Sample Questions for College Visits

Possible questions to ask the admissions officer:

What colleges and universities do you most commonly overlap with? (That is, with which colleges do you share the most applicants?) What makes your college/university distinctive from those schools?

What is the relationship between the college and the town that surrounds it?

What sort of student do you think would do well at this college?

What sort of student might struggle here?

What can you tell me about your [insert academic area of interest] department?

If the college offers an early admissions program, what is the admit rate Early Action/Decision vs. Regular Decision?

Possible questions to the tour guide:

What made you choose this college?

What classes you are taking this semester and how many students are in each class?

What did you do last weekend? What organizations are you involved in?

What are the hot topics on campus right now? What are the students talking about?

What word would you use to describe the general campus vibe?

Does the school have more of a culture of competition or collaboration?

What type of student seems happiest here? What type of student may not be happy here?

What kind of student academic support services are offered?

What has been your most memorable experience?

What has surprised you the most about your experience here?

Possible questions to the admissions officer AND tour guide:

In your opinion, what’s the best thing about this college? What’s the worst thing?

If you could change one thing (besides parking—all colleges complain about lack of parking—or weather if in northeast or midwest), what would it be? What would you never want to see change?