



SUPPORTING LETTER RELATING TO THE ENROLL OF MADEIRA WINE ON THE LIST OF UNESCO INTANGIBLE CULTURAL HERITAGE

To the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee,

The “Junta de Freguesia de Porto Santo” (“Parish Council of Porto Santo”), represented by Maria Joselina Escórcio de Brito de Melim, as President, hereby expresses its full support to the enroll of Madeira Wine on the list of UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage.

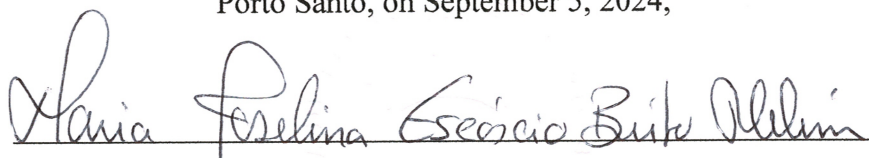
Madeira Wine is not just a product of excellence, but an authentic expression of the soul and resilience of the Madeiran people. Produced on the challenging slopes of Madeira Island, each drop of wine carries with it the dedication and knowledge accumulated over centuries, from the cultivation techniques in the rugged vineyards to the unique winemaking methods, such as "estufagem" and "canteiro". In the vineyard, almost all tasks are carried out manually, which is why it reflects the ingenuity and passion of generations.

More than a simple drink, Madeira Wine is a vehicle of memories and celebrations present on historical occasions and cultural events around the world. With great versatility, in addition of its taste, it can be paired with a wide range of dishes, becoming a symbol of sharing and unity among people. Recognizing Madeira Wine as an intangible heritage of humanity is recognizing its ability to connect people, cultures and stories.

The production of Madeira Wine is not only a tradition, but also an essential pillar of the local economy. It generates jobs, encourages tourism and promotes sustainable agricultural practices. Madeira Wine's UNESCO candidacy is a crucial step towards ensuring that this cultural legacy continues to inspire future generations. Our support is, therefore, a manifestation of respect for history, pride in this cultural identity and an investment in the future of the Autonomous Region of Madeira.

Madeira Wine is more than a symbol of excellence; it is a link that connects the past to the present, celebrating culture, tradition and innovation. Therefore, the Junta de Freguesia do Porto Santo expresses its firm support for Madeira Wine's candidacy for the UNESCO Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, convinced that this recognition will be a deserved tribute to the cultural heritage of Madeira and Portugal.

Porto Santo, on September 5, 2024,


(Maria Joselina Escórcio de Brito de Melim, *President*)

