

## RUGS DESCRIPTION

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**Rug Number** U-2080

**Title** Antique Persian  
Animal Pictorial  
Tabriz Rug

**Size** 13ft 03in X 20ft  
05in  
4m 3cm X 6m  
22cm



**Description:**

The tradition of animals in a dense forest as a Persian carpet design goes back to the sixteenth century and is one of the main inspirations in the revival of rug weaving in Iran, especially Tabriz in the northwest, beginning in the later nineteenth century. The subdued grayish mauve ground is inhabited by a veritable menagerie of wild beasts: lions, dromedary camels, bears, gazelles, cranes, beavers, rabbits and tree climbing leopards. The designers were obviously working from illustrated books on animals. The beaver is not native to Persia, but is purely North American. The fauna cavort, climb, rest and stalk in a forest of flowering trees, palmettes, vines, shrubs and rosettes. The straw yellow main border continues the wild beast theme with panthers and wild asses among lancet leaves, complex palmettes and elaborate rosettes. Animal combats, frequent in other "Paradise Park" carpets, are absent here. As with Tabriz carpets of this period generally, the pile is short and erect, the weave is quite close and the foundation is all cotton.

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