

How to boost your travel videos with editing?



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By Floriane

During our world tour, we filmed a lot, everywhere, just to keep track of this incredible adventure. And when we got home, we spent hours fixing shaky shots, brightening up sequences that were far too dark, or adding music that reminded us of a particular moment. Post-production literally saved certain videos. Without editing, they would have remained at the bottom of a hard drive.

So, are you ready to turn your rushes into memories that make you want to go back? Here's a step-by-step guide.

Give your videos a real story: cut out the superfluous

Most travel videos simply lack a common thread. We shoot a bit of everything and anything, and end up with sequences that have no link between them. So the first step to boosting your videos is to **create a real narrative**.

We start by cutting out anything that's **too long, repetitive, unclear or uninteresting**. Yes, even if it hurts a little at first. We keep only the shots that add something: an emotion, a setting, a powerful moment, a transition between two places... Little by little, the disparate video becomes a story. We understand where you are, what you're going through, why this moment matters.

During [our world tour](#), we sometimes removed more than half of our rushes to keep the video moving. The result was much more pleasing to the eye.

→ We recommend that you **draw up a short storyboard** (visual script) before you set off, much like the pros do, to avoid shooting in all directions.

Stabilizing shaky video: saving shaky shots

Nothing ruins a video as quickly as a **shaky image**. And let's be honest: we brought back several videos so unstable that we were almost seasick watching them. Fortunately, post-production stabilization works miracles.

You can use simple tools to [stabilize shaky video](#), such as those offered by Clipify software.

With just a few clicks, **the software analyzes and corrects parasitic movements**. The result is stunning, and a shot that was once unusable becomes perfectly watchable. It's one of the simplest and most effective retouches available when you're just starting out in editing.

→ And the good thing is that even if stabilization isn't perfect, it's often enough to make the whole thing much smoother. Stable video changes everything.

Improve brightness and correct colors

Travel videos often lack **light**: scenes shot indoors, night markets, dense forests, changing weather... And sometimes, even in daylight, colors lack pep. Fortunately, color correction can transform a dull sequence into a luminous scene.

In our own editing, this is the stage that surprises us most. A video shot on a dark bus becomes almost professional after a few adjustments. We adjust the brightness, correct the shadows a little, play with saturation or temperature, and the rendering changes completely. You get the atmosphere of the scene, the colors of the sky, the warmth of the light at the end of the day.

The idea is not to do too much. Just to improve what already exists. A few adjustments are often all that's needed to produce a much more pleasing result.

Make your videos more dynamic by varying shots

If your video lacks rhythm, it's not necessarily because it's badly shot, but often because it's content with shots that are too similar. To boost dynamism, combine different types of shots: panoramas, close-ups, moving shots, details, wide scenes...

During our world tour, we often went from a huge landscape shot to a tight shot of a street food dish, then to a small piece of street scene. It's this mix that gives the video its energy. Good editing is like a journey: it has to move, breathe and surprise.

Even if your rushes are simple, **alternating shots is enough to break the monotony**. And if you're short of variety, you can play around with zooms, slow-

motion or speed-ups to create rhythm.

Add a personal touch

Travel videos always gain in authenticity when you see yourself on screen, if only for a few seconds. The Picture-in-Picture effect lets you add **a small window with your face**, while the main scene continues behind.

We like to use it to **tell an anecdote** or **show a reaction without breaking the immersion**. It's a simple way to personalize a video, and is used extensively by **travel YouTubers**.

You can also add **comments**, tell us how you feel, explain a moment, give a fun fact...

We often added our own comments in post-prod, especially when we couldn't talk while filming at the time. These little touches bring the video to life and really connect the viewer to your journey.

Working with sound: commentary and music

Sound is often underestimated, even though it is one of the most important elements. A good video with bad sound immediately loses its charm. In post-prod, you can :

- add a **voice-over** to tell your story,
- record **comments** to complement the images,
- **synchronize music** to match the mood,
- **balance volumes** to prevent the music from overpowering the voice.

We love slipping in music that we were actually listening to on the road. It immediately adds an emotional dimension to the images.

→ Please note: if you want to **post your videos on YouTube**, not all music is copyright-free, and the platform may block or demonetize your content.

Giving a finished look: effects and light filters

Effects and filters can make all the difference... if used in moderation. A few discreet transitions, a light filter to **harmonize colors**, a **mini-ralenti** to reinforce a strong moment: these are small touches that give a more professional look without overdoing it.

When you're just starting out, there's a tendency to want to try out every effect, but you soon realize that **simple, clean editing** is often the most effective. The aim is to enhance your images, not transform them completely.

If you'd like to see some of our own travel films, we've uploaded a number of them in the [video section](#).

And when you look at them, you realize one thing: they're a lot of work!

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