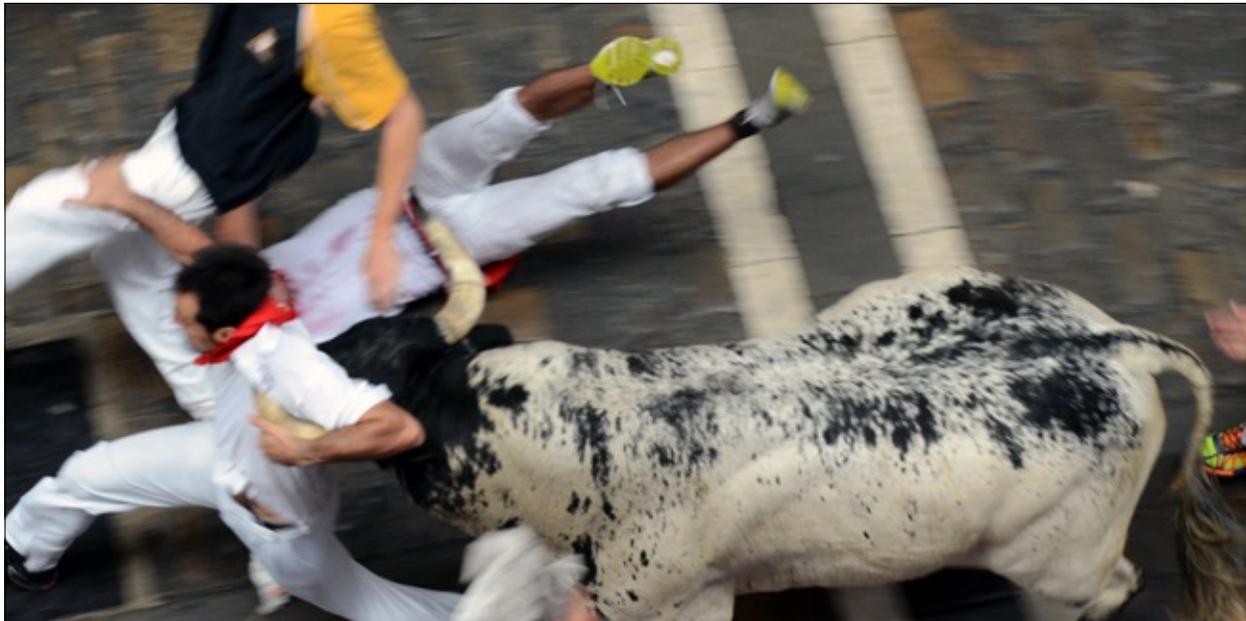


THE RUNNING OF THE BULLS A PERILOUS HISTORY..

"Antioquio", "Castellano", "Semillero" and "Liebrero" are four of the most famous bulls in the history of the encierro, the running of the bulls, but they are not alone...

The history of the running of the bulls is both the story of the hundreds of brave runners who have risked their lives running between the lethal horns and the thousands of toros bravos, Spain's magnificent fighting bulls, who have shared the narrow streets of Pamplona's old quarter for more than 100 years. Among these bulls are some, more than others, that deserve to be remembered because of the sheer panic or unforgettable moments of fear they have created in their race into history in the Plaza de Toros de Pamplona.



A Torrestrella bull overtaking runners along Calle Estafeta, July 7, 2014

Just as some bulls are remembered for what happened when they faced such famous bullfighters as Joselito (José Gómez Ortega), who was fatally injured by "Bailaor" in May 1920 in the bullring in Talavera de la Reina (Toledo), Ignacio Sánchez Mejías, matador, writer, friend of Federico García Lorca and brother-in-law of Joselito, who was gored to death at the age of 43 after coming out of retirement by the Ayala bull "Granadino" in August of 1934 in Manzanares (Ciudad Real), and the legendary toreador Manolete (Manuel Laureano Rodríguez Sánchez), considered by many as the greatest bullfighter of all time, who died at the age of 30 on the horns of the Miura bull "Islero" in Linares (Jaén) in late August, 1947, the names of some of the fighting bulls in Pamplona's famous running of the bulls continue to live on in the history of the encierro.

Perhaps the most famous of these bulls to date is “*Antioquio*”, a powerful fighting bull of the Guardiola Fantoni bull raising ranch, who charged into history on the morning of Sunday, July 13, 1980 after causing the death of two runners on the same morning, a dark cloud on an otherwise sunny day.

