



*"Ferreira" is a Portuguese and Galician surname, meaning 'blacksmith'.*

*Other spellings are Ferreyra, Ferreiro, Ferrero, Ferrer, Ferraro, Ferreirua, Ferreiroa, Ferreiró, Ferreiros*

## Ferreira in South Africa

Most South Africans are proud of the fact that they can trace their heritage back to Dutch, German or French forefathers. The influence of other European nations on the composition of the Afrikaner before 1807 was negligible. It is thought that it was as little as 2.9%. These particular forefathers came from Sweden (40), Denmark (37), Norway (16), Italy (4), Portugal (2), Austria (2), Poland (1), Finland (1) and Hungary (1).

The first 2 known Portuguese to settle in South Africa permanently were Ignatio Leopoldo FERREIRA and Manuel João D'OLIVEIRA (both were shipwrecked along the Cape coast).

Inacio (Ignatio or Ignatius) Ferreira was a sailor with the British East India Company aboard the Chandos. On its way from Bengal to England during June 1722, the ship hit a storm and was stranded near Table Bay. The Extracts from Précis of the Archives of the Cape of Good Hope (1652-1732) state that on 16 May 1722, six hundred men of the Chandos, Zoetigheid, Lakeman, Nightingale, Addison, Schotse Lorredraayer, Rotterdam and the Standvastigheid drowned in and near Table Bay. Ferreira made it to shore and decided to stay at the Cape. He joined the Dutch East India Company as a soldier. In 1737 became a burger, farming at De Hartebeeste Kuil near Stellenbosch.

Inacio was possibly baptised in November 1695 at the Nossa Senhora da Ajuda church in Lisbon. His parents were Manuel Ferreira and Antonia Francisca da Costa who lived in Alcantara, according to the only baptismal entry that possibly matches. In the opgaafrol J316 of 1752, Ignatio is listed with nine sons and three daughters. In the opgaafrol J317 of 1762 for Swellendam, he is listed with three sons and one daughter. He died on 24 August 1772.

Thomas Ignatius Ferreira settled at Algoa Bay in April 1776 on the farm Papenkuilsfontein (Paapenkuilsfontein), meaning bulrush fountain. Some early maps refer to the nearby river as Ferreira's River. In March 1799, British troops built a small mud fort, Star Fort, nearby. On 04 December 1782, six sailors from the Grosvenor ship wreck reached Papenkuilsfontein, one being William Hubberly, after walking nearly 500 km in four months. A search party was immediately sent and a further 12 sailors were found. On 10 August 1799 and in September 1802, the Ferreira family was attacked by Xhosas and had to seek refuge at Fort Frederick. The family lived at the farm until 1806 and sold it in January 1812 to Frederick Korsten. When Sir John Francis Cradock visited the farm, Korsten renamed it to Cradock Town, which later became Cradock Place. In the 1850s, Thomas Baines painted a rural scene which depicted a farmhouse with a windmill and a group of picnickers. This was Cradock Place. The once-productive farm with orchards and oak-lined avenues is now a ruin. The old farmstead burnt down in 1909.

Among Ignatio's many descendants is Ignatius Philip Ferreira, soldier and gold digger, born in Grahamstown in 1840 and died at Kranspoort (Zoutpansberg) in 1921. Ignatius Philip married Baltrina Erasmus on 14 Dec 1862, and after arriving in the Transvaal about 1870, he settled in the Middelburg district, where he was appointed field-cornet for the Olifants River ward in 1875. With the rank of captain of the Middelburg Volunteers he took part in the Sekhukhune War. He offered his services to the British interim government after the 1877 annexation and was commissioned to raise Ferreira's Horse. He subdued Sekhukhune in Dec. 1878 and earned the C.M.G. and the rank of lieutenant-colonel. In 1879 he took part in the British action against Cetshwayo, and after being promoted to the rank of colonel, took part in the Basuto War of 1880. In 1881, he was placed in command of the Transvaal Mounted Police with the rank of captain but was discharged on 24 May 1882. He sent petitions to the Government at Pretoria on 7 and 26 July 1886, informing it that gold had been discovered in the Klip River ward and requesting that the farms Langlaagte and Turffontein be proclaimed public diggings. He then returned to the Witwatersrand and became the self-appointed leader of Ferreira's Camp (which later became Ferrerisdorp) at Turffontein and a member of the first and second Diggers' Committees on the Witwatersrand. The rich Ferreira Mine was named after him. He settled on the farm Kranspoort, west of Louis Trichardt.

