In the Edo Period, a network of rivers and canals crisscrossed the city. Water transport, carrying everyday goods from other parts of Japan, played a big part in the Edo economy and in the daily lives of its inhabitants, and Edo thrived as a city of water. Today, efforts to create pleasant waterside spaces are underway by seizing opportunities presented by urban development.

Sources: Old map: Jinbunsha Restoration of the Kaiho Oedo Ezu (Pocket Map of Edo) (original edition printed in 1843), with the cooperation of Kochizu Library Co., Ltd. Modern map: The current map has been scaled down to 78% east and west;