



ZANNIER RESERVE

N/a' an ku sê

Discover the Anti-Poaching Unit

Spread across 7,500 hectare of pristine savannah, the Zannier Reserve by Naankuse is a leading conservation area in Namibia. Owned by the Zannier family and managed by the Naankuse Foundation, the reserve provides a safe environment for endangered and vulnerable species such as elephants, white rhinos and lions. Fully fenced, it allows wildlife to roam freely, as it is watched and protected 24/7 against poaching attempts, avoiding human intrusions and illegal hunting.

A TEAM OF SUPER RANGERS

In total, the Zannier Reserve by Naankuse is employing a team of 64 anti-poaching rangers and 13 K9s, including Belgian Malinois, Dutch Shepherds and German Shepherds. These K9s are trained daily, both morning and night, in agility, attack work, scent discrimination and tracking, helping protect the reserve around the clock.

The Anti-Poaching Unit (APU) are on patrol 24/7, ensuring poachers cannot enter undetected. Winter conditions are particularly demanding, with each ranger deployed for a week at a time, carrying all necessary food and supplies. At head quarters, rangers monitor operations and the surveillance cameras around the clock, including the strict tracking of rhinos and other animals fitted with tracking collars.





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The APU is equipped with bulletproof vests and firearms to respond with potential threats. However, the primary objective of the APU is not to kill nor injure the poachers, but to apprehend them and gather intelligence about the poaching syndicate to support police efforts in dismantling their network. Firearms are used only when they are threatened directly. Notably, APU members are also police reservists, working with Namibian police to patrol the area and catch criminals.

Since the beginning of 2020, three intrusion attempts have been successfully prevented. As of May 2026, rangers patrolled 1,457 km on foot, and the reserve has reached 5,611 days without a poaching incident. Additionally, it has been 2,930 days since the first rhino arrived without any intrusion or poaching.

“Nearly 3,000 days without poaching incidents”



WILDLIFE ON THE RESERVE

The Zannier Reserve is also a sanctuary of second chances, where animals of conflict, such as leopards, cheetahs and brown hyenas, are safely relocated. Instead of facing lethal outcomes, these animals are given the opportunity to live peaceful lives with the reserves protected environment.

It's most notable resident is Apollo, one of Namibia's most well-known elephants. After being deemed a problem animal, the bull elephant was relocated by Namibia's Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism relocated onto the Zannier Reserve, where he now lives safely, away from human settlements.

The reserve is also home to the Shiloh Wildlife Sanctuary, established by Angelina Jolie and named after her Namibian born daughter. Since its opening, the sanctuary has played a vital role in rhino conservation, rehabilitating many within its bomas before successfully releasing them onto the reserve.



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THE SHILOH WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

The Shiloh Wildlife Sanctuary is a specialised facility dedicated to the care and rehabilitation of rhinos and elephants that have been injured or orphaned as a result of poaching or conflict. Fully equipped with holding pens, transport trucks, crates, and advanced veterinary facilities, and supported by a full-time veterinarian, the sanctuary provides the expertise and resources needed to restore these animals to health, offering renewed hope for their future.

Located in close proximity to the Zannier Reserve, the sanctuary allows for the seamless reintroduction of rehabilitated animals into the Namibian wild. Once released, they continue to be safeguarded by the highly trained APU, which remains on constant alert to ensure the protection of these animals as they reclaim their freedom.



WILDLIFE CONTRIBUTION

Since the COVID pandemic, international tourism has significantly increased. More than ever, APU presence is essential to ensure animal safety. The reserve relies on the generosity of individuals to continue the extraordinary work being carried out in Windhoek.

Without the APU, the Zannier Reserve would not be able to provide a safe haven for wildlife. Each year it costs 1.8 million Namibian dollars to operate the unit. For those wishing to support the actions of Zannier Reserve by N/a'an ku sê's conservation efforts, donations can be made [here](#).

Every contribution goes directly towards running the reserve: repairing fences, buying protective equipment and materials for the rangers, covering fuel costs for patrol vehicles, supplying food and water to the animals, and contributing to the APU team.

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