

[coo - ray]

KURE where Suzy lived



English

Map
Inside

Free

In this
Corner of the World

Kure Tourism Association

THE WAY TO KURE FROM HIROSHIMA

You feel like you're in the story, "In this Corner of the World". Come and visit Kure from Hiroshima as Suzy did. You can access Kure by JR rail, bus or ferry.

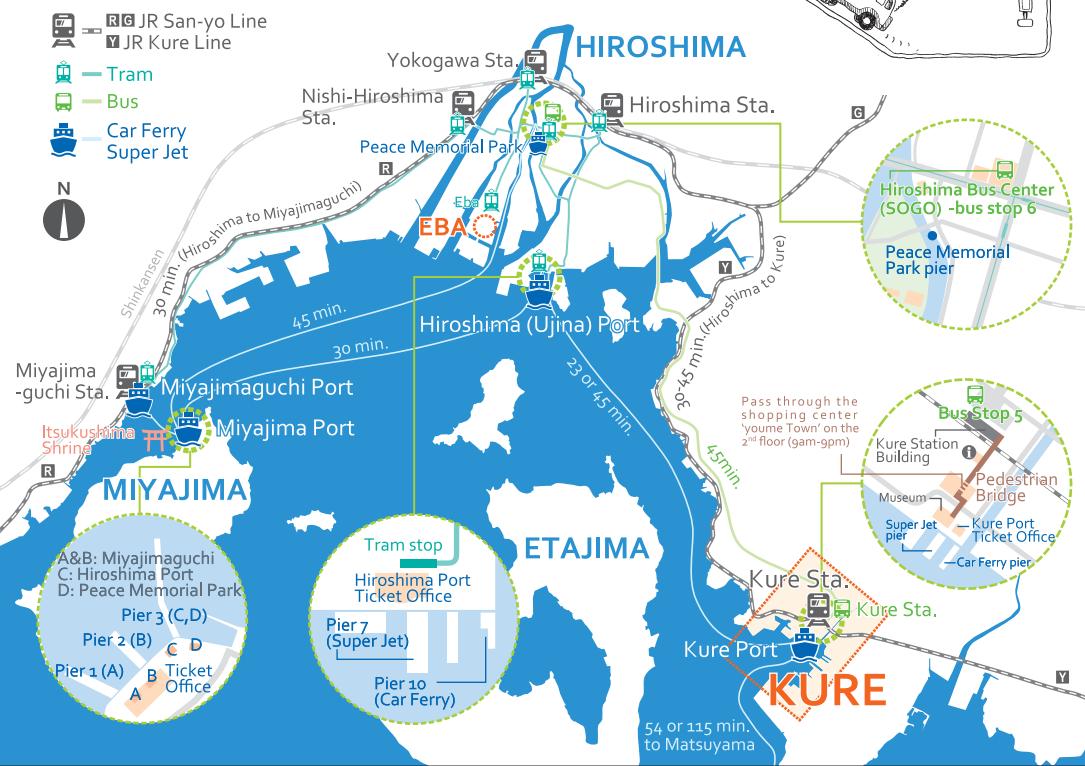
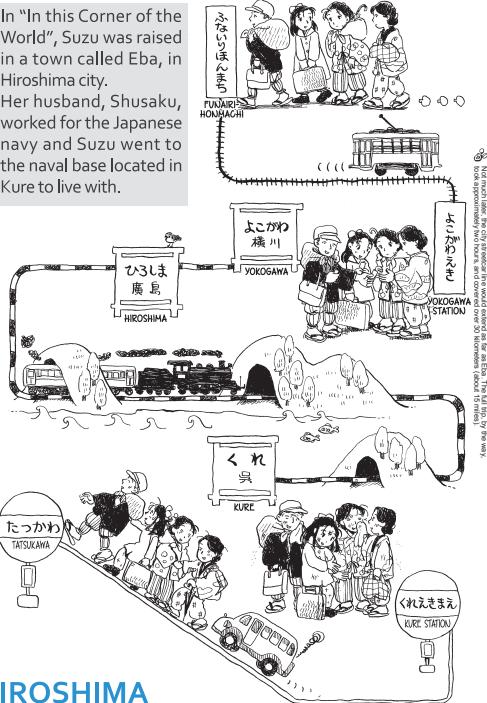
JR rail In the story, Suzy used the train to go to Kure. You can travel to Kure from JR Hiroshima station via the Kure line. The rapid train service departs every 30 to 60 minutes during the day and the journey takes around 30 minutes. The local trains operate every 30 minutes and the trip takes 45 minutes. The train fare is free upon presentation of your JAPAN RAIL PASS.

