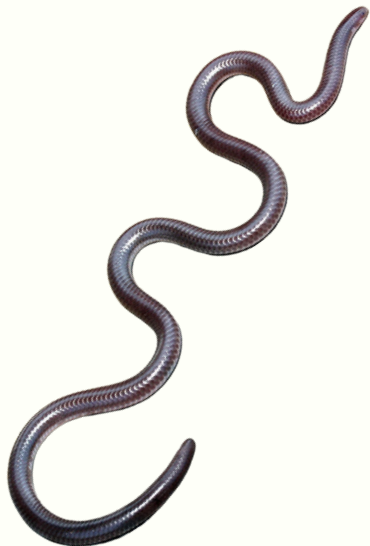




**RED RACER
SNAKE**



**SPECKLED
RATTLESNAKE**



**DESERT THREAD
SNAKE**

**COMMON
CALIFORNIA
SNAKE SPECIES**

BY REPTILE HUNTER



www.reptilehunter.org

Coluber Flagellum Piceus

Venomous? No

Length: 36-66in

This is a slender-bodied and very fast moving snake. They can be brown, but are usually pinkish red with a black head. This snake loves the heat, and can be found quickly slithering around on very hot afternoons. They mainly hunt for lizards, but will also eat rodents and other snakes. When threatened, they will "musk," excreting a smelly liquid from its cloaca.

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Crotalus Mitchellii

Venomous? Yes

Venom Type: Hemotoxic

Length: 24-39 in

This snake is known to have a wide variation of coloring. Depending on their geographic location, their coloration will change. This helps them better blend in & camouflage to their surroundings. They can be red, orange, pink, blue, white, or black. They typically don't have diamonds along their backs like other rattlesnakes, and have speckles instead. They primarily hunt rodents and are nocturnal.

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Rena Humilis Cahuilae

Venomous? No

Length: 4-16in

Also known as "blind snakes," this snake is a truly interesting species as they look a lot like a worm.

They're very slender and thin bodied, spending most of their time underground where they eat ants and termites. When shined under a bright light, their bodies may look somewhat translucent. When threatened they will "musk," meaning they'll secrete a smelly liquid from their cloaca.

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**SOUTHERN PACIFIC
RATTLESNAKE**



**DESERT ROSY
BOA**



**RED DIAMOND
RATTLESNAKE**



**CALIFORNIA
KINGSNAKE**

Crotalus Helleri

Venomous? Yes

Venom Type: Hematoxic

Length: 24-55in

Typically black or gray colored, with diamond patterns along its back. This species tends to be a little more defensive than other rattlesnakes. This means it's more likely to rattle and perform defense strikes when threatened. This rattlesnake species has given the most human bites in California.

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Lichanura Trivirgata

Venomous? No

Length: 17-44 in

This species is a heavy bodied and slow moving snake. They're mainly found under rocks and in between crevices. They're colors and patterns help them camouflage in granite rock outcrops. They're primarily active during dusk and dawn hours. This snake does not lay eggs, they give live birth. They are typically very docile when handled.

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Crotalus Ruber

Venomous? Yes

Venom Type: Hematoxic

Length: 39-64 in

This snake stands out from other species because their coloration is typically red and pinkish. It's a protected species in California. They aren't defensive when compared to other species, and typically will rattle or perform defensive strikes as a last resort. They prefer to rely on their camouflage instead of alerting the potential predator.

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Lampropeltis Californiae

Venomous? No

Length: 24-36 in

This species usually has black and white bands down its whole body, but there are some localities that will have a single white stripe down its back instead of bands. The stripes or bands can be broken up as well. This is the strongest snake in the world pound for pound. It constricts and squeezes its prey, and is also immune to rattlesnake venom. They are known to eat rattlesnakes.

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**MOJAVE
RATTLESNAKE**



**SOUTH COAST
GARTER SNAKE**



GOPHERSNAKE



STRIPED RACER

Crotalus Scutulatus

Venomous? Yes

**Venom Type: Hematoxic &
Neurotoxic**

Length: 36-48in

This is the most venomous rattlesnake. Their venom consists of hemotoxic and neurotoxic chemicals. An untreated bite from this snake can be very life threatening. One way to tell the difference between this snake and another species is that this snake typically has a greenish tinge to their body, especially towards the end of their tail.

