The nature reserve of Erstad kärr is unique for the southern shores of Lake Vättern, it is in an open field landscape northwards at Visingsö. The marsh is part of the Erstadviken bay with grazed lakeside meadows, clumps of reeds and a naturally formed shoreline barrier wall which separates the shallow water area from Lake Vättern. A couple of old carp ponds are included in the marsh.

Erstad is primarily a very important autumn resting area for migrating birds. Here you can see migrating arctic waders such as dunlin and red knot, ducks such as shelduck, widgeon and teal, and various birds of prey. In the reeds there is a nesting colony of black-headed gulls. Sea club-rush and grey club-rush, which otherwise grow on sea coasts, can also be found in the marsh. There is a bird watching tower on the northern side. Here there are information boards and benches. From the well-frequented bird watching tower there is a good view over the marsh.

Erstad kärr is both a nature reserve and a Natura 2000 area.
**WORTH KNOWING**
Erstad kärr is both a nature reserve and a Natura 2000 area and access is not allowed during the nesting period, 1 April-15 June, except for the bird watching tower.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** Ferry from Gränna to Visingsö. Follow the road northwards from the harbour for about 8 km.

**PARKING:** At the reserve.

**BUS:** To Gränna harbour and ferry to Visingsö. Öasvängen is a local bus at Visingsö which stops at Erstad (must be booked in advance). Bicycles can be rented at the ferry quay.

**DIFFICULTY:** Very easy