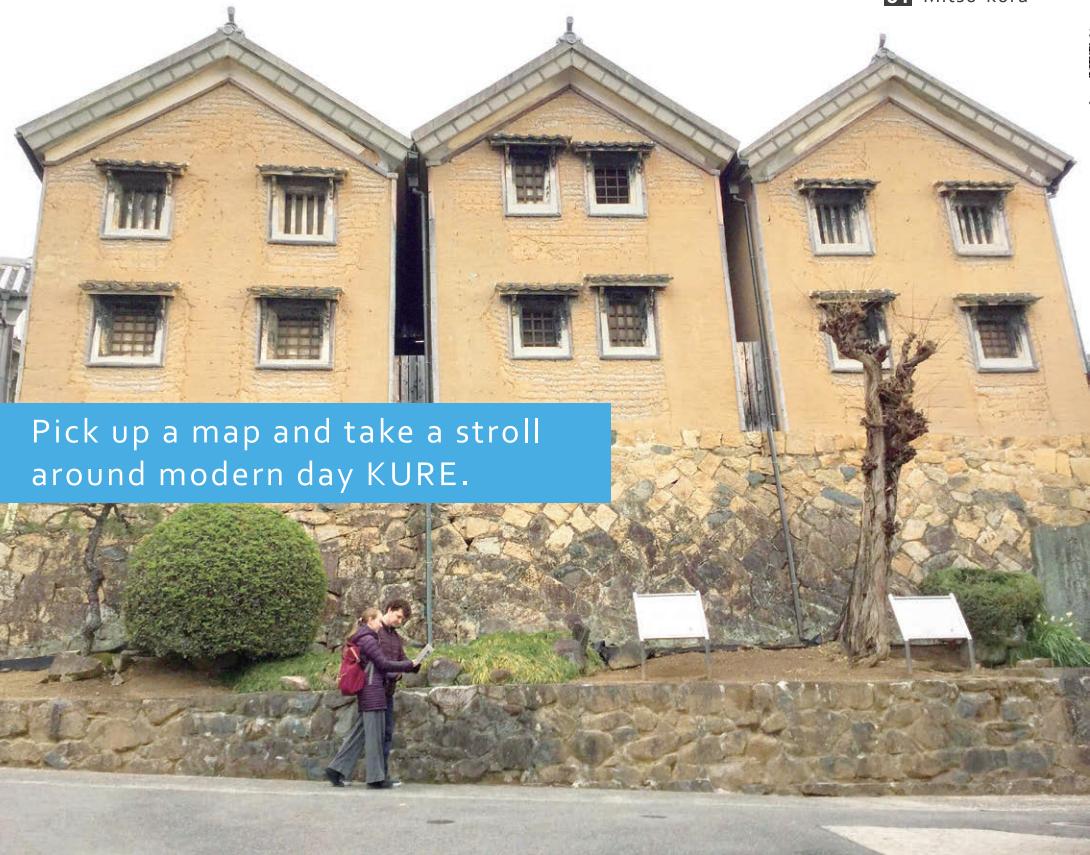
Bus From Hiroshima Bus Center inside the SOGO department store building, you can catch a Hiroden Bus or JR Bus to Kure. The buses depart from bus stop 6. The name of the bus line is Kurea Line (クレアイン). These buses run regularly every 10 to 20 minutes and take roughly 45 minutes to reach Kure Station. When boarding the bus, please take a numbered ticket. There is a screen inside the bus which will tell you the fare you need to pay according to the number on your ticket. If you can, try to prepare change before you get on the bus. However, you are able to change a 1000 yen bill into smaller coins via the machine next to the driver.