José Antonio Sánchez, an experienced runner from Cintruénigo (Navarra) was the first to be fatally gored as he ran up the slope of Calle Santo Domingo. José Antonio was about to enter the Town Hall Square when he was caught from behind by the charging bull. The second runner to fall victim that morning, Vicente Risco from Badajoz (Extremadura), received several fatal gorings in the bullring in what was one of the longest and most tragic days in the long history of the encierro.



Running with the Dolores Aguirre bulls along Calle Estafeta, July 8, 2014

This was not the only time a fighting bull has managed to kill two runners on the same morning. It happened 33 years earlier when the running of the bulls was still being captured on film in black and white. A bull from the Antonio Urquijo ranch named “*Semillero*” was involved in a similar occurrence on Thursday, July 10, 1947. Casimiro Heredia, an experienced runner from Pamplona, was the first to receive a fatal goring. It happened on Calle Estafeta as the man, who had been talking to his friends, turned to join the run, not realizing just how close the bull was. After seriously goring Casimiro, the bull *Semillero* continued its solo journey into the bullring where it encountered a young man from the nearby village of Villava who had not actually run that morning. Joaquín Zabalza had jumped down from his seat in the stands and foolishly, for some unknown reason, entered the tunnel looking for the missing bull. He suffered a fatal goring moments later.

The latest to add its name to the list was “*Capuchino*”, a fighting bull of the Jandilla bull-breed. He took the life of Daniel Jimeno Romero, a 27-year old from Alcalá de Henares, at the end of Telefónica on Friday, July 10, 2009, the start of the final weekend of the fiesta. Daniel Jimeno was a seasoned runner, having grown up in Pamplona, but became trapped against the wooden barricade as the panicked crowd surged along the barricade on the right side leaving into the Callejon and the bullring, leaving little room for anyone to escape the horns of the charging bull. No one knew he had been seriously gored, a horn wound to the neck, until the crowd cleared, his death captured on a spectators cell phone.



A very dangerous lone Miura bull on Calle Estafeta, July 12, 2009

This same year a Miura bull named “*Ermitaño*” left his mark along the entire route of the encierro. Weighting in at 575 kilos, or more than 1200 lbs., it charged anything and everything it saw along the way, but slipped and fell when entering the corner at Calle Mercaderes and Estafeta (La Curva) as it was about to gore a veteran runner from Miami’s Amigos de Pamplona, Rick Música, who, dressed in the traditional white jacket he wears whenever the Miura bulls run, had caught the bulls attention. Separated from the rest of the pack, it continued on alone and less than a minute later at Telefónica slammed hard against the wooden barricade several times, tossing one photographer, Victoriano Izquierdo, while nearly dislodging another photographer still sitting on the top rail.

But this bull will be remembered more for the terrifying scare he gave a veteran runner from Pamplona, Pello Torreblanca, than anything else it did that day. It was only by a miracle, the “Cape” of San Fermín, that the man managed to survive, the bull tossing him around like a rag doll for over half a minute before being distracted by the pastores (shepherds) and the other runners who risked their lives that morning on Estafeta.

The running of the bulls in 2015 started at a fast pace up Santo Domingo, where the first goring happened, ending 2 minutes 23 seconds later with eleven injuries requiring hospitalization, including three serious gorings, as the Jandilla bulls added to their record. The next three days were quiet, but on Saturday, July 11, bulls from the José Escolar ranch managed four gorings, one serious, with only four bulls finishing the run. One of the bulls had turned around in the Town Hall Square and returned to the pen at the bottom of Santo Domingo, where it remained until after the encierro.

On the 13th the Garcigrande bulls had an even faster time of 2 min. 12 sec., but still managed to inflict pain and suffering with two gorings, one on Mercaderes and the other happening at the end of Calle Estafeta. And then on Tuesday, July 14, the Miura bulls went on to set a new record for the fastest encierro, 2 min. 5 sec. in the final run of the fiesta, doing so without any gorings and causing only five serious injuries. But many other runners were knocked aside as the bulls raced ahead in a tight pack into the Plaza de Toros, with several runners unable to keep up the pace.

The running of the bulls started out normally enough in 2014, following the spectacular event that took place on July 13, 2013, when the entrance to the bullring was blocked by a pile-up of bodies of would-be runners, resulting in 2 gorings on the day, 21 people seriously injured and another 100 being treated in the bullring after being crushed by other "runners" and a couple of disoriented Fuente Ymbro bulls who had nowhere to go but over the pile of bodies blocking entrance.

