Phra Maha Chedi Tripob Trimongkol
Hat Yai, Thailand

Although Phra Maha Chedi Tripob Trimongkol is touted to be one of Hat Yai’s top tourist attractions, don’t be surprised when locals give you a blank stare when you ask them for directions to this Stainless Steel Temple. Hat Yai, and in general Thailand, has way too many wats and temples, after all.

Located on the summit of a hill approximately 45 minutes’ drive east from Hat Yai city centre, this world’s first stainless steel temple is interesting to visitors who are religiously inclined. It is said that the temple looks more alluring at night.

The base of the stainless steel pagoda (or stupa) is made up of circular-shaped chambers that depict the days of the week. Each circular has been installed with one or two Buddhist deities and framed photographs on the wall.

On ground level, you can see two circular stairs to the top of the pagoda. On the upper level within the bowls of the pagoda are more stainless steel structures. Similar to the ground level, these too indicate time, in the form of Year and Month.

A visit to Phra Maha Chedi Tripob Trimongkol does not require too much time. However, once you are there, you would want to stay longer to enjoy its tranquility, especially on the upper level of the pagoda.