Car Ferry / Super Jet The 'Super Jet' high-speed ferry running from Hiroshima (Ujina) Port to Kure Port operates every 1-2 hours and takes approximately 23 minutes. The fare is 2100 yen. The 'Car Ferry' also takes you to Kure but with a longer journey time of close to one hour. It will cost 930 yen. You can buy tickets at the port from the terminal window.

Note: Please make sure that the ferry will stop at Kure as some ferries travel directly from Hiroshima to Matsuyama without stopping at Kure.

In "In this Corner of the World", Suzy was raised in a town called Eba, in Hiroshima city. Her husband, Shusaku, worked for the Japanese navy and Suzy went to the naval base located in Kure to live with.





Pick up a map and take a stroll around modern day KURE.

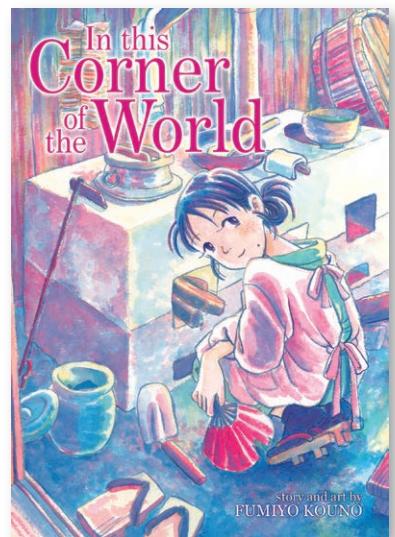


You will find links to KURE's past.



About The Manga "In this Corner of the World"

This story was set in Hiroshima Prefecture, in the 1940s. Suzu, the main character, was born in Hiroshima and went to Kure to join Shusaku, her husband, and his family in the ship-building industry in Kure. Suzu slowly gets used to her new life in Kure. Despite being in a difficult situation and struggling against the war, she finds small happiness in everyday life. The story is highly rated for its detailed description of the lives of the local people and the unique psychology of the characters trying to survive the war in Kure. The manga was made into an animated film in 2016.



Disclaimer

This map was originally produced by the Kure Tourism Association to introduce the places that appear in the manga, but the manga production is not directly involved in the production of this map.

Request for Visitors

The map "KURE where Suzu lived" has detailed some walking routes that pass through residential areas. These areas are not sightseeing spots in Kure, and therefore we ask that you refrain from disturbing local residents and do not trespass on any private properties without permission.

KURE where Suzu lived

Production	ARCHITECTURE WALK HIROSHIMA
Translation	Reiko Inaba(Deep Kure), Kieko Hirata
English proof-reading	Lindsay Tharby, Benjamin Tharby
In-kind sponsor	FUTABASHA publishers Ltd., Tokyo
First Printing	May, 2019
Publisher	KURE TOURISM ASSOCIATION 4-7-1 Hondori, Kure, Hiroshima, 737-0045 Japan https://www.kure-kankou.jp

Discover Kure where Suzu used to live.

The manga "In this Corner of the World", later made into an animated film, depicts Kure in the latter stage of WW2 and was written through the perspective of people living in Kure city. So, what is Kure like ?

The History of the Modern Navy in Japan

First of all, we have to know about the history of the modern navy in Japan to understand Kure. In Japan, a more modern government was established after political change in the late 19th century, and it began to develop a navy modelled after the navy of the United Kingdom. The Japanese navy became the third largest in the world (after the UK and US) in the 1930s. However, Japan lost the war and the Japanese navy was decommissioned. The new constitution of Japan proclaims that Japanese people must renounce war forever, but in 1954 the Maritime Self Defense Forces (JMSDF), quite similar to the navy, were established and still exist to this day.

