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## Cigar Geeks Staff Review

### Bow Tie Blue Label Robusto

Written by Cigar Geeks Member: Eddie Naughton (BlackIrish)

**82**

Cigar Geeks Rating

Welcome to another Cigar Geeks Critique of a vitola provided to us by our friends at [Bow Tie Cigar Company](#). They have generously provided a number of their [Blue Label](#) cigars in the Robusto size.

<b>Length:</b>	4.5
<b>Ring Gauge:</b>	50
<b>Country Manufactured:</b>	Dominican Republic
<b>Filler:</b>	Dominican Republic
<b>Binder:</b>	Dominican Republic
<b>Wrapper:</b>	Connecticut Broadleaf
<b>Color:</b>	Maduro
<b>Strength:</b>	Medium
<b>Shape:</b>	Robusto



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This cigar was enjoyed with Sparkling water

**Pre-Light: 17 Points of 20 Possible**

A robusto with a very slight box press, in the Cuban style, this cigar has a dark wrapper of Dominican broadleaf. I'm used to the thick, leathery Connecticut broadleaf, but this leaf is thinner, more delicate, less rough. It's more dry than oily, but it has a faint dull sheen. There are bumps, and a slight candycane effect from the roll. The aroma from the foot is faint, mild tobacco. The single cap also stands out a bit, but it slices cleanly. The draw is easy, with straw flavors.

**Light & Burn: 14 Points of 15 Possible**

The burn reveals how well this cigar is made. It lights easily from a soft flame and burns quite straight with only a bit of wobble. The ash is a firm, compact biscuit that grows long and strong -- it reached to half the length of the cigar before it fell, and then I didn't need ash it again until I put down the nub. The easy draw gives a great volume of smoke. I'll take off one point for the wobble in the burn line, but other than that, the burn is terrific.

**Construction: 26 Points of 30 Possible**

The construction is very good. The wrapper had some small bumps but no other flaws. The single cap was mounted pretty well, though not perfectly. The head stood up very well to the cut and remained intact and strong throughout the smoke. The fill was very good - not as heavy as some, but the bunching and roll were excellent. Overall, very good marks in the construction department.

**Flavor: 25 Points of 35 Possible**

The flavors and aromas just didn't wow me.

Upon lighting, I got a distinct straw flavor, which isn't one of my favorites. After a puff or two the flavors were darker - some char, some bitter espresso, or maybe burnt coffee - but they weren't deep and rich. In fact, there were times where it seemed almost delicate. The smoke was fairly light in body, with a clean, short finish. The aroma of the smoke had a similar straw/hay note to it.

These flavors remained pretty steady throughout the smoke. It was definitely a smooth smoke, easy to exhale through the nose. I wasn't able to discern many flavors, although from time to time I'd get some more straw, and once in a while a flavor that I couldn't put my finger on but that seem curiously reminiscent of a peppermint patty. It's one of the more unusual flavors I've found in a cigar, but it disappeared too quickly for me to really study or savor it.

Generally, the flavors seemed like other run of the mill Dominican cigars: straw notes, light in body, dry rather than sweet on the finish, not much depth or complexity. It wasn't bad, mind you, not unpleasant, but pretty unexceptional.

**Summary**

Overall, the objective attributes of this cigar - burn, construction, appearance - were its strong suit, and it deserves high marks for those categories. The flavors just wasn't there for me. Maybe it's not my flavor profile, maybe my palate can't appreciate the more delicate qualities of the smoke.

The flavor category is the most subjective, and I wouldn't be surprised if others liked the flavor more. Given this, and the quality of the construction and burn, I certainly wouldn't advise against this cigar, but I don't think it will have a place in my collection.

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