When researching law schools, brochures and websites are helpful. But when you really want to see and experience what a law school is like, you should consider visiting the campus. Here are some helpful tips for planning your trip.

1. Build a travel agenda for your visit that includes
   a. An official campus tour
   b. Your own tour of campus
   c. A trip around town (especially if you are considering off-campus housing)

The school you choose will be your home for three years. Consider the campus atmosphere and the surrounding environment. Keep in mind that many graduates accept jobs within the region where they attended law school. Thus, you may want to consider where you eventually would like to practice as you evaluate law schools.

2. If you are more comfortable traveling with someone, that’s fine, but make sure it is clear that your priority is gathering as much information as you can. Law school is a huge investment, and you want to make the most informed choice.

3. Make a list of questions before your visit and have questions ready to ask your tour guide/admissions counselor.
   - Gain insight into your acceptance chances. Are there any summer programs?
   - Does the school have certain specialties?
   - Does the school offer Moot Court or a Law Review/Law Journal?
   - Does the school have connections to clerkship or internship opportunities?
   - Where are the graduates employed?
   - How difficult is it to get on-campus housing?
   - What are the financial aid options?

4. Bring a legal pad and take notes about your observations of the campus. Collect business cards along the way.

5. Dress professionally but comfortably. You want to make a positive impression possible on the admissions representatives – that may help when it comes time for them to review applications. But, since you may be spending a considerable part of your day walking around campus, make the outfit functional and comfortable.

6. Talk to current law school students on campus. Find out their “likes and dislikes” of the school. (Being dressed professionally helps.)

7. If possible, arrange to sit in on a law class or two. Experience the lecture, class debates, the Socratic Method and use of casebooks.

8. After you have completed your law school visit(s), compare your notes against your decision criteria.