The Construction of Kure City

Kure used to be a small village made up of some rural areas. Kure is on the Seto Inland Sea and is surrounded on three sides by many hills. To go outside of the city, there were only a few narrow, steep roads. These geographical features prompted the Japanese Government to establish a naval base, and in 1890 a naval port was built. The navy also led the city planning of Kure. From the 17th to 19th century, land was reclaimed from Kure's bay and used as farmland. On this land, the navy constructed roads that formed a grid. Huge numbers of soldiers and factory workers moved to Kure and the population rapidly increased. Therefore, houses had to not only be built on flat land but also on the hill sides. During the war, the central part of the city was a very busy downtown hub. There were lots of buildings such as restaurants, theaters, shops and pool halls that were crowded with sailors. Also, civil infrastructure such as trams and waterworks were developed.

Naval Buildings in Kure

Before the modernization of Japan, there was no technology to build a large facility using bricks and iron. It was necessary to master the Western techniques. Kotaro Sakurai, a Japanese architect who studied abroad at the University of London, was an excellent student and became a member of the Royal Institute of British Architects. He designed some wonderful naval buildings such as the Kure Naval District Headquarters **9** and the Former Official Residence of Commander-in-chief. **16**

The Flourishing and Decline of Kure

As the Japanese navy grew, the naval port in Kure was getting bigger and eventually it became the biggest naval port in the east. The navy dockyard was world-class in terms of its scale and technology and a lot of battleships and aircraft carriers were built here. The population of Kure increased to become one of the ten largest cities in Japan.

However, this prosperity did not last long. During WW2 (1941-1945), many of the naval facilities



6 Battleship Yamato was built in Kure



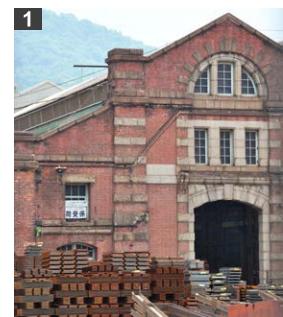
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9



1



15



16



3



14



21



increased to become one of the ten largest cities in Japan.

However, this prosperity did not last long. During WW2 (1941-1945), many of the naval facilities were destroyed by US military air strikes. Indiscriminate bombings of heavily populated civilian areas occurred. After Japan's surrender in the Pacific War, the Australian, New Zealand, British, and the U.S. army was stationed in Kure for several years. The naval base was taken over by the Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) and the navy dockyard was sold to private companies.

Suzu, the main character, 'In this Corner of the World', moved to Kure at the height of the war. She saw how the city of Kure had changed since the peak of its development.

Kure Today

Kure was seriously damaged during the war, however, thanks to the high level of shipbuilding expertise, the city has recovered to become the vibrant industrial city it is today. A few naval facilities and old houses still remain. Walk with this map and try to imagine for yourself the city of Kure that Suzu must have seen !

Food Culture of Kure

Kure doesn't have a long history like Kyoto, however, Kure has a unique port town food culture influenced by its naval traditions.

Curry and rice : Curry is a kind of stew and the recipe that the Japanese navy made is based on British curry. It has become one of the most popular dishes to eat at home today. You can eat an original navy curry at some restaurants in Kure. **A**

Nikujaga : Nikujaga is a dish made of simmered potatoes and beef in a sweet soy sauce. It is also a dish the Japanese navy made and became a popular family meal. Until the Meiji era (which began in 1868), Japanese people did not eat a lot of meat. Curry or Nikujaga was made for building up soldiers' health. There are restaurants today that sell original and authentic Nikujaga. **D**

Fried Cake : This is a doughnut filled with sweet bean paste. Just after the war ended, a shop named FUKUZUMI produced and sold them. They are sold even today. **E**

Mitsumanju : It is a manju, a baked bun, made with a sweet bean paste and dough mixed with honey. **F**
Onraimanto : Onraimanto is a manju, a kind of bun, filled with pineapple jam. They got the idea of using pineapple jam from Taiwanese sweets. **G**

