

# Bike, camera, action!

Filming rides lets you relive and share your experiences. Journalist and photographer Steve Thomas explains how to make videos with the phone you already own



**M**aking videos on mobile devices has become part of everyday life – cycling included. Modern phones and action cameras can capture great footage, making it easy to start your own YouTube channel or share memories with friends, family and followers on social media.

Before hitting the red button, it's worth asking yourself why you're doing it. What are you trying to achieve? You don't want to compromise your ride or tour only to create something that's barely

watchable. Consider, too, how much time you want to put into the project. A snappy Instagram Reel for family viewing is much easier to make than a 15-minute YouTube video of your LEJOG trip, which will need time, thought and editing work.

Having a justification and a story for any video is important, even if it will only be a minute long. Yet it's something that's often overlooked. While it's best to decide a plan in advance, things may fall into place

when you're out on the road. You can even figure it out when editing, so that the clips come together in an interesting format.

Few people watch videos with long, single takes, unless they're of something dramatic like point-of-view footage of an epic mountain bike descent. Short clips lasting 5–10 seconds and edited together neatly are preferred. Vary scenes and camera angles, and add non-cycling clips to longer videos. These

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