



Review: Flor de Selva Egoista

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Flor de Selva is a brand that has received a lot of attention from the European market. The cigar has been on the market there since 1994, but recently it began to come to the United States and find its way into retail shops in America. I never smoked the brand till I was contacted by the company, but after smoking my way through the portfolio I can see why the company was doing well in Europe. I was inspired to review this cigar for two reasons today, and those two reasons are that I saw RobbyRas smoking the maduro offering and that the company would be on CigarChat this week as well. They are a company to tryout, so tune in this week for the show and hear what they are all about and where you can get their offerings. They have a lot of great stuff, some of it fairly new, and today I will be taking a look at a new size to a line that has been on the market for 20 years.

## Flor de Selva Egoista

Size: 3.5" with a 50 ring gauge Vitola: Petit Robusto

Wrapper: Ecuadorian Connecticut from Talanga - Honduras

Binder: Jamastrán

Filler: Jamastrán - Azacualpa - Jacaltepec

MSRP: \$7.75

Cigars smoked for review: Two

Reviewed cigar under Cigar Federation rating system.

Appearance and Aroma: The petit robusto comes with a beautiful Connecticut wrapper and it has a nice golden hay coloring to it. It is fairly silky in texture and smooth to the touch. There are a few minor veins present but overall it is a solid leaf that is applied perfectly. The smoke is firm in hand and while small, is packed full of tobacco. The foot gives off an aroma of aged tobacco, raisins, pepper and cedar notes, while the wrapper is giving off qualities of cream, hay and some sweet earth qualities. With aroma in mind, I am giving the cigar nine out of ten points. In terms of appearance, an easy ten out of ten.

Smoking Characteristics and Flavor: Lighting up the cigar it begins by showing some great Connecticut flavors, but there is some awesome body with the cigar as well. I am picking up some nice creamy and cedar notes, and it has some nice earth, tobacco and spice flavors as well. There is a floral quality to the cigar, something I get with Honduran tobacco, but it is really showing a combination of bold Honduran and smooth Connecticut flavors. There is a lot of depth to the cigar and it has complexity while showing a little bit of transitioning at the halfway point. In terms of body and strength, I found that this is a solid medium in all levels. It is great for a smoker like me or even a novice smoker. The construction is great with the cigar though and it is showing an even burn line with a nice charcoal ash on the end. The ash is firm and there is a nice bit of smoke being produced on the cool draw. It smokes cool to the end and this is a great little robusto. With smoking characteristics, the cigar gets 13 out of 15 points. Looking at the flavors of the cigar, the cigar gets 26 points out of 30.

Overall Impression: This is a very tiny cigar and while the ring gauge is at a 50, the length really brings it down to be a short smoke. There is not an abundance of transitioning throughout, but with the cigar being so short I would not expect a lot there. The flavors were solid however and it had a nice body and strength level with that. It is definitely a medium body and medium strength level cigar and with the flavors it is a somewhat surprising Connecticut offering. I think a lot of guys would dig this cigar, smokers from all levels, and while I prefer different vitolas in the brand this was a nice offering. I find that this is a cigar I would have in my humidor for those times when I want a quick morning smoke or something creamier with some body to it. This smoke gets 31 out of 35 points for overall impression. I believe it to be a great little smoke, and for it being a Connecticut, I would smoke this in the mornings with a cup of coffee before work or on the weekends as the first smoke of the day.

Rating: 89 Points "Five Pack"