Yatai (mobile restaurants) : Yatai appear every evening on Kuramoto-dori street. Many of them offer ramen, Chinese style noodles. Few owners of these restaurants can speak English but it is definitely worth trying. **C**



Figure 1
Kure in the 16th century

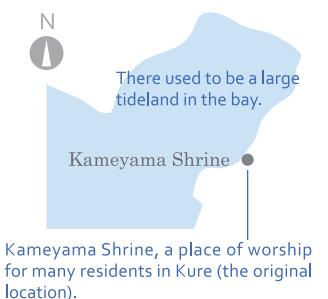
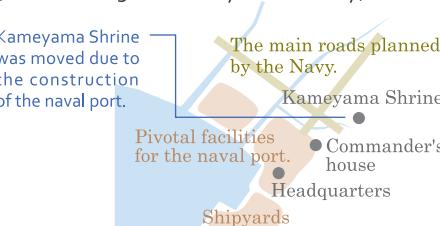


Figure 2
The area of Kure where the bay was
reclaimed (during the mid-19th century).



Figure 3
The construction of Kure City led by the Navy
(in the late 19th and early 20th century).

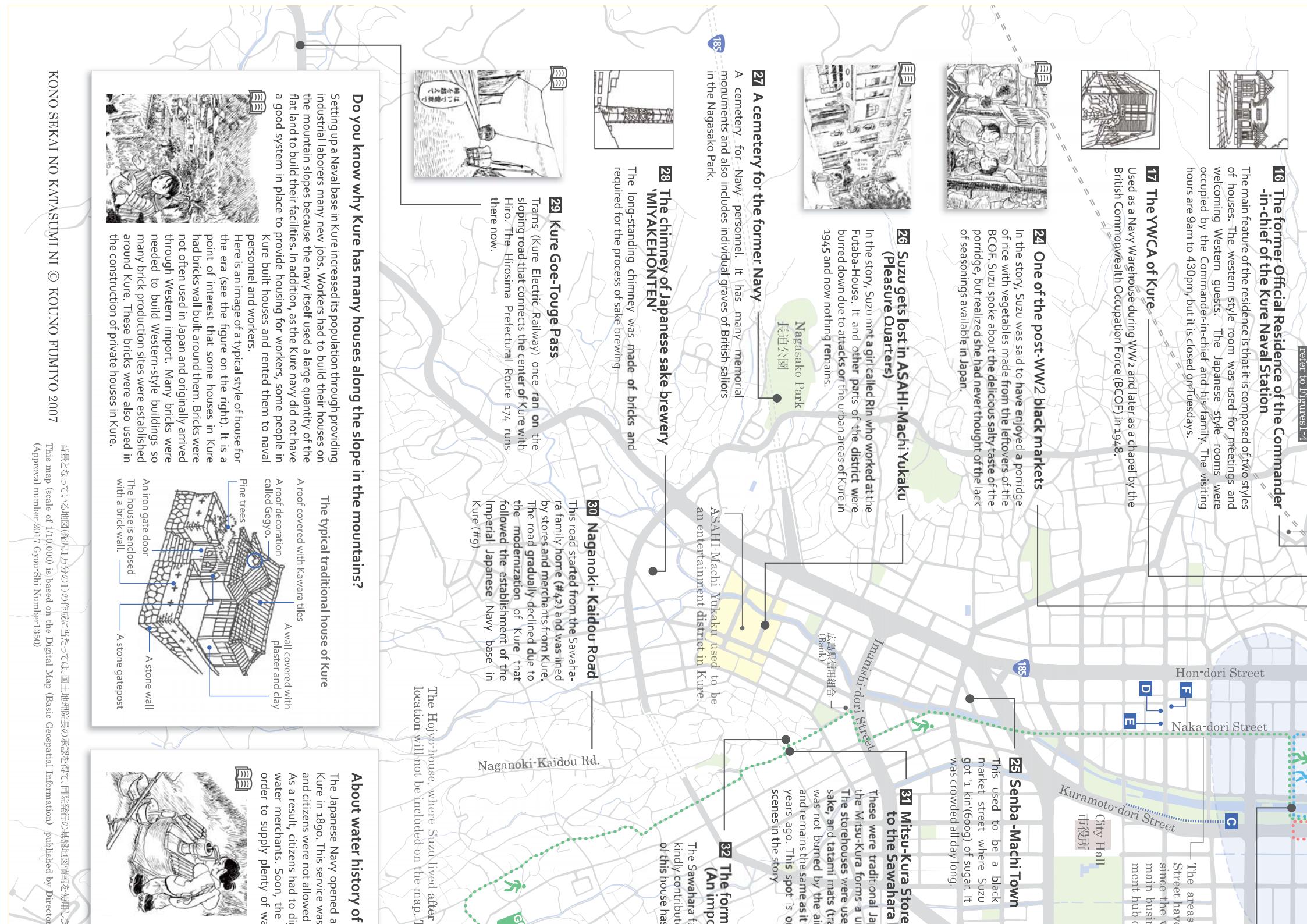


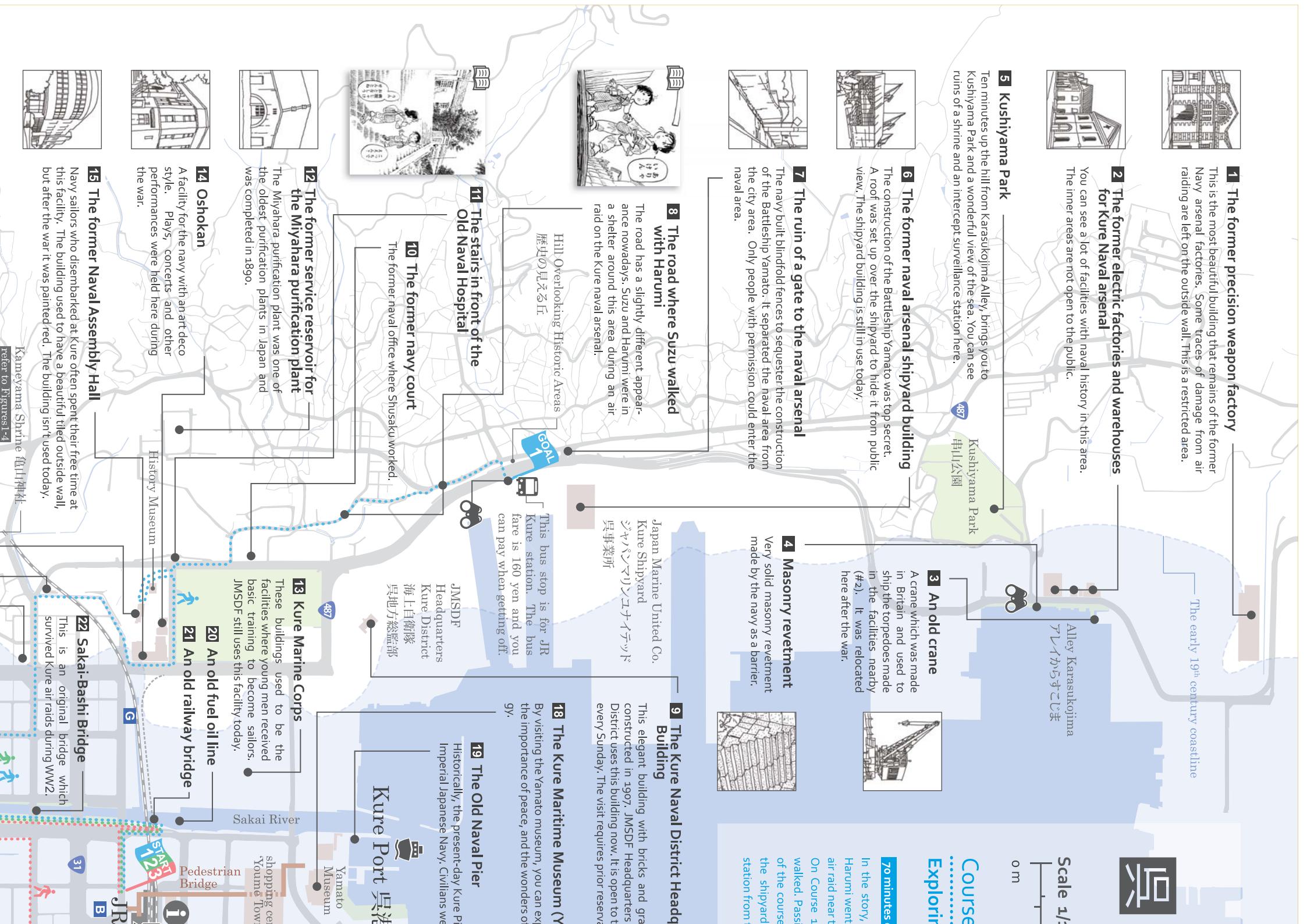
The Navy bought the land on the eastern side of the bay and prohibited citizens from entering. Pivotal facilities for the Navy were built where "Kure machi" was originally located.

