

off the fence.

Behind Bars: The World's Toughest Prisons (Series 2)

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Ep1 - Colony 100, Kharkiv, Ukraine

Rusha Hudoli, who sits in Colony 100 at Charkev in the Ukraine, can only dream of visits. He's a 29-time murderer and the colony's most heavily guarded inmate. The former Soviet prison specializes in repeat offenders, who are subjected to drills and heavy labor in the in-house steelworks in an attempt to get them back on track.

2. Ep2 - South Cotabato Jail, South Cotabato, Philippines

The guards at South Cotabato Jail in the Philippines, have long since given up the fight. They only enter the prison infrequently to count the prisoners, which can take some time, since this prison is one of the most overcrowded in the world: Over 2000 prisoners crammed into a building built for 500. With temperatures averaging 35 degrees Celsius and contaminated drinking water, diseases spread like wildfire here. From now on, this is where newcomer Ronniel will have to hold his ground – which compels him to come up with a risky plan: Escape.

3. Ep3 - Carcel Distrital Bogota, Bogota Colombia - Pt 1

Carcél Distrital in the Colombian city of Bogotá looks like a harmless provincial prison at first glance. But in fact, it's a powder keg always on the verge of exploding. Gangs, drugs, weapons – this prison has it all. But the 170-strong prison staff has the clubs always at the ready. Women are also doing time here: Claudia, who was arrested for human trafficking. She suffers knowing she will never see her children grow up. After one and a half years, she is finally allowed to hold her daughters again – only to be forced to let go after just an hour visiting time.

4. Ep4 - Carcel Distrital Bogota, Bogota Colombia - Pt 2

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5. Ep5 - Penal de maxima seguridad El Hongo, Tecate, Mexico

El Hongo – the high-security bunker in the Mexican desert, is the only incorruptible prison in a country where corruption runs through all social classes like a cancer. The prison is a high-tech fortress, because only the very biggest fish are doing time here: Like Gilbert, whose job it was to hang people on bridges for the Sinaloa cartel. And we meet Carlos, the Keeper of Evil: The commander never leaves prison – because outside, the drug cartel is eagerly waiting to take revenge on him.

6. Ep 6 - Nubarashen prison, Nubarashen, Armenia

In Armenia's Armavir Penitentiary, many of the prisoners don't even want to leave. Because behind bars they've created their own world. In particular the so-called "thieves in law", who are part of the Armenian mafia, continue on as they always have: Supplying themselves and others with drugs and obeying only the rules of their own code. Armavir Penitentiary is the first attempt to limit their sphere of influence by confining the Brotherhood in separate cell blocks – to protect the other prisoners.

7. Ep 7 - Establecimiento Penitenciario de Mediana Seguridad y Carcelario La Mesa, Tijuana Mexico

Life at La Mesa looks completely different. It's just a few kilometers away in Mexico's Tijuana. This prison has made headlines around the world with its bloody uprisings. Inmates here want to keep doing what they've always done: Take drugs, rape, and exploit the corrupt structures of Mexican society. That's exactly what the new prison authorities want to stop. From now on, inmates like Taylor, an American, will be locked away like animals. Still, it is little more than tilting at windmills.