

# DANGEROUS SNAKES OF KWAZULU-NATAL



Southern Africa has in the region of 170 different types of snakes. Although more than half of them are technically venomous, only 14 species are considered potentially deadly.



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Black Mamba  
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



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(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Green Mamba  
(*Dendroaspis angusticeps*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Twig Snake  
(*Thelotornis capensis capensis*)



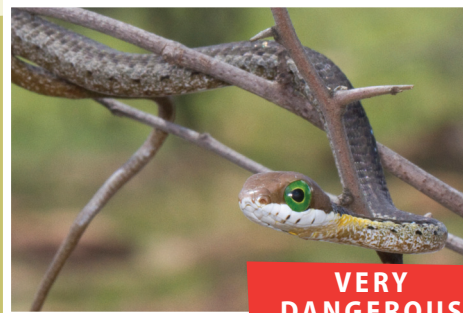
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Boomslang male  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Boomslang female  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Boomslang juvenile  
(*Dispholidus typus*)



**DANGEROUS**

Stiletto Snake  
(*Atractaspis bibronii*) Photo Warren Dick



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Snouted Cobra  
(*Naja annulifera*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Mozambique Spitting Cobra  
(*Naja mossambica*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Mozambique Spitting Cobra  
(*Naja mossambica*) Photo Martin Smit



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Forest Cobra  
(*Naja melanoleuca*)



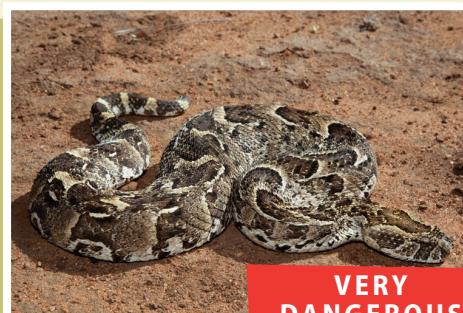
**VERY DANGEROUS**

Rinkhals  
(*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



**DANGEROUS**

Night Adder  
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

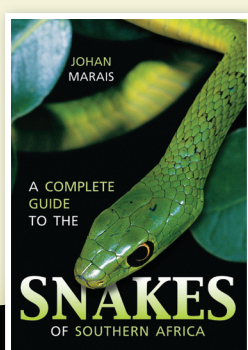
Puff Adder  
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



**VERY DANGEROUS**

Gaboon Adder  
(*Bitis gabonica*)

**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 Association of Southern Africa (FGASA), NOSA and Travel Doctor-approved service provider.



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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 make use of a Bag Valve Mask.
- 3 Call the Poison Information Centre help-line for further advice: +27 21 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.