

City of bullfighting Uruma City

Okinawan bullfighting has been popular since ancient times as part of local people's entertainment. Of all the areas in Okinawa, bullfighting is particularly popular in Uruma City, and the city declared itself to be the "City of Bullfighting" for the first time in the country.



How to enjoy bullfighting even for beginners

The winner of each bullfight is decided instantly when the other bull runs away. It's enough to just enjoy hearing the sound of the horns weighing more than a ton clash against each other, and seeing the bulls' powerful struggle to knock each other down, but it's even more fun if you know the techniques unique to bull fighting. For example, "kake" is a technique where a bull puts its own horns against the opponent's, and twists its neck. "Haratori" is a game-deciding technique if it's executed well, where a bull goes under the opponent's belly and attacks from underneath. Using these techniques the match may finish in several seconds or it may last for more than 30 minutes. In the

end, the bull that turns its head and tries to run away loses.

Another entertaining element of bullfighting is the name of the bulls. Bulls' names such as Panda and Ako (meaning "red" in the Okinawan language) are given according to their physical features or patterns on their body, and Togai [sharp tips], Tacchu [pointy], and Hige [not perfectly shaped] because of the shapes of their horns. It would also be interesting to pick the one you support by their names.

Most bullfighting arenas are bowl-shaped, with a ring about 18 meters in diameter surrounded by a row of seats; therefore, it's easy to watch even from the back.

Bullfighting is under the spotlight as a new tourist attraction!



Watch exciting bullfighting at the only dome-style bullfighting arena in the prefecture!

Ishikawa Multipurpose Dome

Completed in May 2007, this facility is the only dome-style bullfighting arena in the prefecture, and it has a capacity of about 3,000 people. Most tournaments in the prefecture hosted by the Okinawa Bullfighting Federation, including the All

Okinawa Bullfighting Tournament, are held in this Ishikawa Multipurpose Dome. The facility is used for approximately 25 bullfighting tournaments each year, and it is also used for events other than bullfighting, expanding its range of use.



Bulls are part of the family



Even children are involved in the care of the bulls, including walking and feeding them, and bulls are treated as members of the family.



Urume City Multipurpose Dome Map



The only one of its kind in the world is located on the grounds of the facility. **Pokémon manhole cover aka "Poke Lids" can be found here!**

Visit here for information about bullfighting!



Bullfighting official website
(Bullfighting in Okinawa Blog)

City of Bullfighting (Urume Iro)