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Thamnophis Sirtalis

Venomous? No

Length: 35-39 in

This is a slender bodied and fast moving snake. They like to live in very wet and moist areas, so they can be found near streams, rivers, lakes, and ponds. These snakes like to eat lizards, rodents, fish, and amphibians. They have a wide variety of colors from red, brown, blue, and black, but usually always with a white stripe down their back. When threatened, they will "musk" which means they secrete a smelly liquid through their cloaca.

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Pituophis Catenifer

Venomous? No

Length: 36-84 in

Primarily a daytime hunter, this snake will eat birds, rodents, and lizards. With its brown, black, and yellowish colors and patterns, this snake can often resemble a rattlesnake. When they feel threatened, they will flatten their head and shake their tail to mimic a rattlesnake.

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Laticophis Lateralis

Venomous? No

Length: 36-48 in

This snake is a daytime hunter. On a nice hot day, they're bodies have lots of energy and they can be seen hunting lizards. Given their name, they're a very fast moving snake with a white stripe down their back. When threatened, they will "musk" which means they secrete a smelly liquid through their cloaca.

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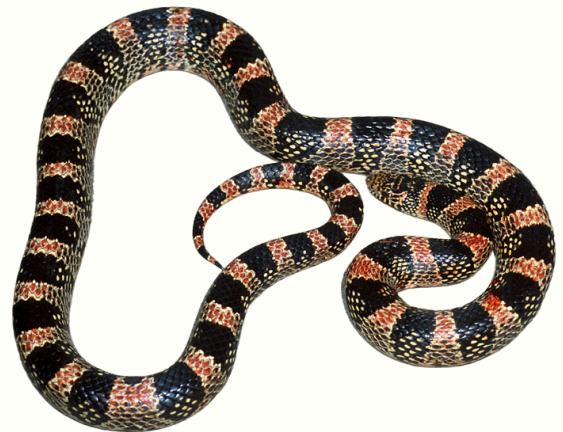
**SOUTHERN
RUBBER BOA**



**MOUNTAIN
KINGSNAKE**



**SHOVEL-NOSED
SNAKE**



**LONG-NOSED
SNAKE**

Charina Bottae

Venomous? No

Length: 7-9in

This snake is related to the rosy boa. They are a heavy-bodied & slow moving snake, with dull and brown colors. They're found in the mountains, usually above 6,000ft so they can withstand much cooler temperatures. When this snake is threatened, it'll wrap itself in a ball covering its head, exposing its tail that mimics its head. Small predators might chew their tail instead of the snake's head, allowing the snake to survive the attack.

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Lampropeltis Zonata

Venomous? No

Length: 18-36 in

This beautiful snake has bands consisting of black, white, and red colors. These colors mimic the highly venomous coral snake. It's important to remember that if the red and white bands touch, it is the venomous coral snake. An easy saying to remember is "Red touching black, safe for Jack. Red touching yellow, kill a fellow." This snake lives in high elevation habitats in mountains and they are primarily lizard hunters.

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Chionactis Occipitalis

Venomous? No

Length: 11-17 in

This is a very slender and smooth-scaled snake. They usually have a cream to yellow color with black bands along their body. Their colors and patterns may mimic that of the more dangerous California Kingsnake. They get their name from their flat shovel-shaped nose, which allows them to easily move underground. They're insectivorous, meaning they eat insects like scorpions, spiders, and centipedes.

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Rhinocheilus Lecontei

Venomous? No

Length: 22-34 in

Given their name, this snake can be identified by its long slender snout. They are a multi-colored snake, usually consisting of white, black, and red colors. Unlike the Mountain Kingsnake, the Long-Nosed Snake does not have solid colored bands down its body, they're more mosaic. They primarily eat lizards and amphibians. This snake lives in the deserts of California and spends most of its time underground.

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