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## Cigar Geeks Staff Review

**Bow Tie Blue Label Robusto**

Written by Cigar Geeks Member: Les (Hot Stuff x)

**90**

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 Dihydrogen Monoxide

**Pre-Light: 18 Points of 20 Possible**

This is a good looking, very dark maduro with a smooth and somewhat oily wrapper. It has an interesting band in the shape of a bow tie, with no words on the front, but the company's URL on the back. The triple cap is very well done (almost seamless looking), and the cigar has light box press. The cigar was well packed, and didn't have any too-hard or too-soft spots. The prelit cigar had a light aroma that was quite pleasant.

**Light & Burn: 13 Points of 15 Possible**

Excellent marks here. After toasting the foot with a match, I lit with a double torch and got an evenly lit foot. The cigar burned perfectly for the first 2/3 and had a light grey ash that held well (up to 2" before I tapped it off). The burn got just a bit biased in the final couple of inches, but nothing to get in a twist over. No relight or correction was required. The draw was excellent, and this thing poured out smoke like a locomotive. Burn rate was pretty fast...damn, forgot to start my timer. Still, pretty quick burn compared to other cigars of similar size--I'm not knocking off points for that though.

**Construction: 28 Points of 30 Possible**

Construction was very good, if not quite excellent. I noticed one wrapper seam that could have been a bit smoother, but other than that, no quibbles. As stated above, draw was excellent. Cigar held together perfectly during the smoke, with no splits, cracks, unravelling, or other self-destruction. Really nothing bad to say about the overall construction.

**Flavor: 31 Points of 35 Possible**

Ahh, flavor. As far as I'm concerned, this is what makes or breaks a cigar. No matter how good a cigar scores in other areas, if it does poorly in the flavor department, I won't be interested in smoking another one.

This cigar started with some light spice. I took care not to scorch the foot when lighting. Initial 1/4 of the cigar was rather earthy, like a dark espresso, with the light spice tasted at the opening draws, as well as a hint of underlying sweetness. I had a couple of draws that had a bit of harshness, but this quickly went away and seemed to be a transition point.

Room note was excellent, somewhat floral.

At the 1/2 way mark the cigar became creamier and a touch sweeter, but the earthiness was still there. This cigar has a long finish and the flavor really lingers on the palate. With about 1.25" remaining, I put the cigar on my nubber, but the smoke was getting pretty hot. I let the cigar rest a bit and continued smoking slowly. This brought an improvement in the flavor, and I managed to smoke this down to the nub.

**Summary**

This is a nicely made and flavorful medium bodied cigar. It packs a lot of rich, maduro flavor, with light spice upon lighting, and with the main flavor notes being dark roast coffee with a touch of sweetness that varies along the length of the cigar. The cigar transitioned a couple of times, with the best flavor coming in the middle 1/3, and again at the very end. Each transition is prefaced by the slightest hint of harshness, but when that curtain is pulled back the smoker is rewarded with a delightful creaminess and light sweetness. I'd love to have some of these to rest and see how they do in another six months or so. Overall I really enjoyed this cigar...wouldn't have minded if it was another 1/2" longer...it was over too soon. The flavor was a bit dark during the transition spots to suit my taste, but in other places it suited me perfectly. I thought it was a quality cigar, and I would happily smoke another.

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