

Cigar Snob

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Top 25 CIGARS OF 2012



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THE
BEST CIGARS
- OF 2012 -



1 OLIVA SERIE V MELANIO

Tabacalera Oliva S.A. in Nicaragua



WRAPPER: Ecuador
BINDER: Nicaragua
FILLER: Nicaragua
VITOLA: Torpedo
PHYSICAL SIZE: 6 1/2 x 52
MSRP: \$ 13.00
RATING: 95

From the day it was released at the August 2012 cigar industry trade show (IPCPR), the Oliva Serie V Melanio caught fire, figuratively and quite literally! Even leading up to the trade show, there was a considerable amount of buzz around the Melanio, as the cigar media picked up stories about the upcoming release. Many times, perhaps even most of the time, that much buzz around a cigar can result in a bit of a letdown, but in the case of the Melanio, the cigar delivered the goods to match the buzz.

From a smoking experience perspective, the Melanio blew away our panelists with a perfectly balanced and flavorful profile highlighted by a level of complexity seldom seen in a production cigar. The multi-layered medium bodied profile has a core of caramel, nuts, and mild spice complemented by floral notes and light cinnamon sweetness.

While the majority of the Oliva portfolio is carried by their ultra-consistent and flavorful filler tobacco, the star of the show for this cigar is the beautiful and flavorful Ecuadorian Sumatra wrapper. If you were a fan of the Oliva Master Blends 2, you may find the Melanio to be right up your alley. It's the only other time that Oliva has employed this wrapper. We rated the Oliva Serie V Melanio in our November/December 2012 issue and it received a whopping 95 rating, our highest to date.