But Sanfermines 2014 ended with several terror-filled moments of an already tension-filled encierro as a Miura bull caught a young Australian at the corner of Calle Mercaderes and Estafeta and gored him several times before the pastores and the other runners where able to attract the bull's attention.



The lone Miura bull on the corner of Calle Mercaderes and Estafeta (photos by Javier Campos & Juantxo Erce)

The recent history of the running of the bulls also includes "Universal", the bull responsible for 6 of the 7 gorings which took place the morning of Thursday, July 12, 2007, when the bulls from Marques de Domecq ran the encierro. Charging up Santo Domingo, the bull caught his first victim, a novice runner, Thomas Golabek, visiting from Poland. Within a few meters, in front of the City Hall, it severely gored José Amador Jiménez, a runner from

Pamplona, and moments later caught up with two American brothers, Lawrence and Michael Lenahan, who were running together, not realizing what was quickly coming up from behind. They were lucky, but it was at the beginning of Calle Estafeta where Rafael Estrada, a young runner visiting from Mexico was not as lucky. He was seriously gored in his stomach and lower abdomen after the bull found him trying to hide in a doorway, finally tossing him unceremoniously into the middle of the street. At Telefónica the bull caught up with Cristofer Neiff from Norway, goring him in the knee as he tried to scale the barricade before it moved on, entering the bullring, still on the hunt.

Universal is not the only bull to gore six runners in one encierro. It was on July 12, 1988, that "*Doloroso II*", a fighting bull of the Cebada Gago breed, managed to gore six different runners before the end of the run. Weighing in at only 510 kilos, he was fast and quickly caught up with two experienced runners from Pamplona on Calle Santo Domingo, Arturo Bueno and Jesus Irigoyen. After first goring Arturo at the top of the slope of Santo Domingo, the bull turned and ran back down the slope, charging Irigoyen, catching him in front of the old market before running back down towards the pens, but was turned back by the oxen. The whole running of the bulls that day took nearly eight minutes and only one bull entered the bullring with the leading oxen. When it was over, the total number of seriously injured stood at 33.

When "*Doloroso II*" started to run again, he managed to catch four more runners on Calle Estafeta, thus justifying his name, "*Painful II*". Francisco Garcia from Pontevedra, Mikel Zabalza and Felix Gonzalez from Pamplona, and a young man from New Zealand, Ian Gordon, all fell prey to this bull and many of the runners who were there that day still consider it to be the most dangerous encierros ever.

A fighting bull from the Guardiola Fantoni ranch (Sevilla), that went by the name "*Entrometido*", caused one of the most horrifying gorings to date. On the second day of the running of the bulls in 1991, a young man from Sweden, Torly Urban, became the unfortunate target of this bull. As the runner tried to escape by climbing over the barricade, he was caught on the horns of the bull and remained there for what seemed an eternity, impaled on the sharp horns. He suffered several wounds and left a frightening image for all who witnessed the event. It was the same day that a girl from Norway, Anne Karlin Ruan, became the first woman to suffer an injury during the encierro.

Another bull that created several minutes of fear and panic was "*Portentoso*", of the Santiago Domecq Bohórquez bull raising ranch in Jerez de La Frontera (Cádiz), on the morning of Tuesday, July 9, 2002, during the third encierro, when the bull moved back and forth along Calle Estafeta for nearly twelve minutes. Five runners received horn wounds that day and several others were left with injuries, most of them due to this one bull.

A few years earlier, in 1997, another bull, "Roedor", from the María Luisa Domínguez bull ranch, had become separated the rest of the pack at the end of Calle Estafeta and was being led by the runners toward the Callejon. Just before entering the tunnel, the bull turned, catching the runners following him by surprise. He lowered his head and charged into the crowd, and by some miracle no one was gored. The door leading into the bullring had swung close by then as the bull continued to charge the runners, moving back and forth in the tight confines of the Callejon. A few moments of panic assed before, the bull finally ran into the bullring to end that days running of the bulls. Only one goring was recorded during the encierro, but that moment in the Callejon will long be remembered.



The bull "Liebrero" breaking through the barricade on July 8, 1939

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, during the second encierro, a bull called "Liebrero", from the legendary Sánchez-Cobaleda Ganadería (Salamanca), was heading down the Callejon to the tunnel leading into the bullring when someone standing behind the barricade yelled. Distracted, the bull turned and charged, breaking through the single-rail fencing and goring a woman. After several moments of sheer panic, with people scrambling to get out of the way, the bull was shot and killed by the local police before it could do more damage. As a result of this incident, we now have a double row of heavy wooden barricades along the route of the encierro.