Rï

Care & placement notes

Prepared for whoever is caring for Rï. This is the practical version: what matters on day one, followed by enough detail to help her settle in safely and comfortably.

WHAT TO KNOW FIRST

- **Fully blind.** Her vision loss happened fairly suddenly around **early September 2025**. She navigates familiar spaces using memory, sound, touch, and routine, but needs time to map a new environment.
- **No poultry.** Poultry causes fairly severe diarrhea.
- **Veterinary follow-up is needed promptly.** She currently has a urinary tract infection and active skin issues that should be addressed.
- **Preferred long-term caregiver: Stephanie Ruiza Lim - (702) 875-3927.** Stephanie was one of Rï's longtime caregivers and lived with her for years; Rï knows her well. My strong preference is that Stephanie become her long-term caregiver if she is able and willing.
- If Stephanie cannot take her, **Marin Humane** is my preferred fallback for help arranging an appropriate long-term home.

At a glance

- **Name:** Rï, pronounced “Rye.” Her coat reminded me of marble rye bread; the spelling is intentional.
- **DOB:** 5/09/2020 - please verify with West Marin Pet Hospital.
- **Breed / appearance:** Pug; brindle with silvery highlights.
- **Weight:** approximately 20 lb.
- **Spayed:** yes, since approximately six months of age.
- **Microchip:** registered with HomeAgain; the chip number is not listed here.
- **Veterinarian:** West Marin Pet Hospital; she has typically been seen by Dr. Redfield and Dr. May.

Vision & navigating a home

Rï is fully blind. Her vision loss developed fairly suddenly around early September 2025. Once she knows a place well, she builds a strong memory map and can move through it with surprising confidence. Her blindness has not changed her personality, cognition, or ability to bond, and she is generally not fearful or distressed by it.

- Keep furniture and major objects in consistent locations.
- In a new environment, guide her until she has learned the layout; avoid sudden layout changes.
- Speak before touching her so she knows you are approaching.
- Use gentle, steady movements and soft verbal or physical cues.
- **Stairs:** she may be hesitant with stairs in an unfamiliar place until she learns where they begin and end and how they are laid out. Once she becomes familiar with them, she traverses them confidently in the way a well-adapted blind dog normally would. Supervise closely while she is learning a new staircase.

Temperament & companionship

- Calm, sweet, gentle, low-reactivity, and generally non-demanding.
- Bonds closely with her primary caregiver and likes physical proximity - leaning against you, resting her chin on you, sitting on the sofa, or sleeping nearby.
- Prefers quiet companionship and short bursts of play rather than high stimulation.
- Usually only barks at unfamiliar visitors as normal alert behavior.

- Well behaved around other dogs but often not especially interested in them. She previously lived happily with another pug and could do well with one calm dog, but she is also comfortable as the only dog.
- At a dog park she is more likely to sit with her person than mingle.

Routine, handling & exercise

- Maintain predictable feeding and bedtime routines.
- Do not over-handle or constantly reposition her; calm guidance works better.
- Short, relaxed walks are appropriate. She is very clear when she has had enough.
- Because she is a pug (brachycephalic), avoid heat stress and monitor her breathing in warm weather.
- She is extremely well trained and responds well to learned verbal cues. She will also “high five” with her left paw; touch can help her orient to the cue.

Food & bathroom routine

NO POULTRY - poultry causes fairly severe diarrhea.

- **Usual food:** Open Farm Wild-Caught Salmon & Ancient Grains.
- **Amount:** one 70 cc scoop, twice daily.
- **Supplement:** one pump of Native Pet Omega Oil (fish oil) with food.
- **Bathroom:** typically relieves herself about twice daily. In a familiar home she can independently navigate stairs to go outside; in a new place, escort her until she knows the route.

Medical notes

- **Current urinary tract infection:** should receive prompt veterinary attention.
- **Current skin issues:** should also be assessed promptly. She has had skin problems before.
- **Blindness:** sudden onset around early September 2025; no known cause is listed in these notes.
- **Pug airway:** avoid overheating and excessive exertion.
- Historically up to date on routine veterinary care; please confirm current status with West Marin Pet Hospital.

Placement

My strong preference is that Rï live with **Stephanie Ruiza Lim - (702) 875-3927**. Stephanie was one of her longtime caregivers and Rï already knows her. If Stephanie is unable or unwilling to take her, please contact **Marin Humane** for help arranging an appropriate long-term home.

The best home for Rï is quiet, predictable, and low-chaos, with no aggressive animals and a person who values steady companionship more than high activity.

The short version

Rï is a gentle, emotionally steady pug who happens to be blind. Her vision loss came on fairly suddenly, but she has adapted remarkably well. Give her time to map a new home, be especially patient with unfamiliar stairs, keep her routines and surroundings consistent, avoid poultry, give her plenty of quiet closeness, and make sure her current medical issues receive prompt attention. Once she knows where everything is, she is remarkably independent.