

Horses and dogs sailed with Vikings  
to Britain, say scientists  
科學家證實維京人將動物帶到英國

根據科學家對遺骨的分析，從斯堪的納維亞航行到英國的維京人帶來了馬、狗甚至可能還有豬等動物。

Archaeologists were **excavating** Britain's largest Scandinavian **cremation mounds** when they found the animal remains mixed in with humans. By using a technique called strontium isotope analysis, the scientists from Durham University could **trace** back the origin of the bones to Scandinavia. They say it's the first scientific evidence that animals travelled with the Vikings to England on their **longboats**.

考古學家在挖掘英國最大的斯堪的納維亞火葬墓塚時，發現了混在人類遺骸中的動物遺骸，透過使用一種名為銦同位素分析的技術，杜倫大學的科學家們可以將遺骨所屬個體身份追溯至斯堪的納維亞，他們說，這是首次顯示動物隨維京人一同乘坐維京長船前往英國的科學證據。

The researchers suggest it was probably a wet, windy and uncomfortable trip that could have taken several weeks. A horse and dog were found in the same **graves** as humans. Scientists say this shows that the Vikings had a special relationship with the **creatures**, which were more like pets than animals for economic purposes like farming. Space would have been limited on the longboats, suggesting that a Viking leader chose his or her favourite animals to **make the long journey** to England.

研究人員表示，這可能是一次歷時數週、潮濕、多風又不舒服的旅程，一匹馬和一條狗和人類在同一個墳墓中被發現，科學家說：這顯示維京人與這些動物有著特殊的關

係，這些動物更像是他們的寵物，而非用於農耕等經濟目的的牲畜，維京船上的空間本來就有限，這表明維京人的首領選擇了最心愛的動物隨其一同踏上駛往英格蘭的漫長旅途。

### 1. 字彙表

archaeologists	考古學家
excavating	挖掘
cremation mounds	火葬墓塚
trace	追溯，查明...的源頭
longboats	維京長船
graves	墳墓
creatures	動物
make the long journey	長途旅行

### 2. 閱讀理解：請在讀完上文後，回答下列問題。（答案見下頁）

1. Where did archaeologists find the bones of animals?
2. True or false? *The animals travelled to England separately from their Viking owners.*
3. What were conditions like on the journey to England?
4. What suggests that Viking leaders chose their favourite animals to take with them on the journey to England?

### 3. 答案

1. Where did archaeologists find the bones of animals?

**They found them in cremation mounds where animal remains were mixed in with human remains.**

2. True or false? *The animals travelled to England separately from their Viking owners.*

**False. Scientific evidence shows that animals travelled with the Vikings to England on their longboats.**

3. What were conditions like on the journey to England?

**Research suggests it was probably a wet, windy and uncomfortable trip that could have taken several weeks.**

4. What suggests that Viking leaders chose their favourite animals to take with them on the journey to England?

**Space would have been limited on the longboats, meaning that a Viking leader would have had to choose a limited number of animals to take with them on the journey to England. That suggests the chosen animals would have been their favourite.**