouted Grass Snake**  
(*Psammophis brevirostris*) - photo Luke Kemp



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Striped Skaapsteker**  
(*Psammophylax tritaeniatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Herald Snake**  
(*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*) - photo Luke Kemp



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Eastern Tiger Snake**  
(*Telescopus semiannulatus*)



**MILDLY VENOMOUS**

**Black-headed Centipede-eater**  
(*Aparallactus capensis*)



**CAN INFLICT A NASTY BITE**

**Southern Africa Python**  
(*Python natalensis*)



**HARMLESS**

**Common Egg-eater**  
(*Dasypeltis scabra*)



**HARMLESS**

**Brown House Snake**  
(*Boaedon capensis*)



**HARMLESS**

**Common Wolf Snake**  
(*Lycophidion capense*)



**HARMLESS**

**Spotted Bush Snake**  
(*Philothamnus semivariiegatus*)

**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.

Johan Marais | African Snakebite Institute

+27 82 494 2039 | [johan@asiorg.co.za](mailto:johan@asiorg.co.za)

[www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com](http://www.AFRICANSNAKEBITEINSTITUTE.com)

Get the **FREE ASI SNAKES APP**

Use our app to learn about snakes, find trained snake removers in your area, browse our free resources, and more.

