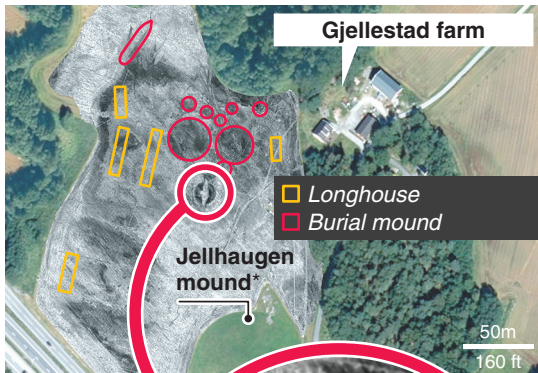
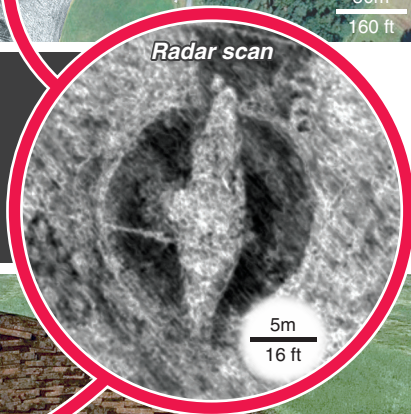


# Rare Viking longship excavated

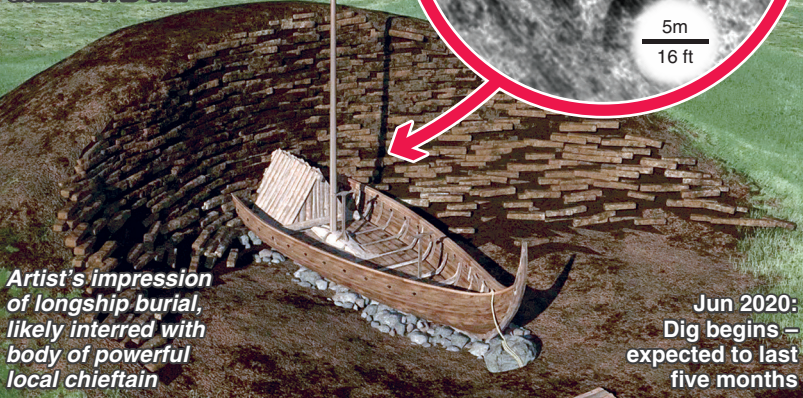
Norwegian archaeologists are excavating the largest longship found in more than a century, dating from the dawn of the Viking age



**2018:** Ship discovered when farmer drains soggy field, revealing artificial mound. Wooden keel, lying 50cm below topsoil, has survived at least 1,200 years. Analysis of oak conducted via small shaft shows it is being eaten away by fungi that thrive on modern fertilisers



## GJELLESTAD SHIP



*Artist's impression of longship burial, likely interred with body of powerful local chieftain*

**Jun 2020:**  
Dig begins –  
expected to last  
five months

\*Second-largest burial mound in Nordic countries – predates Vikings by some 200 years

Sources: Norway Today, Sunday Times, Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research

Pictures: Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research

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