



## El Güegüense - 5yr Aniversario Collector's Chest Coming September 2020

08.20.20, Windsor, CT - Foundation Cigar Company is proud to announce the limited edition El Güegüense - 5yr Aniversario Collector's chest.

In September of 2015, Nicholas Melillo released Foundation Cigar Company's debut offering: El Güegüense (*el-way-when-say*) or "The Wise Man." A 100% Nicaraguan Puro that celebrates the nation's land, people, and traditions, it takes its name from the cunning protagonist of the country's annual Festival of San Sebastián. Fans of the cigar treasure its smooth, balanced, and distinctively Nicaraguan flavor.

*"Moving to Esteli in 2003," says Melillo, "made a profound impact on my life. For my debut release I wanted to pay homage to Nicaragua's unique culture and it's rich and flavorful tobacco."*

El Güegüense debuted to a Top 25 ranking from Cigar Aficionado, establishing Foundation's reputation for quality. The Maduro expansion of the line would go on to earn Cigar Aficionado's #3 ranking. Both the Corojo and Maduro respectively achieved Halfwheel's #1 Consensus Cigar of the Year.

To commemorate Foundation's 5-year anniversary, Melillo has blended and designed a limited edition 4 ¾ by 60 Perfecto in a one-of-a-kind collector's chest. The 20-count box, resembling the one held by The Wise Man during the festival's Great Dance, represents the hard-work, ingenuity, and deep cultural wealth of the Nicaraguan people.

*"This box is one of the most unique I have seen in all of my years in the industry," said Melillo. "Foundation's art director, Thief Operandi, did an amazing job on the artwork. It perfectly complements this rich, elegant, and complex blend. This is a true collector's piece."*

The special blend features an elegant Corojo 99 wrapper, a blend of high-quality fillers from Jalapa and Estelí, and is held together by a specially selected binder from San Andres Mexico.

This limited-edition chest will be available to select Foundation partners throughout the U.S. come late September. Box MSRP: \$300.00.

*"We are proud to share this milestone with the many fine retailers and connoisseurs who have supported and believed in us these past five years. We look forward to many more exciting years together." – Nicholas Melillo*

### **About Foundation Cigar Company**

Foundation Cigar Company was formed by Nicholas Melillo in June of 2015 and debuted El Güegüense, The Wise Man - Corojo, which was awarded among Cigar Aficionado's 'Top 25 Cigars' of 2016. The Company launched The Tabernacle, Charter Oak, and the infused line, The Upsetters, in 2016. In 2018, The Wise Man Maduro was named #3 Cigar of the Year by Cigar Aficionado and The Charter Oak was named Best Value Cigar. Foundation's home offices reside in the Connecticut River Tobacco Valley and its production in Estelí, Nicaragua. Foundation Cigar company's goal is to bring top-quality premium cigars to connoisseurs around the world.

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