

## Wat Sa-Si



Sa-Si temple or Wat Sa-Si is situated near Wat Chanasonkram; this ancient edifice was built beautifully in the middle of a large reservoir known as Tra Phang-Tra Kuan Pond. Its important buildings include a chedi in a bell shape, the bell shaped stupa serves as historical evidence of the diffusion of Sinhalese Buddhism in Sukhothai. This stupa is sometimes known as the chedi in Sri Lankan shape or Ceylongnese style. According to the inscription on golden plate, it is believed that the relic of Phra Maha Dharmaraja Li-Thai has been enshrined in this stupa. And the ordination hall constructed in the middle of the reservoir points to a Buddhist concept of demarcating an area where monks perform religious functions by enclosure of the holy precincts with water as a symbol of purity.



In front of the central chedi, there is a grand hall or vihara that contains a stucco Buddha images in the south and the ordination hall in the middle of the reservoir. There are 9 chedi in the different styles. Prior to 1978 AD, there was a road named Charot Withi Thong running through the temple but it was removed and replaced by a new road along the pond by and era of improvement project to maintain the ancient site's conditions. Apart from construction, a new road the area of Wat Sa-Si also improved by digging under



the pond and getting rid of weed flora, so that this ancient site returned to its previous conditions.

**Wat Sa-Si is surrounded by trapang – trakuan that is the largest pond of the city center.**



**Wat Sa-Si has an interesting stupa and some fine Buddha Images.**



**The finest Buddha Image a Wat Sa-Si is doubtless this "walking Buddha". The Buddha in walking position is typical for the Sukhothai era.**