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## Ignatius Leopold Ferreira

Birthdate: before November 01, 1695

Birthplace: Lisbon, Portugal

Death: May 24, 1772  
Stellenbosch, Brede River DC, Western Cape, South Africa (Heart disease)

Place of Burial: Stellenbosch, Caap de Goede Hoop, Suid Afrika

Son of Manuel Ferreira and Antonia Francisca da Costa van Alcântara

Husband of : Martha Terblanche

Father of : Maria Magdalena, b1; Jan Leopold Ferreira, b2; Petrus Hendrik Ferreira, b3; Martha Jacoba Ferreira; Hester Ferreira, b5 ; Thomas Ignatius Ferreira, b4; Stephanus Ferreira, b7; Salomon Ferreira, b8; Ignatius Wilhelm Ferreira, b9 and Susanna Elizabeth Ferreira, b10

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## People with the FERREIRA surname

Alexandre Rodrigues Ferreira (1756–1815), Portuguese naturalist

Ana Gomes Ferreira (born 1987), Portuguese-born singer, musician, songwriter - known as "Ana Free"

Anne Ferreira (born 1961), French politician

António Ferreira (1528–1569), Portuguese poet and writer

Aurélio Buarque de Holanda Ferreira (1910–1989), Brazilian lexicographer and writer

Carlos Vaz Ferreira (1872–1958), Uruguayan philosopher, writer, and academic

Carlota Ferreira (1838 – c. 1912), Uruguayan woman

Benigno Ferreira (1846–1920), Paraguayan president

Cristóvão Ferreira (1580–1650), Portuguese Jesuit missionary to Japan who apostacized

David Mourão-Ferreira (1927–1996), Portuguese writer and poet

Elisa Ferreira (born 1955), Portuguese politician

Fátima Ferreira (born 1959), Brazilian biologist and biochemist

Francisco Ferreira Drummond (1796–1858), Portuguese historiographer, paleographer, musician and politician

Gerrit Ferreira (born 1948), South African businessman

Hendrik C. Ferreira, South-African professor, digital communications and Information Theory

José dos Santos Ferreira (1919–1993), known as "Adé", Portuguese-Macanese poet

José Maria Ferreira de Castro (1898–1974), Portuguese writer and journalist

María Eugenia Vaz Ferreira (1875–1924), Uruguayan teacher and poet

Paul Ferreira (born 1973), Canadian politician  
Sérgio Henrique Ferreira (born 1934), Brazilian pharmacologist  
Sky Ferreira (born 1992), singer  
Vergílio Ferreira (1916–1996), Portuguese writer  
Rory Ferreira (born 1992), Musician, Art Rap  
Antonio Ferreira de Oliveira Junior (born 1984), Brazilian footballer  
Amber Ferreira (born 1982), Professional Triathlete  
David Ferreira (born 1979), Colombian footballer  
Diego Ferreira (born 1975), Paraguayan runner  
Ellis Ferreira (born 1970), South African tennis player  
Emerson Ferreira da Rosa (born 1976), known as "Emerson", Brazilian footballer  
Eusébio da Silva Ferreira (1942–2014), Portuguese footballer  
Frederico Ferreira Silva, Portuguese tennis player  
Gabriel Vasconcelos Ferreira (born 1992), Brazilian footballer  
Jesualdo Ferreira (born 1946), Portuguese football coach  
Jorge Isaac Baltazar Ferreira (born 1982), known as "Jorge Baltazar", Mexican squash player  
José Ferreira Neto (born 1966), known as "Neto", Brazilian footballer  
Lula Ferreira (born 1951), Brazilian basketball coach  
Marco Ferreira (born 1978), Portuguese footballer  
Michael Ferreira (born 1938), Indian player of English billiards  
Monique Ferreira (born 1980), Brazilian freestyle swimmer  
Neil Ferreira (born 1979), Zimbabwean cricketer  
Paulo Ferreira (born 1979), Portuguese footballer  
Quentin Ferreira (born 1972), South African cricketer  
Tânia Ferreira (born 1974), Brazilian judoka  
Teófilo Ferreira (born 1973), Brazilian freestyle swimmer  
Tiago Ferreira (born 1975), known as "Tiago", Portuguese footballer  
Wayne Ferreira (born 1971), South African tennis player  
Yannick Ferreira Carrasco (born 1993), Belgian footballer

To have your South African family tree researched, please contact us at [info@vitae.co.za](mailto:info@vitae.co.za) or visit our site at [www.vitae.co.za](http://www.vitae.co.za) We will research your personal family tree for you and do all the archive digging for you.

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