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Horário: Seg. e Sex.: 8h30-12h30/14h-17h

To the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee

Consent for the Nomination of Madeira Wine

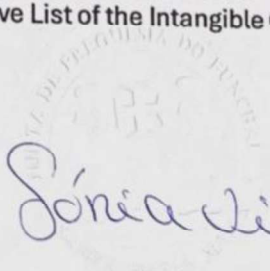
On behalf of the Junta de Freguesia de Santa Maria Maior, we express our full support for the nomination of Madeira Wine to be included in UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The Junta de Freguesia de Santa Maria Maior represents a parish on the island of Madeira, which is part of the municipality of Funchal. It currently spans an area of 4.88 km² and is home to approximately 11,768 residents. Our parish, located in the heart of the city of Funchal, is one of the most iconic areas on the island of Madeira. Over centuries, the city grew and developed based on the wealth generated by Madeira Wine, whose production was the main source of income for its inhabitants. This wine, with its unique history and traditional production methods, was fundamental to the economic progress of the region, and the traces of this heritage are still visible in Funchal's architecture. The iconic towers rising above the wine merchants' houses, overlooking the sea, are permanent landmarks of the city's visual identity.

The Junta de Freguesia de Santa Maria Maior is actively committed to promoting and preserving cultural traditions that play a crucial role in the social and economic development of our communities. Madeira Wine is not just a beverage but a symbol of our culture and an essential economic driver for many local producers. We recognize that viticulture and wine production continue to provide significant opportunities for the well-being of many families, especially in rural areas. The winemaking tradition is passed down from generation to generation, with both men and women playing vital roles in all stages of production, from harvesting to marketing.

In addition to being a source of income, Madeira Wine also promotes tourism and education about the culture and history of our island contributing to the appreciation of our heritage and the improvement of our communities' quality of life.

For all these reasons, we reaffirm our support for the nomination of Madeira Wine to UNESCO's Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.


Sónia Vieira

Coordenadora da Universidade Sénior da Junta de Freguesia de Santa Maria Maior