

COMMON SNAKES OF THE EAST RAND



The East Rand has a great variety of snakes with most of them not considered dangerous. Three species can inflict painful bites, while one is considered deadly.

VERY DANGEROUS

Has caused human fatalities

DANGEROUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom

HARMLESS

Not dangerous to humans



VERY DANGEROUS

Rinkhals (*Hemachatus haemachatus*)



DANGEROUS

Stiletto Snake (*Atractaspis bibronii*) Photo Warren Dick



DANGEROUS

Stiletto Snake (*Atractaspis bibronii*)



DANGEROUS

Night Adder (*Causus rhombeatus*)



HARMLESS

Common Slug-eater (*Duberria lutrix lutrix*)



HARMLESS

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



HARMLESS

Bibron's Blind Snake (*Afrotrophlops bibronii*)



HARMLESS

Rhombic Egg-eater (*Dasypeltis scabra*)



HARMLESS

Short-snouted Grass Snake (*Psammophis brevirostris*)



HARMLESS

Spotted Skaapsteker (*Psammophylax rhombeatus*)



HARMLESS

Cape Wolf Snake (*Lycophidion capense*)



HARMLESS

Herald or Red-lipped Snake (*Crotaphopeltis hotamboeia*)



HARMLESS

Brown House Snake (*Boaedon capensis*)



HARMLESS

Aurora House Snake (*Lamprophis aurora*)



HARMLESS

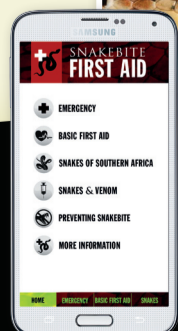
Olive Snake (*Lycodonomorphus inornatus*)



CAN INFLECT A NASTY BITE

Mole Snake (*Pseudaspis cana*)

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**, **Scorpion Awareness** and **Venomous Snake Handling**. Johan is accredited by the International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS) and is a Field Guides Association of Southern Africa (FGASA), NOSA and Travel Doctor-approved service provider. His courses are also accredited by the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA).



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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.