

San Fermin: It's Unbelieva-bull! 不落「牛」后，西班牙奔牛节

Every July, thousands of **partygoers** flocked to [Pamplona](#), Spain to witness some unusual races. The runners all dress in white, with bright red handkerchiefs tied around their necks for good luck. These people won't be racing for prize; they'll be running for their lives. Suddenly, a loud explosion of fireworks marks the start of the race, and a dozen bulls **charge** and chase the runners through the streets. It's Spain's most dangerous and beloved festival, the [Pamplona Bull Run](#).

每年七月都有成千上万名喜爱狂欢者涌进西班牙的潘普洛纳一睹一项奇特的赛跑。跑者们身穿白色衣衫，脖子上绑着鲜红色领巾以招来好运。这些跑者不是为了奖金而跑，而是为了保住性命。突然间，一声爆竹巨响宣告赛跑开始。接着十二头牛沿街追逐跑者、向前猛冲。这就是西班牙最危险却又最受喜爱的庆典——潘普洛纳的奔牛节。

The first official Pamplona Bull Run was held in 1591 as part of a religious festival called [San Fermin](#). During the annual week-long festival, there are daily bull races starting at 8 a.m. Each run is three minutes of **pure** madness, as 12 bulls run through the 825-meter street **course**, and **contestants** do their best to avoid them. Runners will leap over fences or **dive** into windows and doorways, and the truly mad ones play **matador** and attempt to **dodge** the 500 kg beasts as they rush by. At the end of each race, the bulls are **corralled** into **pens** and transported to an arena where they will meet their **demise** in a bullfight. Although the majority of participants manage to stay out of harm's way, 15 people have died and 200 have been seriously injured since 1924.

首届潘普洛纳奔牛节于 1591 年举行，是宗教庆典圣费尔明节的活动之一。在这为期一周的年度节庆里，每日早上八点都会有一场奔牛活动，每一场都历时三分钟，让大家完全陷入疯狂的奔牛活动。十二头牛沿着 825 公尺长的街道横冲直撞，参赛者则使出浑身解数来闪避狂牛。跑者可以跃过栅栏、跳进窗户或住家大门中。真正疯狂的人还会扮演斗牛士，在这群五百公斤的野兽间闪躲。每场奔牛活动的尾声，这些狂牛会被赶进围栏中，运至斗牛场，并在斗牛赛中迎接死亡。多数参赛者都能毫发无伤，但从 1924 年至今已有 15 人丧生、两百多人重伤。

Thankfully, you don't have to run with the bulls to enjoy the festivities. Spectators can **munch** on **crispy** [bocadillos](#), sip [sangria](#), and dance to the music of traditional Spanish [brass bands](#). One thing is certain: the Pamplona Bull Run will **give** any festival **a run for its money** – and that's **no bull!**

值得庆幸的是，想体验节庆的趣味，你不必亲身下场与猛牛一同狂奔。身为场边的观众，你可以大啖香脆口感的波卡迪优、畅饮桑格莉亚水果酒，再随着传统西班牙铜管乐团演奏的音乐舞动。可以确定的是，潘普洛纳奔牛节绝对能与其他任何大型节庆相提并论，而这绝对不是吹牛！

— by *Jamie Blackler*

Vocabulary

partygoer [ˈpɑːrtɪˌɡoːr] n. 社交聚会常客

charge: [tʃɑːdʒ] v. 向前冲 to rush forward in or as if in a violent attack

pure[pjʊr] adj. 完全的，十足的

course[kɔːrs] n. 路线

contestant [kən `testənt] n. 参加竞赛者

dive[daɪv] v. 跳入

matador [`mætədɔːr] n. 斗牛士

dodge [dɒdʒ] v. 躲避

corral [kə `ræɪl] v. 把.....赶入（或关进）围栏

pen [pɛn] n. （关禽，畜的）栏

demise [dɪ `maɪz] n. 死亡；终止

munch [mʌntʃ] v. 津津有味地嚼

crispy [`krɪspi] adj. 酥脆的

bull: [bʊl] n. 【俚】胡说，废话 foolish, deceitful, or boastful language

Idiom

flock [flɒk] **to** 蜂拥而至

give sth./sb. a run for its money: 不让某物或某人轻易取胜(表示两者可相提並論) to compete very strongly against sth./sb. which is expected to win a competition