

Harnas Wildlife Rescue

26 x 30'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Episode 001

Young Europeans and Americans arrive at Harnas –most of them have traveled to Africa for the first time. Freshly slaughtered horses, fetid entrails, aggressive wild dogs and a tough supervisor called Frikkie await them here. Their first challenges: a feeding tour, then a walk with some mischievous baboons and an encounter with vicious frogs the size of a soccer ball... and a Nile crocodile attacks Frikkie's co-worker Patrick.

2. Episode 002

A lion has escaped! A tame warthog was having an afternoon nap nearby and pays with its life. Frikkie has brought some new nurslings to Harnas: a meerkat that requires medical attention, a baby python, and a cute baby porcupine that melts everyone's heart. Two tame cheetahs that are just about to be released back into the wild make the team at Harnas very happy: they've caught prey independently!

3. Episode 003

Frikkie shows the tourists the feeding of the cheetahs! Every single one of these cheetahs came to Harnas because they or their mother got shot or wounded, captured, run over or was kept as a pet. Marieta looks after the baboons, she's their fostermother. The two young baboons Elvis and Loydie are currently Marieta's favorites, Elvis in particular. Aleks, the Norwegian model, helps the old lioness Elsa to get on her feet again after being nursed back to health. She is the grand old lady of the animals. Everyone is concerned for her well-being.

4. Episode 004

Blacky the wild dog constantly takes a battering from his pack which makes him try to escape on every occasion. The volunteers are helping to deworm cows –an new adventure: most of them have only seen cows on TV before. Out in the bush Marnus and Erin are looking for a cheetah with a radio collar. When they find her, the cheetah is so pleased to see her human friends that she smothers Erin with her affection.

5. Episode 005

Ostracized by his pack, Blacky the wild dog has staged another successful escape. Frikkie lures him back into the enclosure. A young volunteer learns how to feed a Nile crocodile without being devoured herself. Gentle-natured hyena Gumbi is stroked like a dog by Marieta, the founder of the rescue camp, and Willie, the smartest vervet on earth, keeps Esben and his team busy for a whole afternoon.

6. Episode 006

One of the cheetahs has been kept separate from humans for a month and trained to prowl on his own. Now his big day has come: he is stowed in a crate, taken to a nature reserve far from Harnas and released into the wild. Frikkie has fun giving the volunteers a hard time: he teaches them to ride the stubborn Namibian horses without a saddle –and that doesn't always go smoothly.

7. Episode 007

Workers from the neighborhood have taken one of the strangest African mammals to Frikkie: an armored pangolin. It is hurt and needs medical attention, posing a strange challenge for the vet. Satellite data shows that the cheetah released into the wild is not moving any more. A search party goes out to find him. They discover a few isolated huts and a farmer who has shot the cat because it's gotten too close to his cattle.

8. Episode 008

For many volunteers, the highlight of their stay is a trip into Bushmanland –the almost deserted wilderness north of Harnas. They spend their first evening under a two thousand year old baobab tree. Lydiane, a young realtor from Canada, meets some long-standing residents of Harnas: Tom the wild dog and his buddy Jerry, a domestic dog, the two caracals Zenzi and Tammy –and Popeye, the blind eagle owl.

9. Episode 009

On their trip into Bushmanland, a cobra interrupts the volunteers while they are getting ready for the day. After crossing a lake in their land rover they end up with the bush people who teach them to cook roots and hunt with a bow and arrow. Back at Harnas, the guileful caracal babies have to be inoculated and fed. At night Frikkie and blond-haired Annika from Germany establish contact with their two favorite lions outside the farm.

10. Episode 010

During a walk with the lions a rainstorm rages. Soon vast areas of the farm are under water. The wild squirrels in their underground holes catch pneumonia or drown. Lasse, Frikkie, and Marieta do all they can to attend to them. Frikkie sets free a six foot vicious python. Then he grills the volunteers one last time before they leave the farm, encouraging them to think about what really matters in life.

11. Episode 011

New volunteers arrive at Harnas. To get them into the mood they are told to cut up donkey carcasses into bite-sized snacks. Cheetah Pride turns out to be an excellent hunter, and Harnas' founder Marieta recounts raising more than 100 baboons in her own bed.

12. Episode 012

Frikkie tries his hand at some dental treatment: in a lion's mouth, with a stick –and without anesthetics! The young baboons meet some termites, while the baby caracals get introduced to the vet's injection needle, and wild dog Tom has to accept that escape attempts from Harnas are futile.

13. Episode 013

Young lioness Martha and her four brothers discover their hunting instinct: they kill a warthog. Two baby pet cats learn to bottle-feed, the cheetahs enjoy some grooming, and a banded mongoose gets some treatment for its injured leg.

14. Episode 014

Two baby meerkats are brought to Harnas, and immediately go to battle against feeding worms, rabbits, and turtles. Farmers tell the team at Harnas that wild dogs have been stalking and killing their cows. To prevent them from being shot Frikkie sets traps.

15. Episode 015

An orphaned wild dog is to be integrated into a pack, a wayward leopard is moved into a new enclosure, while some members of the team are looking for insects to provide food for the bat-eared dogs.

16. Episode 016

Schalk persuades a farmer not to shoot the wild leopard on his land, but to let a team from Harnas trap him. The female leopard is expecting a litter. Another farmer reports trouble with a cheetah.

17. Episode 017

The 30 horses at Harnas are given the full treatment: they are washed, checked for ticks, and small injuries are dealt with. Pride, the female cheetah, has gone missing from the 30 square mile Lifeline enclosure.

18. Episode 018

Alarm in the caracal enclosure! The offspring of a female caracal has escaped and can't be found. In the meantime Losa the leopard is moved into her own enclosure. She came to Harnas from a private zoo.

19. Episode 019

A herd of almost sixty baboons is having a meal in one of the open-air enclosures. Jo is feeding a banded mongoose with milk as every attempt to get it used to meat has failed so far.

20. Episode 020

Five lions receive medical treatment. Good news of Tom: after several setbacks the hand-reared wild dog has finally been accepted by the pack.

21. Episode 021

Four small leopards are born at Harnas, while the wild dog pack has managed to dig their way to the monkeys.

22. Episode 022

A wild cheetah has escaped. Schalk brings a litter of wild dogs to Harnas, and for caracal Tammy a new chapter is about to start: she is to be released into the wild.

23. Episode 023

The tame cheetah Pride lives in the Lifeline enclosure. She has been fitted with a radio collar, and is regularly tracked via satellite. Proudly she presents her prey: a freshly hunted springbok. A monitor lizard has made himself comfortable between 19 wild cheetahs.

24. Episode 024

One of seven cheetahs living in the enclosure near the built-up area of the farm is about to be released. The four baby leopards born a few days ago at Harnas are washed and fed regularly.

25. Episode 025

A three-legged jackal is fitted with a radio collar for his imminent release. 27-year-old Geuters, the granddad among the cheetahs, has died. At the next moment a small sensation delights the team at Harnas: a female cheetah arrives –a truly fortunate coincidence!

26. Episode 026

Frikkie pays a call to Elsa, the lioness. Having recovered from an injury, she has to do her daily exercises to strengthen her muscles. Schalk and the vet carry out the lions' annual check-up, while other team members pick up two cheetahs from a farm in southern Namibia.