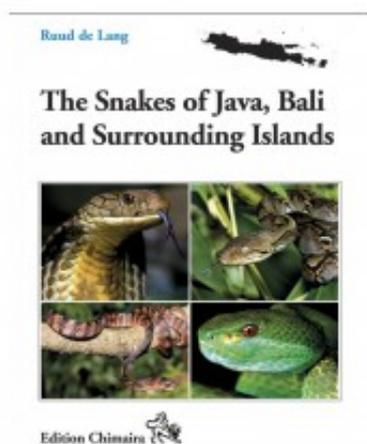


# The Snakes of Java, Bali and the Surrounding Islands



**Brand:**

**Product Code:** 48583

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## Short Description

A comprehensive account of the snakes of one of the most biodiverse areas in the world.>

## Description

**The Snakes of Java, Bali and Surrounding Islands** is a first step in discovering new species of Javan snakes. Using this book the herpetologist or naturalist can readily identify all of the species known to occur on the island. Thus, snake enthusiasts will hopefully recognize species that are unknown when they are found. Ruud de Lang has compiled species accounts for all of the known snake taxa, provided details for identification and for the exploration of the background of the snake fauna as well.

Large tropical islands tend to have a diverse, and species-rich snake fauna. The snake fauna of Java contains 91 species in 13 families. The most recently described snakes from Java include the pipe snake *Cylindrophis subocularis* (2016), two species of *Dendrelaphis* (2008), the pit viper *Trimeresurus insularis* (1977), and the minute fossorial snake *Calamaria lovii wermuthi* (1965). This is surprising – only five taxa of snakes described in the last half century from the 13th largest island on the planet. Of course there are several reasons for this. Relatively few people study Indonesian snakes, but more alarming is the fact that Java has a human population of more than 141 million or about 1026 humans/km<sup>2</sup>. Looking at the list of Javan snakes today one can only wonder how many species of snakes were present when Wallace wrote that statement in 1869. There is little doubt environmental modifications by humans over the last century have reduced

the snake diversity. At the same time many snakes may have either adapted to human modified environments or have successfully evaded the damaged environments and still survive somewhere on the island – waiting to be discovered by science.

**Ruud de Lang. 435 pages. 2017. Hardcover. ISBN - 9783899735253**