

October 20, 2013

Azan Burgundy Line Short Robusto (4 3/8 x 50)





Video review HERE.

Roberto Pelayo Duran began his life's work in his homeland of Havana, Cuba where tobacco grabbed a hold of him, and never let go. Supervising the production of cigar manufacturing in Cuba was only the beginning as he later went on to assemble and manage distribution of all Cuban cigar brands for Asia and Canada for The Pacific Cigar Company Ltd. After various high level positions in the tobacco industry Roberto's new venture gives him the platform to introduce a brand of cigars that offer the same quality, construction, and detail which he exceeded from those he supervised while in Cuba.

One interesting thing about the **Azan brand** is it was the only Cuban brand made by Chinese immigrants.

The Burgundy Line is the second cigar I have reviewed from Roberto Duran.

Wrapper: Cuban seed Corojo from Ecuador, grades 3 & 4, naturally medium dark-brown wrapper

Filler: A selection of the finest tobaccos from Jalana and Esteli in Nicaragua

Filler: A selection of the finest tobaccos from Jalapa and Esteli in Nicaragua Binder: The finest Jalapa binder

The cigar is a medium brown and has a nice looking density to the foot.



The test draw after cutting the cap had a touch of firmness to it. Actually, it felt perfect. The initial flavors took awhile to nail down. At the 1/4" point I finally settled on these; tangy cedar, cocoa, and dry oak. The pepper was around a 7 and was a white pepper. The finish was one of a cream with oak notes and some lingering pepper. The finish was not long initially. I would call it a medium length on the finish.



At about the midpoint the flavors were about the same as before. The cedar is very sweet with just a touch of richness. The cocoa is still there and now there are a few citrus notes in the cedar. The pepper is unchanged. The finish has become much better. The cream is much sweeter. The cigar is medium bodied. The front end flavors are very nice and the finish is getting better and better.

The cigar ended with few changes but in this case that is not a bad thing. I loved the sweet, slightly rich cedar with cocoa notes and the dry oak made a great base. The pepper elevated to an 8. The cigar was medium bodied and took 1 hour to smoke. The finish was a huge player in this cigar. I loved the very sweet cream with oak notes and it had a large amount of lingering white pepper. Of the two, I liked this cigar a little more than the white label. Both are very good cigars and look for them on shelves and decided for yourself. Roberto Duran has 2 great cigars in the Azan line.

