

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa has in the region of 130 different types of snakes. Although 55% of them are technically venomous, only 12 species are considered potentially deadly.



Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



Green Mamba
(*Dendroaspis angusticeps*)



Vine Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis capensis*)



Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



Boomslang (*Dispholidus typus*)
male from Mpumalanga



Boomslang (*Dispholidus typus*)
female



Hatchling Boomslang
(*Dispholidus typus*)



Cape Cobra
(*Naja nivea*)



Black Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricincta woodi*) Photo Marius Burger



Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



Forest Cobra
(*Naja melanoleuca*)



Rinkhals
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



Gaboon Adder
(*Bitis gabonica*)



Puff Adder (*Bitis arietans arietans*)
from Limpopo



Puff Adder (*Bitis arietans arietans*)
from the Kalahari

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 offers a variety of courses including **Snake Awareness** and **Snake Handling**. Accredited by the International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS) and a Field Guides of Southern Africa (FGASA), NOSA and Travel Doctor-approved service provider. Importer and distributor of snake tongs and snake hooks.

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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.
- 2 If the victim stops breathing, resort to artificial respiration or cardiopulmonary resuscitation (C.P.R.).
- 3 Call the Poison Information Centre helpline for further advice – 021 9316129.

DO NOT

- ... 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.