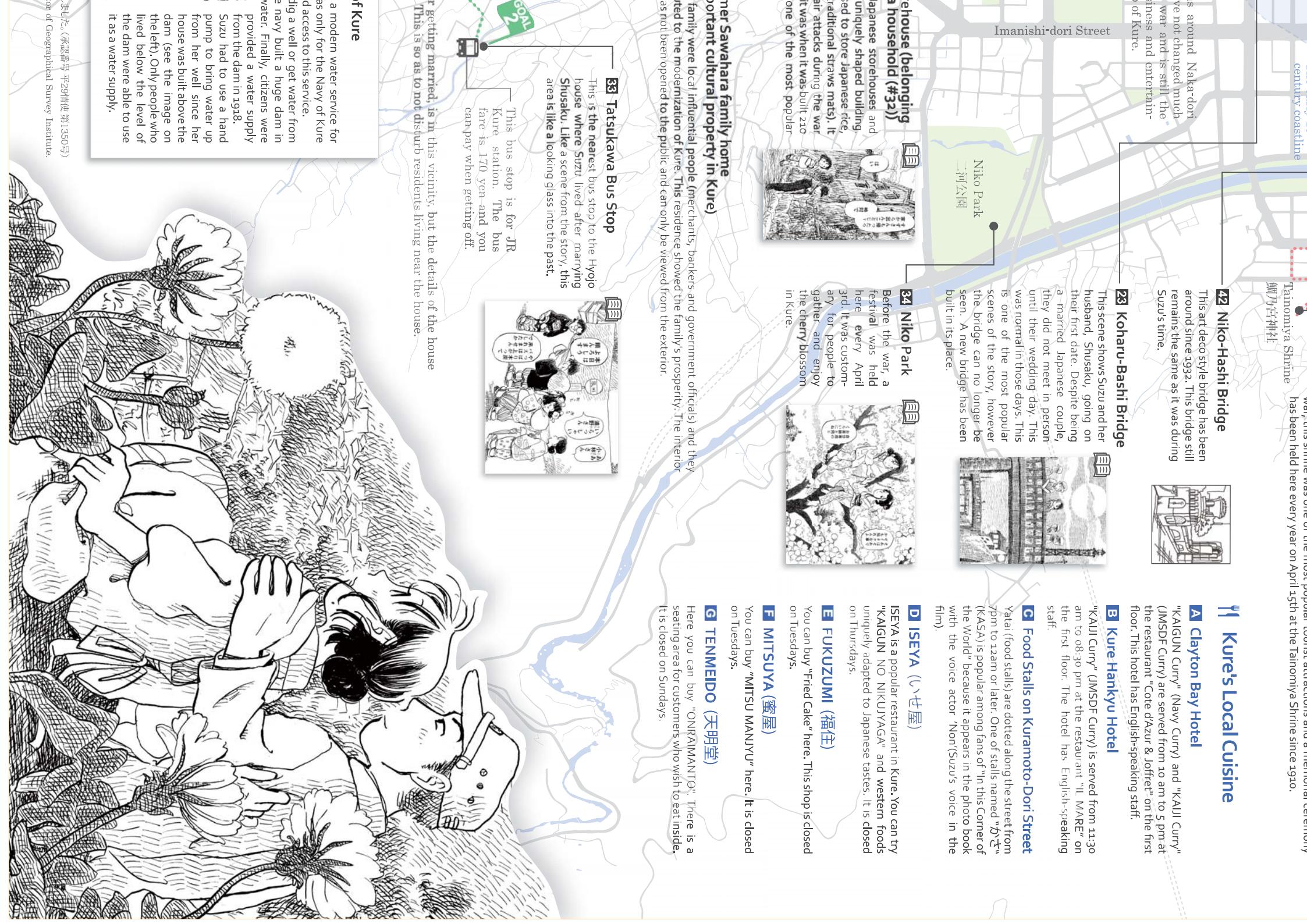
Figure 4
After WW2 (From the late 20th century
to the present)



