

Which toad is this?

A quick guide to identification of similar-looking species in Cape Town and the Overberg

Descriptions from 'Frogs of Southern Africa - A Complete Guide' by Louis du Preez and Vincent Carruthers

Photos by Kurt van Wyk (Grootbos Foundation) and Philippa Clemo

Compiled by The Western Leopard Toad Conservation Committee, June 2025

Western Leopard Toad

(Sclerophrys capensis)



Prominent dark patches, with yellow/dark borders in adults

Dark separate crescents behind eyes on top of head

Yellow line down back

Reddish glands on neck

Fairly smooth skin

Hind legs have margin of webbing on toes

Average size: 8-12 cm

Only found in Cape Town municipality and the Overberg

Raucous Toad *(Sclerophrys capensis)*



Prominent dark patches, no borders in adults

Dark continuous patch between eyes (not separated)

Yellow line down back

Pale glands on neck

Lumpy skin

Average size: 7.5-9.5 cm

Widespread in South Africa. Very common in the Overberg

Guttural Toad *(Sclerophrys gutturalis)* **(invasive in Cape Town)**



Paler patches, no border

Pale bar between eyes on top of head

Yellow line down back

Red colouring on inside of thighs

Lumpy skin

Average size: 8-10 cm

Not naturally found in Western Cape. Accidentally introduced to Cape Town and competes with WLT for food and habitat.

Contact NCC (021 702 2884) if found within Cape Town.

Cape Sand Toad

(Vandisjkophrynus angusticeps)



Dark patches, not as prominent as WLT, no border

Thin yellow line down back (sometimes)

Dark bar between eyes on top of narrow head

Parotoid glands brown and prominent

Lumpy skin

Average size: 4-5 cm

Widespread along Western Cape coast and inland sandy soils. Rare in the Overberg.