

# DANGEROUS SNAKES OF THE WESTERN CAPE



The Western Cape has forty-two different types of snakes. Nineteen species are not venomous, while nine snake species are mildly venomous. Eight can inflict a painful bite and six species are considered highly venomous.

**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Has caused human fatalities

**VENOMOUS**

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Cape Cobra  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Cape Cobra  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Cape Cobra - juvenile  
(*Naja nivea*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Black Spitting Cobra  
(*Naja nigricincta woodi*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - male  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - female  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Boomslang - juvenile  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Rinkhals  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**HIGHLY VENOMOUS**

Puff Adder  
(*Bitis arietans*)



**VENOMOUS**

Berg Adder  
(*Bitis atropos*)



**VENOMOUS**

Red Adder  
(*Bitis rubida*)



**VENOMOUS**

Red Adder  
(*Bitis rubida*)



**VENOMOUS**

Horned Adder  
(*Bitis caudalis*)



**VENOMOUS**

Southern Adder  
(*Bitis armata*)



**VENOMOUS**

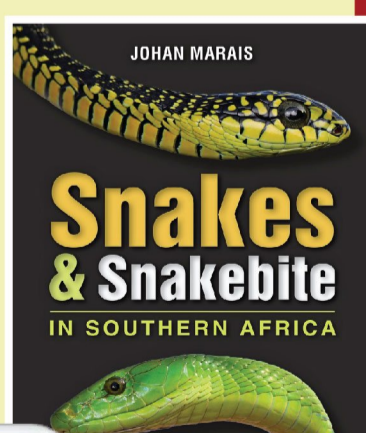
Common Night Adder  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**VENOMOUS**

Cape Coral Snake  
(*Aspidelaps l. lubricus*)

**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.

### 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.