

DANGEROUS SNAKES OF MALAWI



Malawi has 66 different types of snakes. Eleven are considered potentially deadly, while another five are capable of inflicting extremely painful bites.

VERY DANGEROUS

Has caused human fatalities

DANGEROUS

Painful bite, but does not require antivenom



VERY DANGEROUS

Swamp Adder
(*Proatheris superciliaris*)



DANGEROUS

Night Adder
(*Causus rhombeatus*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Puff Adder
(*Bitis arietans arietans*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Gaboon Adder
(*Bitis gabonica*)



DANGEROUS

Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



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Bibron's Stiletto Snake
(*Atractaspis bibronii*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Black Mamba
(*Dendroaspis polylepis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Eastern Green Mamba
(*Dendroaspis intermedius*) Photo Tyrone Ping



VERY DANGEROUS

Forest Cobra
(*Naja melanoleuca*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Mozambique Spitting Cobra
(*Naja mossambica*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Snouted Cobra
(*Naja annulifera*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Black-necked Spitting Cobra
(*Naja nigricollis*)



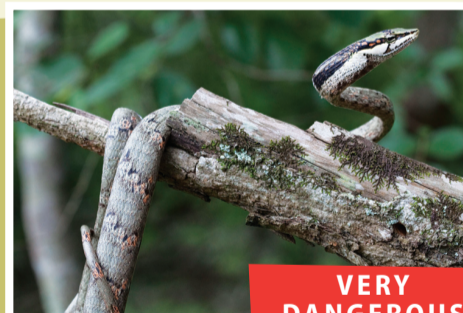
VERY DANGEROUS

Common Boomslang - male
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Common Boomslang - female
(*Dispholidus typus viridis*) Photo André Coetzer



VERY DANGEROUS

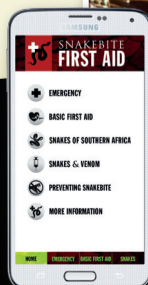
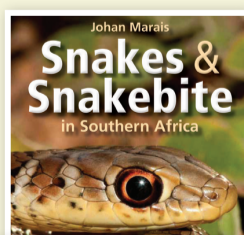
Southern Twig Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis capensis*)



VERY DANGEROUS

Oates' Twig Snake
(*Thelotornis capensis oatesii*)

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: +27 861 555 777.

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.