

off the fence.

Luke Gamble's Vet Adventures

10 x 60'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. India

Luke Gamble travels deep into remote India where he battles to save a cow that has ingested over 14kg of plastic and resorts to a heroic operation to try to save its life. Visiting a shelter that is overwhelmed with abandoned and disabled animals, he faces a difficult ethical dilemma as to how best to help a two-legged dog in a place where life is sacred and his options are limited. Luke also rescues a donkey after receiving an emergency call from a visiting tourist to the area, but without any normal means of transporting the animal to sanctuary for treatment, he has to resort to pushing the functionality of an Indian tuk-tuk to the limit!

2. Grenada

Luke Gamble helps out at an animal shelter in the southern Caribbean. Apart from setting up a field clinic in a hurricane ravaged area, he is busy island hopping to attend to emergency cases, using his veterinary skills to help both the domestic and farm animals on the islands. When asked to help release a sea turtle caught up in a fisherman's net and get it back out to the sea, Luke discovers the truth about the true plight about these wonderful but endangered creatures. One patient he treats back on the island then needs a rather unusual operation to fix a swollen ear and Luke discovers a very novel use for buttons!

3. Malawi

Luke Gamble immerses himself in the challenge of working for the only domestic animal charity in Malawi, a country that has hardly any vets. His first mission is to see if he can save a starved dog that can hardly walk, which has somehow managed to give birth to a litter of puppies. Emergency surgery is required and the stakes are high as he performs a difficult operation in tough situations. When asked to assist with a general health check-up on a leopard, Luke discovers the difficulties of anaesthetising a notoriously dangerous wild animal and he also travels to a national park where he goes tracking in the bush and gets introduced to a troop of over familiar baboons!

4. Mexico

Luke Gamble gets on a horse and rides up into the Mexican mountains with some cowboys to check on their cows, animals which have never seen a vet. After rescuing a donkey stuck in a swamp, Luke then has to race against time to figure out why a farmer's animals are suddenly

dying and try to prevent a complete catastrophe for both the animals and the farmer's family. After working at a local dog and cat shelter, Luke is then asked to check on some birds of prey before getting a first hand experience of how it really feels to fly like a hawk.

5. Thailand

Luke Gamble travels to Chiang Mai in northern Thailand to assist at a dog shelter that is overwhelmed with animals and is absolutely desperate for veterinary help. He visits a hill tribe village and while helping the locals with their animals he meets a Buddhist monk, living in isolation on the hilltop who rescues injured chickens that have been used for fighting. Luke also goes to see if he can help some elephants that have trodden on some exploding landmines whilst working in the illegal logging camps and meets some very inspiring people who are dedicating their lives to care for these magnificent animals.

6. Zambia

First episode in and it's a return to Africa. Luke is on his way to Lusaka, the bustling capital city, to work with a local dog charity. He goes on a patrol across town to crack down on the illegal practice of selling puppies on the streets; coming across young street vendor Richard who is given the opportunity to turn his life around. But will he take it? On the outskirts of town, Luke visits a wildlife sanctuary where he helps an abused baboon, greets a pack of lions, determines the sex of three infant Serval cats and tests some vervet monkeys for tuberculosis. After a bumpy flight to Kafue National Park, Luke investigates the mysterious death of over 30 buffaloes, before visiting an endearing elephant orphanage.

7. Peru

Luke is off to one of the most remote cities in the world as he flies into Iquitos, situated in the heart of the Amazonian rainforest. His journey starts above a bustling meat market in the centre of town, where a dog clinic is already underway by a group of volunteer vets from his own charity. Always one to get his hands dirty, he is soon on the streets catching a dog that is in urgent need of attention. Jumping on the back of a motorbike-taxi he heads to the outskirts of town to see one of the world's most enigmatic and also highly endangered creatures, the Amazonian manatee. Luke is confronted by an epic four-hour surgery on a female dog, before setting off down the majestic Amazon river where he is in his element treating (and fighting) monkeys, macaws, buffalos and disgusting tropical maggots.

8. Nepal

This is a breathtaking adventure at the top of the world for our travelling vet as he lands in Nepal's third largest city Pokhara. He is straight to work tackling the country's animal welfare issues, the most notable being the neglectful treatment of the working equine that traipse up and down the small mountain paths all day long. In town, he helps a fledgling animal charity: rescuing a maggot-infested dog and tracking down a cancer drug that can help save the many street dogs which are blighted by a sexually transmitted disease. After a brief visit to check on an injured steppe eagle, it is up into the mountains for our intrepid vet as he flies into "the most dangerous airport in the world" to help an isolated community. Whilst up there, he is excited by the opportunity to get his hands on some hairy yaks.

9. Costa Rica

In the penultimate episode of the series Luke is in the tropical rainforests of this Central American nation and he is most certainly outside his comfort zone as he travels the length and breadth of the country helping a host of different animals. After attempting to catch a fiery racoon, Luke is presented with one of those moments that can never be predicted: teaching a new born sloth to pooh. At a local horse ranch, Luke tries to change the traditional method of castrating the horses. Jumping on a boat he journeys to a remote tropical island where he gets friendly with a group of howler monkeys, a baby anteater and wild boar. But there is one last surprise in store as Luke is told he must take a local surgical exam before he can operate on a small island full of castaway dogs. Will he pass?

10. Uganda

The final episode of the series kicks off in style as Luke hits the streets of Kampala in order to catch a dishevelled dog. Conservation is then the order of the day as Luke sets off to see some of the world's most endangered animals. He helps treat a couple of chimpanzees at a sanctuary on Ngamba island, where he also follows the rehabilitation of two young and very cheeky chimps. He tracks down some white rhinos that have been released back into the wild after a twenty-five year absence and after a long drive into the dense countryside he spends an even longer day helping a community of farmers with all their livestock. The adventure ends as Luke fulfils a boyhood dream: heading into Bwindi Impenetrable Forest to track down one of the world's most mystifying creatures, the mountain gorilla.