

# SAND CREEK

## 'The 20 Most Powerful Businesswomen in Portugal' – Forbes 2018

**Year Founded: 1920**

**Region: Fernando Pó, Palmela region, Portugal**

**Owner: Leonor Freitas**

**Fun Fact: Casa Ermelinda Freitas has been produced and managed by women for 5 generations!**

Founded in 1920 by Deonilde Freitas, and continued by Germana Freitas and later by Ermelinda Freitas, the company has always had a special interest in wine. On the early death of her husband, Manuel João de Freitas, Ermelinda took on the running of the company. In this she was helped by her only child, her daughter Leonor, who although untrained in the art of wine making took charge of the company, consolidating the already firmly female profile of the existing management structure. The company has, from its very beginnings, made the quality of its vineyards and wines a top priority. When they first started, wines were produced and sold wholesale and unbranded. It was the current management that decided to take on the challenge that is involved in creating an own brand wine. 1997 was the year of the company's new beginning in wine making, with red wine "Terras do Pó tinto", being the first to be produced and bottled on the premises of the Ermelinda Freitas winery.



Leonor Freitas inherited 60 ha of vineyard made up of just two grape varieties: Castelão and Fernão Pires, located in Fernando Pó in the region of Palmela. Seeking to innovate and make improvements, she made the decision to introduce a much wider range of grape varieties, which included Trincadeira, Touriga Nacional, Aragonês, Syrah, and Alicante Bouschet, and others. Ermelinda Freitas currently owns 550 hectares of vineyard, 60% of them planted with the Castelão variety (known in the area of Palmela as "Periquita"), 30% made up of red varieties such as Touriga Nacional, Trincadeira, Syrah, Aragonês, Alicante Bouschet, Touriga Franca, Merlot and Petit Verdot, and 10% of white varieties such as Fernão Pires, Chardonnay, Arinto, Verdelho, Sauvignon Blanc and Moscatel de Setúbal. In June 2009, Leonor Freitas was awarded the Order of Merit for Agriculture, Commerce and Industry for the work she has carried out in this area, receiving the rank of Commander of Agricultural Merit from His Excellency the President of the Republic of Portugal. Since 1999, Casa Ermelinda Freitas' wines have won over 1000 awards globally.



### 2020 Sand Creek Red Blend

Field Blend. Sandy Soil. Fermentation in stainless steel, temperature-controlled vats with extended maceration. 4 months in French and American oak. Ruby-colored, concentrated, rich and complex. Aromas reminiscent of red fruit well matched by soft oak that gives structure and elegance. Juicy, ripe, delicious and expressive fruit with a silky texture. A persistent, long lasting finish.

**Best Buy** – '19 Wine Enthusiast  
**96 Points - Double Gold** - San Fran Int'l Wine Comp.