The former Official Residence of the Commander-in-chief and its surrounding area became a park and was opened to the public.







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KURE where SUZU lived



link to google map™



e 1



Course 2



Course 3



Course 4



Exploring the former naval area

90 minutes on foot

It to the naval hospital and encountered an
the shipyard.
1, you can follow the route where they
osing by the naval area, you'll reach the end
use where you can see a panoramic view of
ards. You can take a bus back to JR Kure
n this point.



quarters

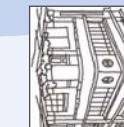
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Yamato Museum)

experience the history of Kure,
of naval science and technolo-

35 Shops along the coast

Civilians were prohibited from using the Kure pier (#15), so
they used a pier in Kawaraishi. Because of this, the area
became a very busy shopping area. You can see some
interesting buildings around here.



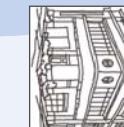
43

Props of blindfold fences in Kawaraishi

The navy built blindfold fences along the Kure Line to
conceal the construction of the Battleship Yamato.

44 Brick tunnels for pedestrians

There are two very narrow brick tunnels
for pedestrians to cross under the Kure
Line.



Exploring areas of Kure which
are frozen in time from the war

90 minutes on foot

This course takes you to the west side of Kure to
Kawaraishi and Ryojo. Although these areas do not
appear in the story, some buildings that survived air
raids during the war still remain. When exploring these
areas, you may feel like you are stepping into the past.
We recommend climbing the 200 steps of Ryojo. JR
Kawaraishi station is near the end point of this course.

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37 The Ryojo tunnels

There are two railway tunnels side by side in
Ryojo. The older one is no longer in use.



Niko River

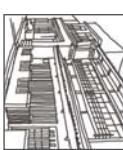
31

The early 19th century coastline

A

36 'Machiya' (traditional merchants' houses),
and western style houses

Many merchants who lived near the shoreline where the
naval facilities were to be built, were relocated to Kawara-
ishi. You can see some historical shops.



39 The 200 steps of Ryojo

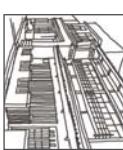
A very narrow stone staircase on a steep hill. If you climb the 200 steps, you
can enjoy a beautiful panoramic view of Kure.

31

38 An old air raid shelter

Most of Kure's limited flat land was used to open the Kure Naval District.

Locals had to build their houses on the mountain slopes. Many of the
higher-ranking naval personnel lived in Ryojo.



41 The Memorial Martyrdom, for the sinking of Submarine No.6

of the Imperial Japanese Navy.

The anchor and the chain of the submarine, rest at the foot of the monument. Before the
war, this shrine was one of the most popular tourist attractions and a memorial ceremony

