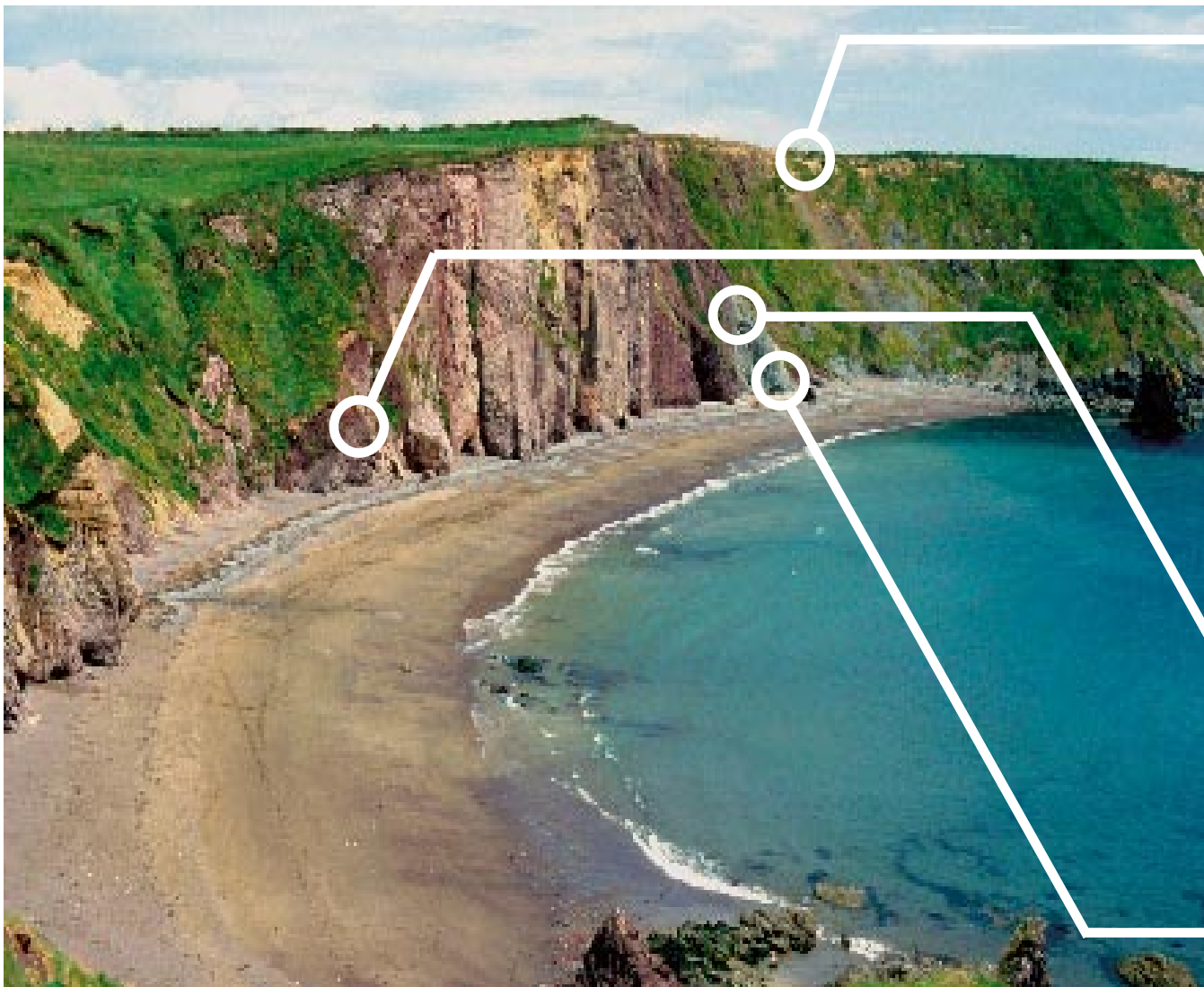


# BALLYDOWANE BAY - GEOLOGICAL FEATURES



Boulder rich clays, and layered sands and gravels are draped across the rocky foundation of the modern landscape. These were deposited here at the end of the last Ice Age, about 12,000 years ago.



Layered, reddish brown coloured, pebble rich sandstones deposited about 380 million years ago by rivers which flowed south, through an ancient desert, from mountains a long way to the north. The rocks were upended by a second continental collision event, about 300 million years ago.



Green basalt boulders and blocks in red sandstone mark the surface of an ancient desert. The ocean floor basalt had been converted into land near the Equator, by a continental collision event about 400 million years ago.



Green coloured basalt erupted from submarine volcanoes onto an ancient sea floor, about 460 million years ago. Ireland did not exist as a land area then: it was part of an ocean floor near the South Pole.

