Referee #1

This is an interesting research and the paper is well structured.

The authors conducted a rigorous sampling and data collection with the aim of describing the problem of multi-destination trip behavior in depth.

a) However, the major lack of this paper is that it is only descriptive and no tests or models are applied. i think that it is necessary to perform a statistical test in order to evaluate the relationship between multi-destination trips and the other factors described in figure 1, in place of simply writing "...seem to be related to" (pag. 11).

b) In pag. 11 the authors state that "first-time visitors are more likely to make a multi-destination trip...compared to the repeaters" and they agree with Wang in saying that this can be due to a loyalty process. Did they test whether this result depends on the number of time the tourist already visited the place?

c) I think that it is well know that the major visited cities of the islands are Palermo, Catania, Syracuse, Taormina, etc. So I don't really understand the value added of the model discussed in pag. 12. I think that multi destination trip is an important issue and that it must be study rigorously and more in depth.

d) It is also necessary to enunciate the aim of the paper more clearly in the introduction. This emerges in particular when you say that the aim of the paper is to "describe the research design and the solutions adopted for the analysis of incoming tourism in Sicily". Actually it does not match with what you presented in the paper.

Minor points:

- In general it is necessary to use the international punctuation (replace commas with points and vice versa)

- Pag. 4 "Regarding physical factors some authors…" specify the authors

- Pag. 11 correct the number of the figure (1 in place of 2)

- Pag. 14 specify better the statement "...which seem to be independent from tourists motivations and from the type of holyday undertaken by tourists"…I think that it is necessary conduct a statistical test before to assert this.

Response to referee #1

Thanks to the referee for the useful suggestions provided, below the revisions made in the last version, according to referee's comments.

a) The major lack of the previous paper according to the referee's comments, was related to the absence of statistical tests in order to evaluate the significance of the results. In the last version of the manuscript, final estimates of the variables of interest were made, more details on the estimator are provided, and comparisons among sub-groups estimates are included, in order to be able to better evaluate the significance of the results.

b) Regarding the hypothesis of the "loyalty" process suggested by Wang, we agree with the referee that a more detailed analysis should be performed, so we better specified the statement in the paper.

c) Despite it is possible to know the major visited cities in Sicily through official statistics, the way in which tourists combine the different destinations is unknown. This is better stated in the new version of the paper, and the value added of the model is to trace the major routes undertaken by tourists in Sicily.

d) The abstract and the introduction were slightly modified according to the referee's suggestions, now the content of the paper should be more clearly enunciated.

Minor points

- International punctuation was now adopted.

- on pag.4. the authors were specified.

- on pag.11 the number of figure was changed.

- the statement on pag.14 was removed, since the analysis of the destinations visited in relation to tourists characteristics in not included in this work.