

Reptiles

In Northern Australia reptiles that inhabit mangroves include salt water crocodiles, four species of small harmless land snakes and sometimes true sea snakes and lizards.

Snakes

Sea snakes, especially the banded sea krait visit on high tides.

Species of a more terrestrial origin that are found predominantly in the mangroves include the [Little File Snake](#) and the [Mangrove Snake](#).

Mangrove snakes are nocturnal, aquatic snakes that live in tropical mangrove forests and estuaries. They are venomous, rear fanged snakes which are harmless to people. They hunt in pools of water among the mangrove roots for small fish or crustaceans. At low tide, they hide by burying themselves in mud with just the tops of their heads and eyes showing.

Sea and land snakes excrete salt from glands at the base of their tongue. Mangrove snakes tend to have skin that is less permeable than other species, thereby stopping salt from entering.

Some land snakes like the python, green and brown tree snakes often visit the mangroves in search of food.

